

In League...



APRIL – JUNE 2013

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

From the Chair...

A wonderful beginning to our 100th year at MIT was celebrated on January 30th in Lobby 10! A festive display of information about the League's many services and interest groups brought a warm gathering of folks for birthday cake and a rousing singing of the 'Happy Birthday' song. To our surprise and delight, we learned that day was also MIT First Lady Christine Reif's birthday and we sang to her as well!

Other celebratory events are planned and are highlighted in this newsletter. The culmination of our formal celebration will be the Centennial Tea to be held at Gray House on April 10th from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm.

A visit to the timeline on our website or a view the poster version of it on display at League events gives you an idea of the numerous ways the Women's League has interacted with the Institute. It is amazing to see how the League has grown over time, reshaping and rethinking itself, and inspiring many kinds of contributions to life at MIT as well as to the local community.

Follow our activities on Facebook and our website and plan to attend one or all of our events. We look forward to seeing you!

— Kim Watson, *Chair*



Women's League 100th Birthday Celebration

The Birthday Party has begun!

- Were you in Lobby 10 at MIT for the 100th Birthday Kick-off on January 30? We'll share the fun with photos on our website soon.
- Have you seen the Women's League Timeline on the new 100th Celebration Web Pages? It's a great overview of the past 100 years at MIT. (web.mit.edu/womensleague/anniversary/timeline.html)
- Have you given a 100th birthday present to help ensure the continuation of the League's 100 years of community service? Donate at the MIT Annual Fund site.
- April 10 — 100th Anniversary Tea at Gray House!
- Remember to check the Web site to stay informed about future Birthday Party activities! (web.mit.edu/womensleague/anniversary/)

Many, many thanks to all who have already joined the celebration in one or all of these ways.

From the 100th Anniversary Committee





Centennial Tea

Wednesday, April 10 • 3:30 to 5:30 pm
Gray House

On January 30, 2013 the MIT Women's League hosted a successful opening event for its Centennial Celebration in Lobby 10 to raise awareness of the League and increase membership by showcasing its varied programs, wide-ranging activities, and service projects.

On April 10, 2013, the League's formal 100th anniversary festivities will conclude as it all began — with MIT's First Lady.

In 1913, Alice Maclaurin, wife of MIT's 6th president Richard Cochran Maclaurin, recognized that formalizing the association of MIT women who met informally would benefit both the women and the Institute. A constitution was drawn up and by-laws were adopted.

One hundred years later, First Lady Christine Reif and the League will celebrate the MIT Women's League's longevity and remarkable achievements with a Centennial Tea at Gray House. Interestingly, the Maclaurin family was the first family to live in the President's House, as it was called then.

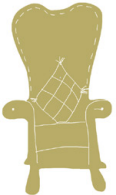
We hope you are able to join us for this very special gathering of League friends.

This story is included to remind you about this event. Invitations to this event were emailed and mailed to members in mid-March with rsvps requested by April 1.



Please join us
in celebrating the MIT Women's League 100th Anniversary
and the MIT Student Furniture Exchange's 55 years of service

MIT STUDENT FURNITURE EXCHANGE {theFX}
Sells USED furniture & HOUSEHOLD
GOODS at BARGAIN Prices & is OPEN
to the MIT, Harvard, Suffolk and BOSTON
University Communities.
ALL PROCEEDS are DONATED to the
MIT WOMEN'S LEAGUE SCHOLARSHIP FUND
{theFX} Welcomes Donations Year Round {THANK YOU}
PARKING is Available



Open House: Sat. April 6th, 10am-1pm

Good prices, Good food, Good fun

350 Brookline St. Cambridge, MA

617 253 4293



The Furniture Exchange • Celebrating 55 Years!

Open House: Saturday, April 6 • 10 am – 1pm

Who We Serve

In 1958, recognizing that university students needed to furnish their living spaces on a minimal budget, the MIT Student Furniture Exchange (FX) began to address this basic necessity. Today, the FX sells used furniture and housewares at bargain prices and is open to the communities of MIT, Harvard University, Boston University and Suffolk University.

Customers must show a valid university ID from the previously named universities in order to make a purchase.

How You Can Help

Are you doing some (much needed) Spring Cleaning? Donations are needed to help keep our inventory robust!

Good, usable furniture, including sofas, chairs, tables, bookcases, desks, dressers, and cabinets, as well as lamps, rugs, small appliances, cooking utensils, dishes, children's items, and bikes are heartily welcomed. If you are moving and can't take everything with you, or if you are just in the mood to purge, we will happily accept donations in good condition.

All donations are tax-deductible and arrangements can be made for the pick-up of large items or a substantial donation.

Unfortunately, we are unable to accept used mattresses, box springs, drop-side cribs, used stuffed animals, and older style televisions.

All proceeds benefit the MIT Women's League Scholarship Fund, a growing endowment that provides annual financial support to undergraduate women at MIT.

Find Out More!

Contact Manager Julie Parker at the Furniture Exchange at 617.253.4293, email fx@mit.edu, visit the FX on a Tuesday or Thursday anytime between 10 am and 4 pm or on the first Saturday of the month from 10 am to 1 pm, or go to our website at web.mit.edu/womensleague/fx/ to learn more about this amazing organization.



**100 Years of Service:
Snapshots of the
MIT Women's League
Detailed by MIT Archivist
Nora Murphy**

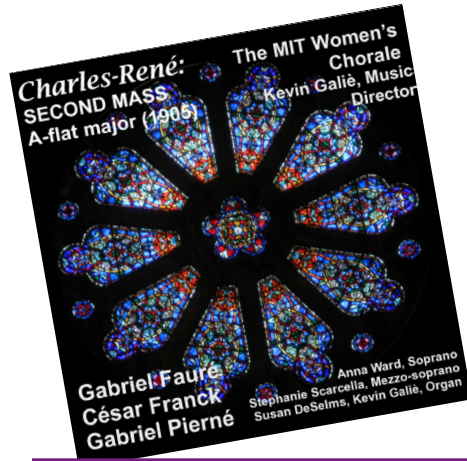
**Friday, April 26 • 12:00 pm
(Rescheduled from March 8)
Emma Rogers Room (10-342)**

An early March snowstorm forced us to postpone our centennial program with MIT Archivist Norah Murphy. We hope you can now join us for this very special presentation as she highlights the League's activities and services over the past 100 years.

During the past century, the Women's League has enriched the culture of MIT. Its original records documenting the numerous contributions of the League and its members are preserved in the MIT Institute Archives and Special Collections.

Original photographs, letters, posters, and other materials will be on display to provide a unique opportunity to focus upon and discuss the Women's League's multifaceted interests over the years.

Please feel free to bring your lunch. Beverages and dessert will be served. To reserve your seat for this **Centennial Celebration** program, please contact the League office at 617.253.3656 or wleague@mit.edu.



**MIT Women's Chorale
Spring Concert**

**Saturday, May 11 • 6:00 pm
St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Cambridge**

Come help the Chorale celebrate its 80th anniversary at its spring concert on May 11th at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 838 Massachusetts Avenue (Central Square). The Chorale will also celebrate Giuseppe Verdi's 200th birthday, performing two rollicking opera choruses and a sublime excerpt from his *Four Sacred Pieces*. The program will include *Lauda Jerusalem* by Porpora and a selection of Russian songs for treble voices. The Russian pieces include music by Rachmaninoff and an ethereal liturgical piece, to be performed by a small ensemble.

The concert is free and will be followed by a reception. Directions and parking suggestions will be posted on the Chorale website: web.mit.edu/womensleague/womenschorale/

Our other 80th birthday project is now available: the MIT Women's Chorale's first professionally-recorded CD. Ordering information: web.mit.edu/womensleague/womenschorale/

Notable

4/24
Book Discussion:
The Technologist
by Matthew Pearl

5/22
Book Discussion:
*Elizabeth the Queen: The
Life of A Modern Monarch*
by Virginia Forsberg

League Interest Groups and Classes

LEARN MORE

Book Discussion

Barbara Donnelly
781.646.4617
Judith Lippard
jacs@mit.edu

Chorale

Sally De Fazio
de_fazio@alum.mit.edu
web.mit.edu/womensleague/womenschorale

Looking Together

Ann Allen
617.527.7292
annallen@rle.mit.edu

INTERNATIONAL

Japanese Tea Ceremony

Kyoko Wada
chado@mit.edu
web.mit.edu/chado/www/index.html

Middle Eastern Dance

Loni Butera
617.491.5657, loni@mit.edu

WORK WITH YOUR HANDS

Informal Needlework

Beth Harling
781.749.4055
oharling@mit.edu
Nancy Sweeney
781.646.3107
n-j-sweeney@verizon.net

MIT Gardeners' Group

League Office
617.253.3656
wleague@mit.edu
web.mit.edu/womensleague/gardeners

Women's League Community Craft Fairs

Brenda Blais
bmlblais@mit.edu

NEW FRIENDS AND CONTACTS

CitySide Dining

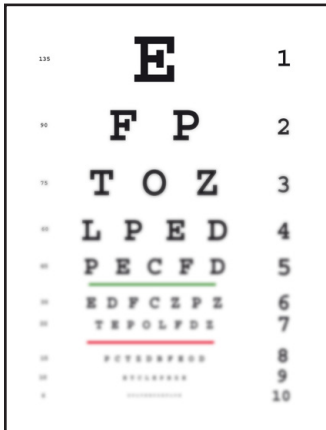
League Office
wleague@mit.edu

MIT Japanese Wives Group

Kimie Shirasaki
781.721.2517
jmitjwg@yahoo.co.jp

Groups meet weekly, bi-monthly or monthly. Contact the above women to learn more about their groups.

The “Eyes” Have It: Dealing With Our Aging Eyes



Wong Auditorium

The Tang Center
Building E51
70 Memorial Drive and
Wadsworth Street
Cambridge, MA

All welcome

This program is free
and open to the public.



Contact

Sis de Bordenave
617.253.3656
wleague@mit.edu
web.mit.edu/womensleague

Specialists Present Current Approaches
To Improving The Health Of Our Aging Eyes

Tuesday
April 30, 2013
4:30 pm – 6:30 pm



William M. Kettyle



Bradford J. Shingleton



Jeffrey S. Heier

A collaborative project of MIT's Medical Department, Age Lab and Women's League, the 2013 Catherine N. Stratton Aging Successfully Lecture brings together distinguished specialists at the forefront of the most effective delivery of care for our aging eyes.

Do you find you are bothered by bright lights when driving at night? Or trip, missing the edges of steps? Occasionally experience floaters or bright flashes, some visual distortion? In spite of rather new glasses, are you missing even familiar visual cues?

In any era, but especially the current visually demanding one, our eyes are called upon to navigate through and respond to so many complicated optical messages. This program will highlight our good fortune in having access to some of the best medical and research resources poised to address our aging eyes and their challenges.

Moderator

William M. Kettyle, MD, Director of MIT's Medical Department, Internist, Endocrinologist and Geriatrician, well known for his award-winning teaching skills, will present a brief overview of the anatomy and physiology of our eyes and some of their problems that develop as we age — Cataracts, Glaucoma and Macular Degeneration, both wet and dry.

Panelists

Bradford J. Shingleton, MD, Surgeon in Ophthalmology, researcher and author, Associate Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School and Clinical Instructor at Tufts University School of Medicine, has performed over 50,000 cataract, glaucoma, surgical and laser operations. He will discuss the causes of cataracts and the current surgical options used to address this very common problem, and also address glaucoma and its cutting-edge treatment both chemical and surgical.

Jeffrey S. Heier, MD, Retinal researcher, clinician and author, is a Clinical Instructor in Ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School and Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at Tufts University School of Medicine. He will discuss diseases of the retina, especially Macular Degeneration (both wet and dry) and their current treatments as well as the use of vitamins, antioxidants and other agents in treating retinal problems.

A question and answer period will follow the presentations.

The “Eyes” Have It: Dealing With Our Aging Eyes *continues the Catherine N. Stratton Lectures on Aging Successfully to honor Kay Stratton whose energy, grace and intelligence have enriched the MIT community for more than seventy-five years. Kay is an active participant in the planning of these lectures that are designed to encourage attendees to become their own well-informed health advocates.*



Slate of Officers Vote at Annual Meeting May 17

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the following slate of elective officers for the Women's League Board for 2013–2015:

For two (2) years:

Ellen Stordy, Chair

Kim Watson, Vice Chair for Programs

Srirupa Mitra, Vice Chair for Social Activities

Continuing their unexpired terms for one (1) more year are Deborah Liverman, *Vice Chair for Service Projects*; Diana Strange, *Treasurer*; and Suzanne Collins, *Nominating Chair*.

Additional nominations for the above positions may be made by endorsement in writing by twenty-five (25) active members and filed with the Women's League office ten (10) days before the Annual Meeting on Friday, May 17.

New names may be added to the appointed Board and a complete list of all Board members will appear in the 2012 Annual Report presented at the Annual Meeting. For further information, please contact Women's League Staff Associate Sis de Bordenave in the League office at 617.253.3656 or wleague@mit.edu.

— Suzanne Collins, *Nominating Chair*



Women's League Annual Meeting

Christine Reif, Guest Speaker

**Friday, May 17 • 12:00 noon
Emma Rogers Room (10-340)**

Each May the League holds its annual meeting, at which a summary of the activities and business of the past academic year is given. At this time new and returning Board Officers for the slate are introduced and presented for election. It is also an occasion with a guest speaker.

This year, our 100th anniversary year, we are honored to have Christine (Chris) Reif as our guest speaker. In addition to her role as the Honorary Chair of the MIT Women's League, she also serves as a member of the Council for the Arts at MIT and as a member of the Medical Consumers Advisory Council at MIT. She will share her vision of 'First Lady' as she embraces this new role.



Her roots are deeply planted at MIT. Her husband, Rafael Reif, began his career at MIT in 1980 as a member of the faculty. Before his election as the 17th president of MIT, he served as Provost during Susan Hockfield's presidency.

Mrs. Reif was born in New York City and has a BA in English Literature. A former advertising executive, she enjoys traveling the world with her husband and experiencing new adventures. The Reifs have two grown children.

Don't miss this opportunity to meet Chris Reif. To reserve your place at the annual meeting, contact the League office at 617.253.3656 or wleague@mit.edu. The cost of the luncheon is \$15.00. Seating is limited

Connections

April 4 • May 9

Each month during the academic year, the Women's League hosts Connections in the Emma Rogers Room (10-340) from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. These informal monthly open houses with coffee, tea and sweets began in 2001 and continue to provide ways for the League to meet and welcome women new to MIT and to the League as well as stay in touch with its members.

Normally held on the second Thursday of each month, the April Connections will take place one

week early — **April 4** — to accommodate the Emma Rogers Room calendar. The International Scholars Office joins the League in co-sponsoring the April Connections.

We hope you can join us and encourage you to bring a newcomer, a colleague, or a friend along with you. Come when you can and stay for as long as you wish.

We look forward to seeing you!



Ikebana Classes with Hiroko Matsuyama

Women's League member Mrs. Hiroko Matsuyama is a first term Master of the Ohara School of Ikebana. Since 1999, she has been the Instructor of the IAP Ikebana (Japanese flower arrangement) class for MIT students and community members. She now wishes to offer beginning Ikebana classes to League members.

If you would like to participate in a class, please contact Mrs. Matsuyama at hiroko.matsuyama@verizon.net. She will be very happy to tell you more about this disciplined Japanese art form, which brings together nature and humanity.



Daffodil Days 2013

This year's 2013 American Cancer Society Daffodil Days campaign at the Institute was a huge success. The team of over 100 departments at MIT raised more than \$35,000. Last year the campaign raised \$32,301. The MIT Medical department raised the largest amount of daffodil funds again this year. They raised \$2,720;

an increase of over 8% from last year. In second place was Resource Development. They raised \$2,531; an astonishing increase of over 60% from their 2012 numbers. Facilities placed third with a total of \$2,000.

We need to thank the super coordinator team of Mary Curtin of the Office of Educational Innovation and Technology, Gracie Dorneus of Chemical Engineering, Shelagh Joyce of Medical, and Márcia Tench-Mora of the Plasma Science and Fusion Center. With their enthusiasm they were able to recruit some new departments into the fold.

There was a great turnout at our January 31 daffodil campaign kickoff lunch. It was held in the beautiful Emma Rogers room. Janet Plotkin and Sis de Bordenave served

a delicious lunch that over 40 of the coordinators enjoyed.

Many thanks to all of you who have participated in the MIT-ACS daffodil campaigns over the past sixteen years. It is heartwarming to see how the campaign has grown since Janet Plotkin of the Women's League brought this to MIT.

— Shelagh Joyce, *MIT Daffodil Chair*

Email update

If you have become an email user and would like to receive our notes and reminders or if your email address has changed, please advise the League office at wleague@mit.edu.



Transition House



Ending domestic violence. Creating hope.

Transition House is Cambridge's sole domestic violence agency. For nearly 40 years it has offered a full circle of care and support for adults and children overcoming the trauma of family and partner violence. Coming to the aid of approximately 200 women and children every year, Transition House is looking for assistance to help these victims make a break away from violence.

Recession stresses have fueled the rise of domestic violence across the state and the nation. At Transition House it has put extraordinary demands on its services — especially housing. This year, it's seen its clients struggle with homelessness much longer. They're living in a limbo state, desperately seeking stability and permanency in their lives. Where the traditional stay in Transition House's Emergency Shelter was 3-6 months, it's now 9 months and more. Our support of the work of Transition House is extremely important now.

One of the ways we can help is through giving monthly contributions of specified items to the shelter and their housing programs. MIT family and friends are a continuous source of resources, as each month community members bring in either specific articles or something members would like to give.

Requests for the following months:

April New lightweight blankets and Charlie Cards with added value

May Walgreen and Rite Aid gift cards and Charlie Cards with added value

Always needed Gift cards to Market Basket, Shaw's and CVS

Although we have not specified articles for the summer months, items will be needed. Visit their website at www.transitionhouse.org to learn more about the organization and its needs. Monetary donations are always welcome.



Anniversary Tote Bag!

To commemorate our Centennial Celebration, we have created an anniversary tote bag. The red and black bag with our 100th logo makes a striking fashion statement! They can be purchased in the League office at a cost of \$20.

Looking Ahead

September 10, 2013

English Conversation Classes Registration

September 12, 2013

First Day of English Classes

Check the League calendar at web.mit.edu/womensleague/ to learn about upcoming programs.

General Information

The MIT Women's League newsletter is published four times during the academic year. The deadline for the September – October issue is August 1. All items should be sent to the Women's League office.

Please call the League office for a hard copy of the newsletter and for answers to questions you may have. The office can also arrange for your membership.

Staff Associate
Sis de Bordenave

League Chair
Kim Watson

Honorary Chairs
Priscilla Gray
Christine Reif

Design
Tim Blackburn Design



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