Message from the President

Greetings from the Women and Men of Brown,

If you are reading this newsletter and are new to Brown—Welcome!

Our organization endeavors to foster community within the Brown community. We assist new and visiting families to feel at home at Brown.

Our Annual Meetings in the fall and in the spring are open to all. These are times where members, visitors, and guests come together to visit and to enjoy and to make new friends.

Spring Meetings of WMB have always featured a speaker and the presentation of the RUE awards. Were you aware that smell could trigger emotional responses? This year on April 30 Professor Rachel Herz, a visitor at the Psychiatry and Human Behavior Dept., engaged us with her talk about odors, emotions, and their influence on human behavior and memory.

Following the talk RUE Awards were presented to four well deserving resumed undergraduates: Amy Kendall, Donald Kendall, Patrick Paul and Jaguar Stone.

Newcomers might like to know that our Household Leasing Service rents furniture at low cost to international graduate students, post docs, RUE, and visiting faculty. The office is open on Tuesdays, 10 am –12 noon, in the lower level of Metcalf dorm throughout the year.

From the current weather forecast it seems that summer is finally here. Other than Household Leasing Service, our activities are in abeyance until the fall. Check back in September for new information.

I am pleased that our website can be reached from the Dean of the Faculty’s website, OISS (the Office of International Scholar & Student Services), the A to Z index, and from the International House website.

Enjoy the summer—Delight in it. Here in New England summer is way too short.

Corinne
WOMEN and MEN of BROWN  
2009/2010

OFFICERS
President     Corinne Tan      247-2621
Vice-President Nancy Houston
Treasurer     Gwen Guillet
Secretary     TBA

BOARD MEMBERS

STANDING COMMITTEES
Archivist    Isabelle Pingree
Concert      Barbara D. Feldman
Household    Berit Kosterlitz  351-3526
Leasing      Lynn Lichtenbaum  Marianne Pickett
Membership   Lynette Charniak   272-8735
Members-at-Large Nancy Weiss-Fried
Newcomers
Newsletter editor Berit Kosterlitz  351-3526
Nominating Committee
RUE          Barbara Goldstein  Rita Warnock  Nancy Weiss-Fried

INTEREST GROUP COORDINATORS
Book Group  (Afternoon) Joseleyne Slade
Book Group  (Evening)  Joan Jahoda
Daytrippers Lynette Charniak   272-8735  Berit Kosterlitz  351-3526
Dinner Group Lynn Lichtenbaum
French      Lynn Lichtenbaum
Italian Conversation RosaMaria  Preparata
Morning Coffee Marianne Pickett
Shakespeare  Carla Dowben
Stitchery   Barbara M. Feldman  Gwen Guillet
Walking     Pat Blough

INTEREST GROUPS

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP
We meet the 1st Thursday of the month at 1:30 pm. The first two books this Fall will be “Looking Backward” by Edward Bellamy on September 10 and “The People of the Boo” by Geraldine Brooks on October 1.

EVENING BOOK GROUP
Our meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Here are the books we have chosen for the next couple of months:
September 21 "Rabbit Run" by John Updike
October 19 “The White Tiger” by Arvind Adiga

DAYTRIPPERS
We normally gather on the second Wednesday of the month for our excursions.

Wednesday 16th September  This September, however, because that day will be the opening day at Brown and Convocation will happen late that afternoon, we will make an exception and go out on the third Wednesday. We are sorry that this falls so close to Yom Kippur, but hope that, with plentiful advance notice, those of us who celebrate the Jewish holidays will find it possible to make some of the holiday preparations early so that we can all be together for this first meeting of the year.

We will visit New Bedford, a major (perhaps the major) whaling center during our nation’s early days and still an active seaport. Herman Melville spoke well of the city: “The town itself is perhaps the dearest place to live in all New England...nowhere in all America will you find more patrician like houses;
parks and gardens more opulent, than in New Bedford - all these brave houses and flowery gardens came from the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian oceans. One and all they were dragged up hither from the bottom of the sea.” Herman Melville, Moby-Dick, 1850

We will visit the Rotch-Jones-Dutch house in the morning: [http://www.rjdmuseum.org/](http://www.rjdmuseum.org/). After a nice lunch, we will visit the old center city, now a National Historic Park. I suggest that preparing by going to [http://www.nps.gov/nebe/planyourvisit/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/nebe/planyourvisit/index.htm) and reading the Herman Melville brochure might enhance your afternoon. But you don’t have to study to enjoy the day.

**Wednesday, October 14** Off to the Museum of Russian Icons in Clinton, Mass. [http://www.museumofrussianicons.org/visit.html](http://www.museumofrussianicons.org/visit.html). Fall foliage should make the drive special. Of course we will find a nice place for lunch.

Call or email Lynette 272-8735, lcharniak@hotmail.com; or Berit 351-3526 b_kosterlitz@hotmail.com with questions or to RSVP.

**DINNER GROUP**

We enjoy cooking (and eating) wonderful meals. Every month we meet at a different member’s home. We’ve been known to visit restaurants too.

**FRENCH GROUP**

We meet monthly to speak French while enjoying coffee and snacks in each other’s homes.

**ITALIAN CONVERSATION GROUP**

We continue to meet the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

**MORNING COFFEE**

We continue to meet the first and third Wednesday of every month, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

We have had very good turnouts last year for our gatherings. The conversation is always enjoyable, and the treats provided make it difficult to keep our waistlines trim, but the company is worth it.

Coffees are held on the first and third Wednesdays during October, November, December, February, March, and April, and only the first Wednesday of May. Fortunately we have a great core of members who agree to host. without committing a lot of time.

The first Coffee of the season will be on October 7 at and the second on the 21st.

**SHAKESPEARE GROUP**

We usually meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. We have been reading his plays aloud for years; some plays we’ve read several times by now, others we never seem to get to. We always enjoy having new people to play the roles, and also to suggest different plays to read.

**STITCHERY**

We will hopefully have a group again this Fall.

**WALKING GROUP**

On alternate Monday mornings this group strolls for an hour or so in one the many parks and refuges within an hour’s drive. Depending on the day’s plan we either bring a lunch or dine in a convenient restaurant and expect to be home in the early afternoon. Newcomers are welcome.

Soon another season will be upon us. One of our members has expressed an interest in starting a *poker* group and an *improvisation music* group. Please let Berit Kosterlitz at 351-3526 or b_kosterlitz@hotmail.com know if you are interested.

Anyone can start an interest group. *Bridge? Spanish? Writing?* Contact Berit Kosterlitz at b_kosterlitz@hotmail.com with particulars if you wish to start a group and have it announced in the newsletter.
WOMEN AND MEN OF BROWN UNIVERSITY
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Providence, RI 02912

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Return service requested

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2009-2010 Dues $25.00 per person $40 Two people at one address
Please make check payable to Women and Men of Brown and mail to:

(You may enclose an optional donation to the RUE award fund.)

Treasurer, Women and Men of Brown

Note: When 2009-2010 dues are paid you will acquire an asterisk after your name. Please pay your dues if you have not already done so.