



Newsletter #8 August 2023

### WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

#### *In this issue*

- Word from the president
- New Board members
- In other news
- Whats new
- And not so new
- In the works
- Mark your calendar
- Book reviews
- Netflix suggestions
- Save the date
- Games

#### **Contributors**

Carole Bayard  
Colette Zirpdji  
Jane Archer  
Joy Jude  
Marie-Claire Zirpdji  
Patricia Kirk

What an unusual summer this has been. For some, too hot and muggy to enjoy the outdoors while for others, this weather is bliss! The extreme thunderstorms have also been disruptive and unfortunately destructive as well. But summer's not over yet, so make the most of it before you have to go back to school in **September**.

Speaking of "back to school", we have a great program lined up for you this Fall. Most of the classes that you enjoy so much are coming back but we have had to move a few things around to make room for some new lectures.

Unfortunately, we are not able to offer our Walking Tours this Fall. We will continue to work hard so that next spring, we are ready to discover some different districts of our beautiful Montreal!

Check out the "What's new section" to learn more and be sure to read the program closely for changes in timeslots and hybrid classes.

Come back in person if you can – while Zoom was a lifesaver when we were all confined indoors, and while it is still very convenient at times, it cannot replace the intimacy of being with someone in person, of sitting side by side, sharing your smiles and laughter. It's much more fun to be together!

Finally, to close off, I want to emphasize that E.N.C.O.R.E.'s success is completely reliant on your continued support and participation.

There are 2 ways you can help – recruit a new member, a friend or a neighbor, and/or add an extra course to your schedule.

And let us know what you think!

All the best,  
Marie-Claire

## **NEW BOARD MEMBERS:**

It is with great pleasure and relief that we are able to announce the addition of 4 new members to our board of directors.

Actually, one of them, Sylvia Ruby is returning to the board that she had served on in previous years. When I asked her why, she simply said, "It's important at this time to have as many hands as possible."

Though she joined as a member at large, she is already involved in many facets of our activities including among other things, recruiting new members through her Concordia contacts.

The second member to join us is Zsolt Alapi, who has taught Creative Writing at E.N.C.O.R.E. When he learned of our plight to add more board members, Zsolt reached out and said he would like to join, in any capacity, to help us. He is currently working to recruit new teachers and widen our scope of course offerings.

The third person to join the board is Colette Zirpdji. Yes, you've guessed it – she is my sister! Colette told me she would like to help out and she too is already involved in the groundwork required to introduce something new – perhaps in time for Fall Session II.

Last but not least, Elida Lopez has joined because she likes to party and she and Colette are going to team up to fill the Hospitality position on the board.

Having said that, we are still very much in need of a treasurer (someone with bookkeeping experience using Excel), and a publicity director who will help us recruit more new retirees. If you are interested in any of these positions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at any time.



## **IN OTHER NEWS**

### **Our Building**

Our building was in the news this summer. Indeed, it has been sold and so, while we may have to move eventually, this is not imminent. The Foundation of Catholic Services from whom we rent our space, is actively searching for a new location which will take into consideration our most dire need of accessibility. We have renewed our lease for another year and will keep you informed as things progress.

## **WHAT'S NEW:**

We have a few new classes with new instructors, firstly, Harold Hoefle who will be enlightening us with his "**Where Magic Meets the Real**".

Please look at the program descriptions to get an idea of what the course is about and read the "List of Instructors" to know about this learned teacher. It is sure to be a treat for all who register.

Secondly, we have Beverley Ann Lee, who is offering us an unusual course on the history of "**Wool**". You will learn many interesting facts that you would never have believed. Wool not only keeps you warm or makes you itch, but is SO much more! Read the description and her bio as well.

Thirdly, for those who are eager to dine out again, we are organizing a THURSDAY DINNER NIGHT. Registration is in person only in Room 110. A maximum of 15 persons will be accepted.

See MARK YOUR CALENDARS section for when to register.



Finally, we are pleased to inaugurate our MONDAY MOVIE MATINEE. It's been a long time coming – something we had hoped to do before COVID disrupted our plans.

A small fee will apply to cover the costs of the subscriptions to service providers (Prime Amazon, Netflix etc.)

### **AND NOT SO NEW:**

Other teachers are coming back with new and fascinating classes - Dr. Charet will delve into "**Africa**" and "**Modern Thought**" and captivate everyone with his lectures, Roxanne Martel will continue with **Classical Composers**, Cynthia Jones with **Musical Theatre**.

Ellen Green will work on making **creative writers** of us all, Sharon Malone will explore Montreal's **Theatre** offerings and Bruno Paul Stenson will complete his **Social History** series with No. 4.

We reprise Frances Fister-Stoga's **Alice Munro & more contemporary women writers** this session and hope you can make it a success.

As well, we have innovative **Drawing on gray paper & Fabric Collage** classes with Deanne Hall-Habeeb, and **Acrylic Painting** with Claire Cayer.

To keep you in shape, follow **Essentrics** with Carole Albert, **Yoga** with Shizu Okada and **Tai Chi** with Colin Young.

Added to all that, we have **Supervised Bridge** with Gilbert Starosta and **Board Games** for fun and frivolity. Read all the descriptions and the List of Instructors so you can make informed choices. But please register. ENCORE depends on you.



### **IN THE WORKS:**

#### **BOOK READING**

ENCORE is honored and privileged to have the best-selling novelist CLAIRE HOLDEN ROTHMAN at its inaugural Book Reading Event.

Mrs. Rothman will read an excerpt from her novel "Lear's Shadow"; a novel which will be featured in one of our Fall Session II courses.

All members will be invited to this event to be held on December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

#### **MUSEUM OUTINGS**

Still exploring how we can arrange to have ENCORE members go on scheduled visits to the museum. It's not always fun to go alone and many of us don't make the most out of our memberships.

#### **LES GRANDS EXPLORATEURS**

ENCORE is looking into buying an online subscription for the 2023-2024 season of Les Grands Explorateurs. This would allow us to project these fabulous travel tours on our big screen TVs. These movies are only available in French but you do not need to be fluent to understand – the images speak volumes.

This initiative is looking quite promising but it is not cheap. Depending on the interest of our members, we could make this happen.

It would only start with a 'preview' in the second Fall session followed by 5 different movies spread out in the winter and spring session – to coincide with Les Grands Explorateurs own schedule. The cost would be \$75.00 for all the movies.

Before we can commit to either of these activities, we need to know if there is any interest out there to pursue them. Please send us a note via our website [encoreseniors.com](http://encoreseniors.com).

We NEED to hear from YOU!!!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Registration	Room 110	Wednesday	August 23	11:00 – 1:00
		Thursday	August 24	11:00 – 1:00
		Monday	August 28	11:00 – 1:00
		Wednesday	August 30	11:00 – 1:00
		Thursday	August 31	11:00 – 1:00
		Wednesday	September 6	11:00 – 1:00
FALL Picnic	Westmount Park	Tuesday	September 5 Rain check: Sept 7	12:30 – ???
Book Reading	Room 110	Thursday	December 21	1:30 – 3:30

**BOOK REVIEWS:**

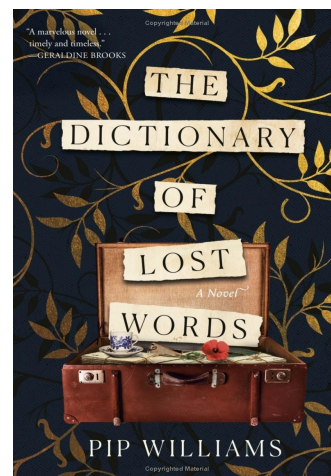


**The Dictionary of Lost Words**

is a debut novel by Pip Williams. It tells the story of the creation of the First Oxford English Dictionary through the character of Esme. Sounds dull but not so! This is a historical fictional novel with truth and historical facts artfully mixed. How words were vetted and which words were considered worthy of a place in the dictionary is fascinating.

The novel is set during the rise of the women’s suffrage movement and World War I is looming. These two events play significant roles in Esme’s personal life. It leads Esme to wonder if words at times mean different things to men and women.

The title’s meaning becomes very clear as this lovely lyrical novel progresses. I was reluctant to read it mainly due to the title but have been delighted by it and hope you will be as well. *Submitted by Jane Archer*

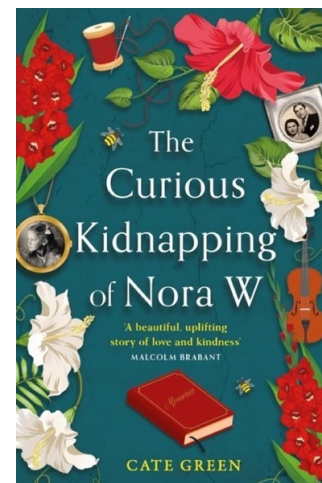


## **The Curious Kidnapping of Nora W**

is a very recently released debut novel written by Cate Green. The story was inspired by Cate Green's late Mother-in-law, a holocaust survivor, who along with her husband and young family immigrated to Montreal. Henry's which is mentioned in the book was an actual place they ran in Montreal.

In this story Nora is 18 days away from becoming the oldest person in the world and a big celebration is in the works...maybe yes maybe no! The themes of family, prejudice, immigration and love are woven through the story by a cast of colourful characters. It is a touching poignant and at times a laugh out loud story about thriving and surviving. Enjoy the read!

*Submitted by Jane Archer*



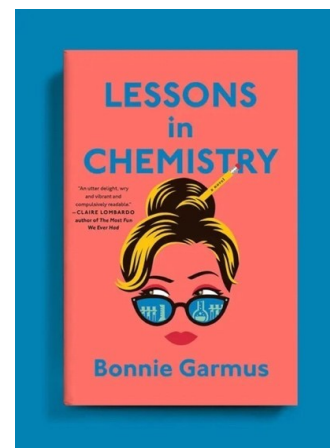
I enjoyed this recommended book **Lessons in Chemistry** by debut novelist Bonnie Garmus, this summer.

It tells the fictional story of Elizabeth Zott, a determined, quirky and nonsense chemist working in a male dominated field battling sexism with a will to prove herself and her worth.

Challenged by sudden, single motherhood, she reluctantly accepts a job on a TV cooking show and teaches overlooked housewives way more than recipes!

A witty insight into the stereotypical issues faced by so many in the 50's and 60's and soon to be seen in a movie this fall on Apple TV.

*Submitted by Joy Jude*



## **NETFLIX SUGGESTIONS:**

*Submitted by Joy Jude*



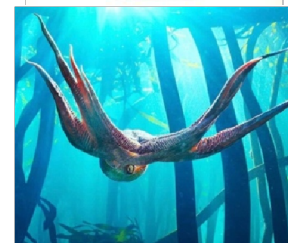
### **Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story**

This is a film based on the autobiography of the world-famous neurosurgeon from Johns Hopkins university. The movie charts his struggles to overcome poverty and to study medicine and save lives. I liked the movie soundtrack and the inspiration his mother gives him to never give up.



### **My Octopus Teacher**

This is a beautiful and moving documentary of a filmmaker who dives and discovers a remarkable relationship with an octopus in a South African kelp forest.





**SAVE THE DATE**

Our summer picnic was so successful that we were asked to host another one before the winter falls upon us.

Indeed, close to 50 people attended and we had the opportunity to run into old friends and make new acquaintances.

We want to build on that delightful gathering and extend another invitation for more of the same!

We hope to see just as many of you at the next one.

**PICNIC LUNCH**

**September 5th at 12:30 pm**

**(In case of Rain, September 7<sup>th</sup>,)**

**Westmount Park**

**Sherbrooke Street West  
between Strathcona and Melville Streets**

**We are ALL invited to meet, greet and eat together.**

**Bring: your lunch**

**Bring: a chair**

**Bring: a friend or spouse**

**Wear: a name tag**

### 7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all the letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1. evasive (6)	_____
2. more gaunt (7)	_____
3. sounding like a hungry belly (8)	_____
4. without any detours (8)	_____
5. marionettes (7)	_____
6. Canadian sprinter De Grasse (5)	_____
7. you parents' children (8)	_____

SHI	LY	RUM	LA	ING
ER	TS	NGS	PUP	SI
PE	RE	RE	BL	NKI
DI	BLI	FTY	AND	CT

	6			9		5	4	
	3			5	2		7	
8		2		4				
			5	3				7
		5		6		8		
9				1	7			
				7		3		5
	4		3	2			8	
	9	3		8				1

Solution to last sudoku (in April's newsletter)

1	8	5	7	9	3	6	4	2
4	3	6	8	2	5	9	7	1
7	2	9	6	4	1	3	8	5
5	4	1	9	3	6	7	2	8
8	6	2	4	5	7	1	9	3
9	7	3	2	1	8	4	5	6
3	9	4	1	8	2	5	6	7
2	1	7	5	6	9	8	3	4
6	5	8	3	7	4	2	1	9

