Conversation with a Woman Leader:

Human Rights champion Josie Johnson to speak at luncheon February 2

Welcome to our second Conversation with a Women Leader luncheon of the year. Our speaker is Dr. Josie Johnson, who is an exciting and engaging public speaker. Josie has a distinguished career in public affairs and is a presenter who engages her audience with humor as well as stimulating stories of her involvement at the University of Minnesota. Between the years 1971 and 1973 she served on the Board of Regents—quite an achievement in those early days for a woman to break the glass ceiling, especially for a woman of color.

Dr. Johnson earned a B.A. in sociology at Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, and an M.A. and Ed.D. at U of Massachusetts-Amherst. The U of M offered her a Senior Fellowship in 1987. Serving as diversity director from 1990-92, she directed the All-University Forum, and that year she became responsible for Minority Affairs and Diversity as the associate vice-president for Academic Affairs.

Josie was a pioneer in a variety of civil rights activities of the 1960s. Among her activities were: Traveling from Minneapolis to Mississippi with an integrated group of women to witness and take part in the struggles there and serving as a member of the Minneapolis Urban League, then as its director in 1967 and 1968. Citing her long career and influence in human rights issues, the University of Minnesota established the annual Josie Robinson Johnson Human Rights and Social Justice Award in her honor.

Dr. Johnson is a person with a variety of interests and talents. She has worked with elected officials many times over the years, beginning as deputy campaign manager for the Jimmy Carter presidential campaign manager in Tennessee. In 1967 she was a community organizer for Project ENABLE, a pioneering effort in developing skills in parenting and strengthening family life. These are but a few of the professional and volunteer activities our February speaker has engaged in during her exceptional career, and we look forward to hearing her stories and her insights.

Bring a friend—invite someone who might be interested in joining our club. Our speaker is well known in the community and will probably draw many who have an interest in international, political, and civil rights affairs. Reserve the date on your calendar and send your reservations early. We may reach capacity before the deadline of January 25.
President’s Message

Season’s Greetings to you, your loved ones, and friends. The year is going by very fast for many of us. The Eastcliff Holiday Tea in December was an exciting event, with over a hundred attending despite the snowy weather. New members, visiting Eastcliff for the first time, and regular club members alike were delighted with the warm, beautifully decorated home, and generous hospitality of our Honorary President Susan Hagstrum. The food was delicious and the music program was very well done — thanks to all the Music Section members who performed and all who participated.

I called many newcomers this year to encourage them to attend the event—it is for them an opportunity to observe and participate in the big picture of our club. The excitement of participating in such a lovely traditional Holiday Tea is an opportunity for everyone to share in the events we are privileged to hold annually.

On behalf of the Women’s Club I want to thank our Honorary President Susan Hagstrum for extending her hospitality and home to us at this special time of the year. Thanks to all those who brought gifts and donated money for the Hospital Benefit and to Kathy Ball and Nancy Haugen, vice-presidents for Programs, and their committee members who worked on this wonderful event.

As we look ahead to the New Year, be sure to mark your calendars for February 2 when we have the first UMWC Board meeting of 2010 and a luncheon with an exciting and interesting speaker (see page 1).

As we enjoy the lovely space at Becketwood, please be sure to thank our sponsor for the use of the Windsor Room for Board meetings and the dining room for our Conversation luncheons—this gracious and thoughtful member is former UMWC President Fran Paulu. Thank you so much, Fran. We appreciate all you do in providing us with a wonderful venue through your timely reservation of the rooms we need.

It is exciting to see the number of new members who have joined our club and the various Interest Sections since our fall luncheon meetings. Many of our new members are still teaching or working in other careers or are on phased retirement. Please make a special effort to greet them at special events and give them a special welcome.

I want to thank all section chairs for the wonderful programs that have taken place so far. I have attended several of them and learned much. “Keeping Bees Healthy” by Dr. Maria Spivak, professor of Entomology, was enlightening. A program and tour of the history of the underground Civil Engineering building was exciting. Join or visit the Interest Sections; you will be surprised about what you will discover. We are all life-long learners, and the UMWC provides a forum for you. See notices about some upcoming programs on page 3.

Plans are ongoing for our Centennial Celebration for 2011.

Best regards for a happy new year,
—Irene Khin Khin Jensen, President

Board Meeting, February 2

The Board will meet at Becketwood in the Windsor Room February 2 at 10 a.m. sharp. Coffee will be served – no treats due to luncheon. All section chairs and officers are expected to attend. Please carpool if possible, and please send in your reservations early for the luncheon.

NEWS FLASH!

We have elected a president-elect for 2009-2010. Please greet Barbara Cohen, a long-time member of the UMWC. Currently she is chair of the Culinary Section and also a member of the Music Section. We are delighted to have Barbara on board. You may have met her when she was introduced and elected at the Christmas Tea at Eastcliff on December 8; a picture and profile of her will be in the next Newsletter.

Tea benefits hospitalized children

Kathy Ball reports that the Holiday Tea raised donations of $1,110 and gifts of many stuffed animals, books, Legos, art supplies, and even a spa gift basket for the children hospitalized over the holidays. The University Medical Auxiliary and UMWC collaborate each year on the Holiday Tea benefit.

In Memoriam ~ Goodbye dear loyal members!

Goodbye to long-time members who passed away this year; some are listed below. We will miss their presence in our community. They have contributed much through their years of leadership and in various sections of the club’s activities.

- Lucille Caldecott
- Margaret Kennedy
- Maggie Moulton
- Ardis Neir
- Marilee Ward
Meet UMWC officers - a regular feature

I am pleased to introduce UMWC Auditor Van Linck. I hope you will greet her with a very warm thank you. Van has been a long-time member of the UMWC. She joined the club when her husband was teaching at the University and our organization was known as the Faculty Wives Club. She recalls that she first belonged to a St. Paul Campus group.

Years ago, Van served as treasurer of the Faculty Wives Club. She says that at that time, the booking procedures were much simpler, compared to the requirements today. In fact, she remembers having to purchase her own calculator to perform the task of treasurer.

We are very grateful to Van for having served as our auditor for the past two years. She is thorough and does her task very efficiently. Van is quick to say that her work as auditor has been an easy task due to the competent treasurers, financial committees, and auditing committee members she has been able to work with through these years.

As a long-time observer of the club, she says it has been interesting to see the evolving of different interest groups to meet the needs of today’s members. “That is admirable,” she said.

Van’s most recent contribution to our club focused on planning the campaign for our scholarship donations. She explained that she wanted to put her efforts into this area because she was once a recipient of a scholarship back in the 1950s when she was a student at the U of M. She admits that the amount of the scholarship was only $75 — but in the 1950s that amount of money went a long way, and the scholarship was much appreciated. She has an enormous respect for the growth of the scholarship program of the club as it aids many talented young women in Minnesota annually.

It was quite a surprise for me to discover that Van was one of our early scholarship recipients. The cycle has come a full circle; now Van is a loyal member of our club and a great supporter of the scholarship program.

Van is a widow; her husband, Dr. Al Linck, died a few years ago. He was a faculty member at the U of M and an administrator also. Van has a son who lives in the Twin Cities.

Thank you, Van, for the service you have provided the club, and for sharing your connection with the scholarship fund.

— Khin Khin Jensen, President

Upcoming Events – Mark your calendars

March 19 — The Art Section’s Annual Art Exhibit at 1666 Coffman, St. Paul, in both East and West Wing Galleries on 2nd floor. Bring your friends to the opening; refreshments will be served from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Dinner for Art Section members and their guests by reservation in the Coffman dining room at 5:30 p.m. Address questions to Bev Dorsey, 952-888-8230. 1666 Coffman is on Larpenter Ave. west of Cleveland. Parking is available in front of building or on Coffman Street.

April 6 — Conversation with a Woman Leader Luncheon, noon, at the Minnesota Humanities Center in St. Paul. Speaker: Dr Jennifer Gunn, professor, History of Medicine, U of M. UMWC Board meeting at 10 a.m.

May 4 — Annual meeting at Town and Country Club. Celebration and end-of-the-year activities. Always a delightful venue – reserve the date!

Membership dues reminder notice

Annual club fees are now due! Annual dues are $25 for active members participating in Interest Sections and $16 per year for associate members. If you received the new Directory for 2009-2010 and your dues are still unpaid, please contact the co-treasurers (Records and Dues) Doris Wiehe (651-484-4264) or Sheau-Ping Hu (651-644-4976). We would like to have an updated list of our membership as soon as possible.

INTEREST SECTION NEWS

All section programs, with exciting topics and activities, are open to new members to visit and to see if they would like to become regular members. When space allows, the Newsletter will print special invitations from section chairs, but please consult the Yearbook Directory to see all the special events and programs offered throughout the year, and support their programs whenever possible.

A special invitation from the Culinary Arts Section:
Eating Locally and Globally!

Eating locally is the newest and perhaps soundest trend to hit the food world! Join us on Wednesday, February 10 at 7 p.m. to hear Mary Evans, founder of The Write Cook and author of several cookbooks including Bistro Chicken. Evans studied in France for her culinary training.

The meeting is in the fellowship Hall at St. Christopher’s Episcopal Church, 2800 North Hamline Avenue, Roseville (Hwy. 36 and Hamline Avenue). $1.00 contribution at the door. For more information, contact Millie Woodbury <woodbury@umn.edu> or 651-486-7286, evenings.
Give a hearty welcome to new members
Please greet and connect with new members added to the rolls since October. Add the following to your directories.

Mary Abuan .................................................. 651-484-6765
  581 Gramsie Rd., Shoreview, MN 55126
Anne Aronson .............................................. 612-729-9155
  4454 47th Av. S., Minneapolis, MN 55406
Barbara Burleigh ........................................... 651-227-7119
  947 Portland Av., St. Paul, 55104
JoAnne Collins ............................................. 651-426-0879
  5213 Lakeview Av., White Bear Lake, MN 55110
Betsy Corbett, 101 Rose Av. W., St. Paul MN  55117
Jermaine Foslien .......................................... 612-823-4316
  4328 Lyndale Av. S., Minneapolis, MN 55409
Jan Fuerstenberg ........................................... 715-833-0130
  6657 Timber Ln., Eau Claire, WI 54701
Kathryn Isacksen ......................................... 651-771-2676
  783 E Nevada Av., St Paul, MN  55106
Kathryn Kelley ............................................. 952-831-1512
  4575 W 80th St. Cir. #219, Bloomington, MN 55437
Lisa Ann B. McMahon .................................. 651-704-0166
  1629 Brooks Av. E., Maplewood, MN 55109
Nancy Myers ................................................. 651-641-0323
  1578 Burton St., Falcon Heights, MN 55108

Barbara Nelson ............................................. 763-421-4888
  10658 Hollywood Blvd., Coon Rapids, MN  55433
Pam Rose ..................................................... 952-854-4743
  8514 13th Av. S., Bloomington, MN 55425
Sandi Schippits .......................................... 651-636-1248
  656 13th Av. NW, New Brighton, MN  55112
Sandra J. Sheperd ........................................ 952-937-1874
  14242 Chestnut Dr., Eden Prairie, MN  55347
Kathi Treston ................................................ 763-862-6425
  2358 119th Av. NE, Blaine, MN  55449
Suzanne Walfoort ........................................ 651-999-5947
  145 Wildwood Av., Birchwood, MN  55110
Kathy Wellington .......................................... 651-647-0362
  2257 Gordon Av., St. Paul, MN  55108

ADDRESS CHANGES:
Flossie Caldwell ........................................... 651-628-3880
  2925 Lincoln Dr. #719, Roseville, MN 55113
Barbara B. Miller
  1950 NW 192nd Av. Apt. 372, Hillsboro, OR 97006

Deadline for March UMWC Newsletter
February 10, 2010
Please submit articles to Khin Khin Jensen, president, in typed or electronic format.