Spring is finally here and I am sure many of you are enjoying the warmer weather, blooming trees and spring flowers.

Looking back to winter I would like to mention a few Circle events. In November, a group of members gathered for dinner at an Italian restaurant in Wilmette and afterwards attended the ETOPiA performance of “A Life of Galileo.”

The annual Northwestern Settlement gift-wrapping party and cookie exchange then took place in December. Its organization is now in the capable hands of Carol Nielsen, Margaret Schatz and Pat Ulmer. They took over from Claudia Krizek who coordinated this worthwhile program for many years. On behalf of University Circle I would like to thank Claudia for all her work.

In February, the now traditional and very popular potluck-and-play brought over 25 Circle members and their friends together for an evening of delicious home-cooked food and an entertaining performance of “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum.”

And of course, the various interest groups are always meeting regularly throughout the year. These groups form an important part of University Circle. They are the place where members connect with other members while they learn something new, try new food, sew or knit charity items and have fun at the same time. I myself have been attending the Spanish conversation group for over 16 years now and credit it with helping me maintain my Spanish language skills.

You will find information about the various interest groups elsewhere in this issue of the Courier. If you have any questions and/or would like to join a group, feel free to contact the listed chairperson. And Circle certainly welcomes suggestions for the formation of any new groups. In the past, for example, there was also a French conversation, a bicycling and a book group among others.

Looking ahead, the annual Circle Spring Luncheon will take place on Wednesday, May 18, at Norris University Center. Featured speaker will be Dr. Cory Franklin who was the director of the intensive care unit at Cook County Hospital in Chicago for 25 years. This year’s Circle Scholarship winners will also be announced at the luncheon. I hope you will be able to join us.

Elisabeth Malthouse
emalthouse@yahoo.com
773-465-8411

RESERVATIONS: $20 per person. Contact Pat Ulmer, 847-491-6117 or pat.ulmer@gmail.com.

Please reserve seats by May 11 and include names of guests & prospective members.

Make checks payable to University Circle and send to Pat Ulmer, 2021 Noyes Street, Evanston, IL 60201.

PARKING South Garage for $8; carpooling is encouraged.
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: www.northwestern.edu/university-circle

BOARD MEETINGS
University Circle Board meetings are held at noon on the third Thursday of most months, at Parkes Hall, second floor, Room 204. All members are welcome. Meetings typically last one hour and are always lively and fun. Please contact the president if you plan to attend and/or if you have an item for the agenda.

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                           Lonnie Dunlap
Scholarship  Gay Menges
Northwestern Settlement  Margaret Schatz
                           Carol Nielsen
                           Pat Ulmer
Social Service  Glenda Mockros
International Women  Joan Fragen

For information about other interest groups, please contact the president.
The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the winners of Circle Scholarships for 2016: Antonia Clifford, Micaela Moran and Eneke Frank Mwakasisi. These talented young women are exceptional students in the School of Professional Studies and are also employees of Northwestern University in a variety of departments and fields of study. We look forward to honoring them at the Circle luncheon on May 18 and congratulate them as they pursue their academic goals.

—Gay Menges, Chair, Remi Akinyemi, Jane Dampts, Joan Fragan & Pat Mathis

ANTONIA CLIFFORD is a project manager in the IMPACT LGBT Health & Development program at the Feinberg School of Medicine. She seeks a medical degree in psychiatry in order to practice with youth and young adults suffering emergent chronic mental health disorders. During her internship at Teen Living Program, a transitional housing program for young adults in Chicago, she directly witnessed the impact of psychiatric diagnoses and their aftermath on the lives of young people. She says, “A strong motivation for seeking a medical degree is to understand and address the reasons behind physical and mental health disparities.” Beyond the office, she has led peer support groups, planned events for suicide survivors, and volunteers at a crisis text line for teens.

MICAELA MORAN, a program coordinator for the Center for Civic Engagement at Northwestern University, is pursuing a master’s degree in public policy and administration to increase her understanding of public policy and its impact on society, particularly on education and the non-profit sector. Micaela served as an AmeriCorps member for two years through Project YES (Youth Education Service) at Northwestern Settlement in Chicago. Then she went to work at Northwestern Settlement managing the AmeriCorps program for another two years. She now serves on the young professionals board for Settlement. At the Center for Civic Engagement, she manages Jumpstart, a program for early childhood literacy aimed at closing the school readiness gap. The Jumpstart teams she manages serve at community-based preschools in Evanston and Rogers Park.

ENEKE FRANK MWAKASISI is a research administrator at the Feinberg School of Medicine and is working towards a master’s degree in public policy and administration. Her long-term goal is to be a department administrator at a research hospital. Through her studies she is learning about the policies and politics of money and medicine, about how to be a successful negotiator, and about organizational and performance management. She is also a dedicated mentor to young immigrant Tanzanian women through the Midwest chapter of the Tanzania Community Association. Eneke uses her experiences as an immigrant to help high school- and college-age African women adjust to American culture and adulthood. Even while working a second part-time job, Eneke is an avid runner who is dreaming of the Chicago Marathon in October 2016.

Thank You!

The Scholarship Committee wishes to thank Margaret McCarthy, Associate Dean of the School of Professional Studies, and her staff who have been a key help in publicizing the Circle Scholarship and receiving, organizing and vetting the applications.

Donations to the University Circle Tuition Scholarship Fund are always welcome. Checks should be made payable to University Circle Tuition Scholarship Fund and sent to:

University Circle Scholarship Fund
Office of the Provost
Northwestern University
633 Clark Street Room 2-154
Evanston, IL 60208-1101
Attn: Judith Donovan
UNIVERSITY CIRCLE INTEREST GROUPS 2016

Circle interest groups are an important way for members to work together, stay in touch and have fun! Check out the groups below and contact a chair to sign up. Or consider starting a new one that interests you. Contact Elisabeth Malthouse at emalthouse@yahoo.com for more information.

Ethnic Dining
If exploring ethnic restaurants in the Chicago area interests you, join other members of the Northwestern family as we taste food from different cuisines. Recent samplings have included Badou (Senegalese), Rickshaw Republic (Indonesian), Big Jones (American Southern) and Taste of Peru.

MEETINGS: Dates and restaurant selections will be emailed or mailed to Circle members when scheduled.
CHAIRPERSON: Catherine Launay, 847-869-8053 or RGL201@northwestern.edu

International Women
Circle supports the efforts of Northwestern University’s Community Council for International Students (CCIS) by offering volunteer opportunities for Circle members. Since 1971, CCIS has fulfilled its mission to provide a cross-cultural exchange of ideas, information and friendship for more than 8,000 NU international students from more than 100 countries. CCIS programs especially suitable for Circle members include International Women’s Group, in which NU women of all nationalities gather to make new friends and share customs through social activities in local homes and other places of special interest; Foster Relatives, in which volunteers “host” NU international students by inviting them to family activities and events; and Conversation Partners, in which a volunteer and student meet regularly to practice and improve English communication skills by discussing topics of interest. For more information, visit tinyurl.com/hgsqw24.

CHAIRPERSON: Joan Fragen, 847-446-0184 or joanfragen@gmail.com

Disappearing 4-patch quilt made by Piecemakers and donated to The Harbour

Piecemakers Quilting Group
The Piecemakers Quilting Group has been making and donating quilts to local non-profit organizations for over 15 years. Project Linus, NU’s Dance Marathon, Connections for the Homeless, the local women’s shelter, Northwestern Settlement, Rainbow Hospice and The Harbour are some of the organizations that have received quilts. Show and tell, a sharing with the group of an individual’s projects, is definitely a favorite part of every meeting. All quilters are welcome, from complete beginners to experienced stitchers. Each member brings her ideas, talents and creative energy to every project and it’s always amazing what the group can accomplish.

MEETINGS: First Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm in members’ homes from September through June.
CHAIRS: Lonnie Dunlap, l-dunlap@sbcglobal.net & Margaret Schatz, mesharbor@gmail.com

Scholarship
University Circle established its tuition scholarship in fall 2004 to assist University employees enrolled in the School of Professional Studies (SPS) further their career opportunities. The Scholarship Committee chooses one or more winners each spring from candidates who have applied through SPS. Winners are honored at Circle’s annual meeting and luncheon in May. The scholarship is funded by donations from the Circle membership as well as the general public.

CHAIRPERSON: Gay Menges, 847-475-5082
Northwestern Settlement

More than 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. Every year in December University Circle members support several Northwestern Settlement families by shopping for gifts of toys, clothing and household necessities. In addition, donations by Circle members help families pay utility bills during the year.

**CHAIRS:** Margaret Schatz, mesharbor@gmail.com
Pat Ulmer, pat.ulmer@gmail.com
Carol Nielsen, carolsnielsen@sbcglobal.net

Social Service

The Social Service group has been delivering 80 hand-knitted mitten and scarf sets each December to children in the preschool program at Northwestern Settlement. Once a month we meet for a Social Service “party” in members’ homes, where projects are given out and friendships are made. Most of the completion of these sets is done outside of the meeting, relaxing or watching TV. These colorful and different sets have been so happily received that we hope to expand this project. We welcome new faces, especially of people who knit (or want to learn). If you are interested, contact Glenda Mockros, who can advise and/or give you the necessary yarn and needles.

**MEETINGS:** Fourth Wednesday of the month in members’ homes, 7:30 pm
**CHAIRPERSON:** Glenda Mockros, 847-724-6010, gmockros@wideopenwest.com

Spanish Conversation

Brush up on your Spanish with a congenial, relaxed group of women (and a couple of men!) who find all manner of things to discuss with our leader Fernando Guerrero. Our levels of proficiency vary, so you’ll fit right in. Bag lunches are encouraged and so is knitting.

**MEETINGS:** Tuesdays at 12 noon on Evanston campus in Parkes Hall, room 204
**CHAIRPERSON:** Elisabeth Malthouse
ealthouse@yahoo.com

Debbie Crimmins & Carol Booth wrap gifts for Northwestern Settlement families

Mittens & scarves knitted by Social Service group and donated to preschool children at Northwestern Settlement
Wrapping Gifts & Sharing Cookies  Circle’s Northwestern Settlement interest group held the annual gift-wrapping party and cookie exchange on December 10. The party, graciously hosted by Margaret Schatz, was great fun for everyone! Twenty-five members worked diligently, wrapping about a hundred presents purchased with funds donated by Circle members for the five families that Circle adopted this year. Five stations were set up with wrapping paper, ribbons, scissors, and tape. But it wasn’t all work! There was the camaraderie of catching up with old friends and the pleasure of making new acquaintances. After Carol Nielsen’s car was packed with all the presents for the next day’s early delivery to Northwestern Settlement in Chicago, everyone relaxed and enjoyed refreshments. Many women brought cookies for sharing and also some to exchange with each other. The evening was a pleasure for everyone who was able to attend.

—Pat Ulmer
ETOpia  Friday the 13th last November proved to be a lucky day for NU Circle members who attended Northwestern’s ETOpia production of “A Life of Galileo” by Bertolt Brecht. The group first feasted on delicious Italian food at Gusto Italiano restaurant in Wilmette, and then enjoyed the play, which was presented in the McCormick School of Engineering on the Evanston campus. Each year, the ETOpia plays address challenges of science and scientific thought. This year’s production challenged the audience to give some thought to the interplay of innovative scientific thought with conventional wisdom of the day and the challenges of both presenting and receiving the new ideas resulting from breakthroughs in science. — Jane Dowding

POTLUCK & THEATER  A great evening of fun and convivial conversation was enjoyed by over 30 Circle members, spouses, and friends at the annual potluck supper and theater visit on Saturday, February 20. The evening began with wine and appetizers, dinner, and dessert on the 3rd floor of McCormick Foundation Center, with sweeping views of Lake Michigan and the Evanston campus.

A highlight of the dinner hour was a talk by Matt Hawkins, director of the featured musical, the Northwestern student production of “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum.” The Chicago Theater Critics named Mr. Hawkins one of Chicago’s most prolific artists of the past decade for his non-stop career of acting, directing, and fight choreography. After dinner, guests moved to the Wirtz Center’s Barber Theater to enjoy the production. Director Hawkins took “A Funny Thing…” to new heights of contemporary interpretation and comedy by switching all the play’s roles to the opposite gender, many of them with marvelous masks, so the audience did not know, until the final moment, who was playing each role. It was a memorable evening of conversation, dining, and theater. — Eleanor Prince

THANK YOU ALL!

CIRCLE DIRECTORY UPDATED  Circle members should have received the 2015-16 membership directory in January. Many thanks to Jane Dowding and her team of proofreaders for keeping us up to date. Please report changes to her at janedowding@yahoo.com.

NEW MEMBERSHIP BROCHURE AVAILABLE  Thanks to the Membership Committee—Sally Dobroski, Jean Wilson and Margaret Schatz—we now have an updated Circle membership brochure. They will be available at the spring luncheon on May 18 for prospective members who attend. The membership form is also always available on the Circle web site at:

www.northwestern.edu/university-circle/membership

PHOTO CREDITS  A big thank-you to Circle photographers Sally Dobroski, Jane Dowding, Lonnie Dunlap and Glenda Mockros for their fine contributions to this issue of Courier!
UPCOMING CIRCLE EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18
Circle spring luncheon and annual meeting, 11:45 AM.
Norris Center, Louis Room North

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25
Social Service interest group meeting

TUESDAY, JUNE 7
Piecemakers quilting group potluck dinner

JUNE (DATE TBD)
Old board/new board potluck dinner

Watch for more information about these events sent via e-mail or postal mail. Please visit northwestern.edu/university-circle regularly to stay informed about the latest Circle news, upcoming programs and volunteer opportunities.