

# Campus Club *at Cornell*

Enriching Women's Lives Since 1900

February 2021  
Campus Club Newsletter  
<https://blogs.cornell.edu/campusclub/>

## Mid-year Report from our President

Greetings!

I hope that this newsletter finds you and yours healthy and safe. Everything and everyone has been affected by the great turmoil caused by COVID-19. Hopefully we are learning lessons that, when we come out on the other side of this pandemic, will make us better than we were before.

Besides the political, scientific, and sociological issues challenging the world, there are the smaller, more personal lessons that each of us has experienced, on our own and as part of the Campus Club.

We have learned that it is possible to maintain friendships, laugh, share knowledge, exercise, and compete without being in the same room. We have learned to push the record button at the beginning of a program, to mute and to unmute ourselves (always a useful skill), to screen share, and so much more. We have learned that technology requires patience, that the internet can get tired (that's my story and I'm sticking to it), and that pants are not always necessary. We have also learned the value of having a virtual component to our programs – people who might not have been able to attend in person were able to join us online. Much of what we have learned we will consider continuing into the future, although probably not the lesson about pants.

Through the efforts of the Activity Group Leaders and the Board, the Club has stayed a vibrant, active entity, with 382 members, and 19 activity groups. Over 250 people attended the four programs we have had this year, and there is still one more program to go! Thank you to all of you who have organized, facilitated, and participated. You have kept the Campus Club alive!

As we look to the future, because so much is still uncertain, we will not hold the usual annual Spring Luncheon or Fall Coffee and the fate of the 2021 December Winter Tea is still to be determined. What we do know is that our Activities and our Programs will go on. Because of the brevity of the roster of social events, CCC membership for 21-22 will be \$10 rather than the usual \$25. Membership will run from June 1, 2021 to May 30, 2022 and is required to participate in any of the Activity Groups.

We hope that you will continue to be a part of the Campus Club at Cornell. Again, many thanks and kudos to our hardworking Activity Group Leaders, and our dedicated Board for jobs well done!

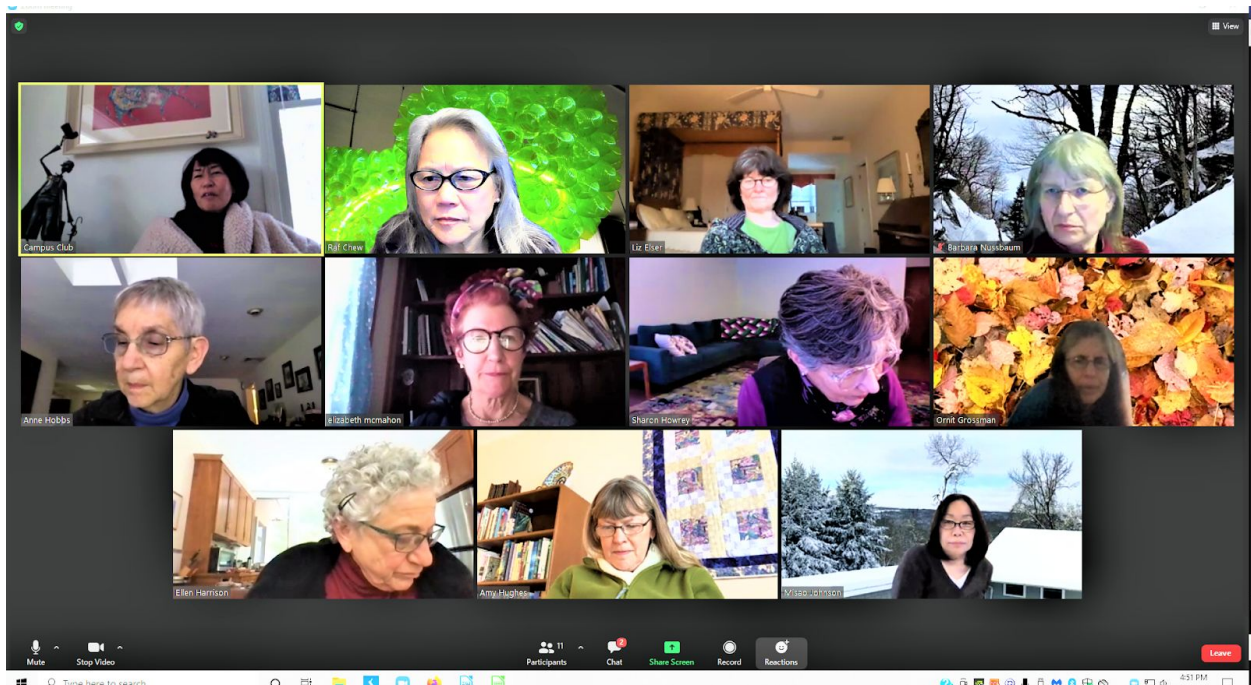
Stay warm and stay safe – the end of the tunnel approaches!

Cheers,

Karen Koyanagi

CCC Board President 20-21

ps. If you want to start a group activity, just let us know and we'll facilitate it.



ZOOM Board Meeting Top: Karen, Raf, Liz, Barbara - Middle: Anne, Elizabeth, Sharon, Ornit - Bottom: Ellen, Amy, Misao (Kyra absent)

# Activity Group Updates

## Bird Study

Tuesdays 8:30 AM Fall and Spring, TBA Winter

Contact Tracy Farrell [tjf6@cornell.edu](mailto:tjf6@cornell.edu)  
Lois Levitan [lcl3@cornell.edu](mailto:lcl3@cornell.edu)

The Bird Study Group met seven times last fall, taking in-person walks at places where we could remain physically distanced and still see lots of birds. (Although forced to cancel three walks due to rain, we were able to reschedule one “post - season”). Thirty nine group members participated in at least one walk. COVID-safe protocols were very much on our minds and integrated into our practice. During the winter, we alerted members to interesting online presentations by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Cayuga Bird Club and others. We plan to resume our weekly walks on Tuesday morning beginning in early April, and continuing through early June. Destinations, in or near Ithaca, with adequate parking space for all our cars (since again we won't be carpooling), will include Stewart Park, Salt Point, and Lime Hollow, among others.

## Book Group I

3rd Monday, 2 PM via ZOOM

Contact Anne Hobbs [withane66@gmail.com](mailto:withane66@gmail.com)  
Marcia Jacobson [marcia.jacobson@gmail.com](mailto:marcia.jacobson@gmail.com)

The Monday afternoon book group has continued meeting through the pandemic. We are meeting on ZOOM and have been surprised and pleased with how well this is working. We have enjoyed seeing each other again, even in this limited way. We recently discussed Erik Larson's The Splendid and the Vile and will discuss James McBride's The Good Lord Bird next.

## Book Group II

2nd Thursday at 1:30 via ZOOM

Contact     Gail Carruth     [gailcarruth@gmail.com](mailto:gailcarruth@gmail.com)  
                 Louise Sallinger     [louise14850@gmail.com](mailto:louise14850@gmail.com)

Pre-Covid participants met in member's homes for lively literary discussions. Although we have been unable to meet in person Book Group II has continued to enjoy its monthly book discussions via ZOOM. Please join us for the remaining book group meetings: March 11th, *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett, April 8th, *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins and May 13th, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford.

## Book Group III

3rd Monday 8 PM via ZOOM

Contact     Laura Andolina     [andolina@aol.com](mailto:andolina@aol.com)

Monday evening Book Group is humming along with an interesting book every month to discuss! We just discussed Isabel Allende's new book [A Long Petal to the Sea](#). Most everyone really liked it! We are meeting via ZOOM, with anywhere from 12 to 18 members logged on at any given point. We anticipate staying with ZOOM this year through June. But we have great discussions and some great books yet to come: [Born A Crime](#) by Trevor Noah and [The Dutch House](#) by Ann Patchett....among others!! Please join us!

## Bridge (Intermediate)

Wednesdays 9:30 to Noon

Contact     Patricia Holmes     [pholmes2@twcny.rr.com](mailto:pholmes2@twcny.rr.com)  
                 Erna Westwig     [rwestwig@stny.rr.com](mailto:rwestwig@stny.rr.com)

We plan to continue our weekly meetings at Lansing Village Hall once we can meet again indoors. The playing environment is relaxed and friendly.



## CCC Road Cyclists

Thursdays at 1 PM Fall/Spring and Summer at 9 AM

Contact      Kris Hodges      [minnswede@gmail.com](mailto:minnswede@gmail.com)  
                  Marcie Robinson      [mrobi1586@gmail.com](mailto:mrobi1586@gmail.com)

We managed to bike most weeks with rides ranging from 12-20 miles. A few times our rides ended with a dip in fellow rider's pond, strawberry picking and ice cream in Freeville. Beautiful rides and a great group of gals made the hills that much easier. Somehow, the hills got smaller as the season progressed (and we got stronger). Hope you can join us for an earlier start this year.



Road Cyclists somewhere north of the Ithaca Airport (perhaps Scofield Rd)

(L to R) Kris, Kathy, Audrey, Marcie, Susan

# CCC Waterfront Trail Cyclists

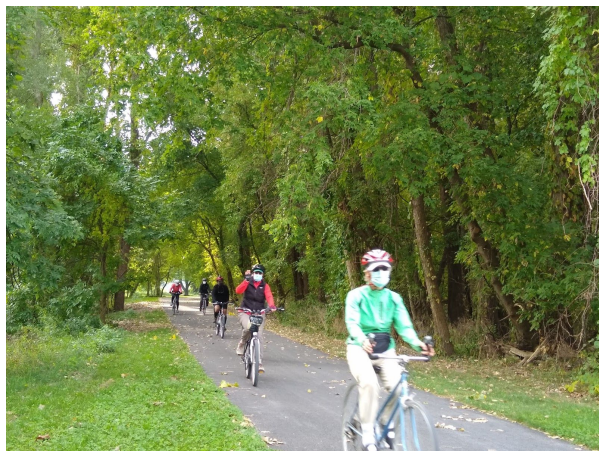
Thursdays at 1 PM Fall/Spring and Summer at 9 AM

Contact      Jan McCarrick      [janithaca@gmail.com](mailto:janithaca@gmail.com)  
                  Kathy Hopkins      [kathy1122@gmail.com](mailto:kathy1122@gmail.com)  
                  Ruth Hopkins      [rah27@cornell.edu](mailto:rah27@cornell.edu)



We meet at the Ithaca Farmers' Market (at parking spot #188) to bike the Waterfront Trail and sometimes the Black Diamond Trail as long as the weather holds up. We will resume as soon as it warms in spring. The Waterfront Trail is flat, paved, scenic and there are no cars. Due to Covid-19 everyone must wear a mask. Biking lends itself easily to social distancing.

During this past season we were able to go for a fair number of bike rides, enjoying beautiful scenery and good companionship while getting some exercise. The masks in the photos are hiding some happy smiling faces.



Tunnel of shade trees



Very short packed stone dust trail past the Dog Park





Look closely to spot the osprey nest behind the cyclists



Crossing the inlet by Micky Roof



Perfect spot for a photo



Almost back to the parking spot

## Conversational Spanish

Mondays at 2 PM via ZOOM and outdoors weather permitting

Contact Jane Leff  
Kris Hodges

[janeleff134@gmail.com](mailto:janeleff134@gmail.com)  
[minnswede@gmail.com](mailto:minnswede@gmail.com)

Weather permitting, we met every Monday at 2 PM on Jane's spacious deck, wearing masks until appropriately separated. Everyone brought their own snack & drink. It was

great fun while it lasted & we're looking forward to getting back to it in person. In the meantime, we ZOOM weekly with an average of 5 of our nine members. The dynamics of the group change as new members join. It's a very relaxed group - so much so that sometimes one of us takes a cat nap.

We've begun daydreaming/planning a post-pandemic overnight bus trip to East Harlem to explore the richness of its Spanish speaking culture!



Conversational Spanish

(L to R) Top Row: Diane and Kris - Bottom Row: Jane and Nancy



# Games

Tuesdays at 10 AM, Thursdays and Sundays at 7 PM via ZOOM

Contact **Raf Chew** [rafchew@yahoo.com](mailto:rafchew@yahoo.com)

Since April 2020 Games quickly shifted from meeting twice a month to meeting three times a week via ZOOM. We have discovered and keep discovering more online games that keep our minds well exercised. **RAF**



Games during the pandemic have helped me to keep my sanity. Seeing familiar faces, exercising my mind, laughing together and gleaned helpful information are all part of what happens at Games. My favorite is a drawing game, "Skribbl.io" where we guess what the other person is drawing. We also play card games, word games, and even a charades game. I highly recommend the Games group; if you love games, or

just want to get to know the "games ladies" better, this group is for you! **SHARON**



The games group has discovered that there are many card and board games that can be played on the computer while chatting on ZOOM at the same time. The online version of card games turns out to be very attractive in that the shuffling and dealing are all done by the computer, as is the score-keeping. We now play games

three times a week which provides a nice structure to life and an opportunity to visit with friends while challenging our brains. **JAN**

Raf is a dedicated and patient leader who makes us all feel welcome regardless of ability to grasp the rules of the multitude of games being played 🙌. It is always possible to choose or suggest games of your liking. **LENA**

# Garden

Usually 4th Friday at 2 PM via ZOOM

Contact Ellen Lane [ellenlizlane@yahoo.com](mailto:ellenlizlane@yahoo.com)  
Joan Lawrence [jlawrence30@twcnny.rr.com](mailto:jlawrence30@twcnny.rr.com)

The Campus Club Garden Group has been meeting virtually, via ZOOM, since March of 2020. We have been gathering the 4th Friday of the month at 2 PM (except for the holiday season) in order to share our spring and summer gardening experiences and questions/concerns, offer tips and ideas, and consult our Master Gardening members for their expert advice.

We have enjoyed several garden tour videos - to Fairchild Gardens of FL, Swarthmore College, Ohio Botanic Garden, the Nature Conservancy Gardening for a Changing World video, and will discuss their Hortulus Farm, PA, video tour in February.

This winter we joined the Winter Solstice celebration of Cornell Botanic Gardens in December, watched videos on indoor lighting systems, house plants and their air cleaning properties, growing winter greens, indoor water features, and discussed bee and pollinator friendly replacement lawns and fun new plants to try this spring, inspired by spring nursery catalogs, which have recently arrived in our mailboxes (we gardeners get a special thrill from pouring over these catalogs and conjuring up new garden ideas during these wintry months).

We hope to be able to gather and reconnect in person again sometime this summer for socially distanced and safe garden tours. But for now, we enjoy visiting with each other, holding fun and informal garden-centered conversations, and sharing videos via ZOOM.



Garden Members wishing Joan (top left - our long time Garden Co-leader) a Happy Birthday during a ZOOM Garden meeting.

## Gourmet Diners'

Contact      Nora Shang      [nshang3@gmail.com](mailto:nshang3@gmail.com)  
                 Alice Kops      [portia95@amklegal.com](mailto:portia95@amklegal.com)

The CC Gourmet Diner's group has stopped meeting since the start of COVID a year ago. We held two ZOOM gatherings last spring and hope to resume in-person gatherings later in the year.

## Hiking and XC Skiing

Contact      Barbara Nussbaum      [barbnussb@gmail.com](mailto:barbnussb@gmail.com)  
                 Emily Tracy      [emilytracy@hotmail.com](mailto:emilytracy@hotmail.com)  
                 Nora Shang      [nshang3@gmail.com](mailto:nshang3@gmail.com)

The Hiking and Cross Country Skiing Group does not meet and we haven't done any ZOOM meetings. We send emails to the group members about hiking and skiing destinations, proper hiking gear and outdoor safety so that the group members are able to hike and ski on their own or in self organized small groups.

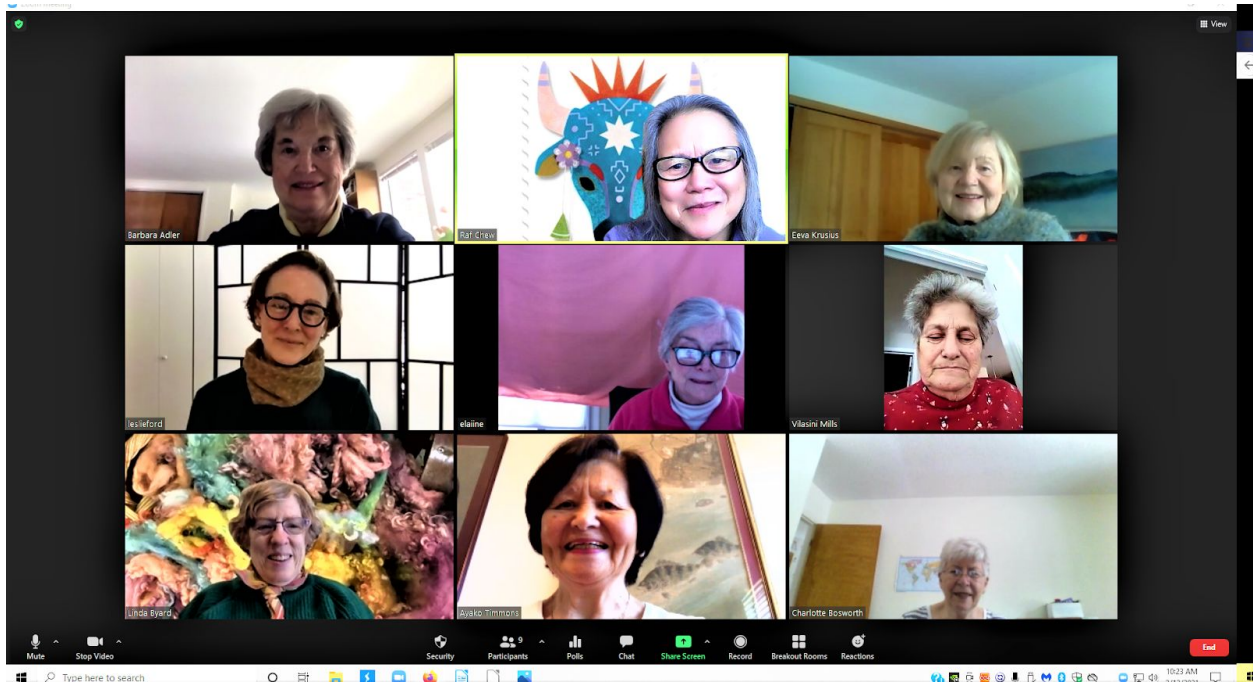
## Just Coffee

**Fridays at 10 via ZOOM**

Contact      Raf Chew      [rafchew@yahoo.com](mailto:rafchew@yahoo.com)

We are now on our 11<sup>th</sup> month of weekly Just Coffee Fridays at 10 via ZOOM. We meet for one hour to catch up, learn about online resources (e.g., free webinars with Cornell Adult University and Irish Rep Theater online), how to sign up for vaccinations, and so much more. Politics has been a constant topic. We sometimes share pictures or short videos using the SHARE Screen function on ZOOM. **RAF**





Just Coffee Chat Top Row: Barbara, Raf, Eeva - Middle Row: Leslie, Elaine, Vilasini - Bottom Row: Linda, Ayako, Charlotte

This Coffee via ZOOM has been a great help during this pandemic. It is a way to connect with people and chat a bit. There have been good ideas about walks to take and people talked about vaccinations. We are vaccinated!!! I really enjoy zooming every Friday with this group, and it helps with the isolation. **ELAINE**

## MahJongg

Contact Iris Lupu [irislupu51@hotmail.com](mailto:irislupu51@hotmail.com)

The Mah Jongg group cannot continue until we can all meet again in person. I will purchase the 2021 cards with the hope that we can start meeting in the summer.

## Performers

Contact Jane Dieckmann [dickjane201@gmail.com](mailto:dickjane201@gmail.com)  
 Charette Wheelis [charette1042@gmail.com](mailto:charette1042@gmail.com)

The Campus Club Performers' Group cannot practically be held as a virtual program and it has no plans in the near future to hold a meeting. It is possible that in December

2021 enough folks will be vaccinated so that a general immunity will be in effect. But that will be in the 2021- 2022 Campus Club year. We deeply regret this hiatus but really see no other recourse.

## Quilting

Contact Sarah Hatcher [sshatcher@gmail.com](mailto:sshatcher@gmail.com)

The Quilting Group has not been meeting in 2020 - 2021.

## Ukulele

Fridays 3 to 4:30 PM via ZOOM

Contact Ruth Hopkins [rah27@cornell.edu](mailto:rah27@cornell.edu)



Thanks to some very persistent and technically skilled members, the Uke group has continued to meet weekly and share all the many resources we've found on the internet. In some cases we are actually practicing more! We've managed to overlook the less than perfect sound of 'music on ZOOM', and our own voices on ZOOM, and play together by taking turns as the leader. We had just one socially distanced gathering

singing Christmas Carols at Emoretta Yang's home, a spot where we've played during Porchfest, back when life was normal. Uke's don't stay in tune in cold weather but that didn't interfere with this joyful occasion.

## Wanderers

**Contact**      **Nora Shang**      [nshang3@gmail.com](mailto:nshang3@gmail.com)

The Wanderers Group organized its last trip at Downtown Ithaca in January, 2020. The 2020 spring and summer trips were cancelled due to COVID. We met virtually over ZOOM in May, 2020 and shared photos of recent Wanderers trips. Raf started the meeting with a game. She showed random photos from past trips and asked people to identify the location. Nora shared photos of Rochester and Erie Canal trip from October, 2018, and Fayetteville and historic downtown Syracuse trip from October, 2019.

We continue to follow and monitor local and state COVID guidelines. We hope to resume the planning and implementation of trips later in the year.

## What Do You Know

**Contact**      **Karen Koyanagi**      [k2koyanagi@yahoo.com](mailto:k2koyanagi@yahoo.com)  
**Raf Chew**      [rafchew@yahoo.com](mailto:rafchew@yahoo.com)

We are currently not meeting in 2020 - 2021.

## Yoga for Life

**Wednesdays 8:30 - 10 AM via ZOOM**

**Contact**      **Ayako Timmons**      [ayakotimmons@gmail.com](mailto:ayakotimmons@gmail.com)  
**Kathy Hopkins**      [kathy1122@gmail.com](mailto:kathy1122@gmail.com)

Led by Gisela Konrad, an independent certified yoga instructor since 1983. The purpose of this class is to achieve a sense of balance and health in both mind and body. Our class has continued with attendees from as far away as Bolivia and Finland.

Fee: \$15.00 per class.



# SERVICE GROUP UPDATE

## English as a Second Language

**Contact** Anita Christiansen [anitag99@gmail.com](mailto:anitag99@gmail.com)

The ESL service group continues to honor the 50+ year tradition of providing English language instruction to the Cornell-affiliated community. Since the pandemic, our volunteer teachers have been teaching intermediate and advanced ESL classes via ZOOM, helping international students and their spouses to improve and strengthen their English as well as learn about the US, as well as stay connected to each other and Cornell. Our group has successfully translated in-person teaching methods to virtual teaching, with a little help from our tech-savvy friends! We will continue with ESL classes via ZOOM through May 2021 and look forward to meeting our students in person after the pandemic is over.

# HOSPITALITY GROUP UPDATE

## International Friendship Groups

**1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7:30 PM via ZOOM**

**Contact** Jette Lundgren [henrietta.lundgren@gmail.com](mailto:henrietta.lundgren@gmail.com)  
Raf Chew [rafchew@yahoo.com](mailto:rafchew@yahoo.com)

Since April 2020 both Friendship Groups (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed) have jointly met via ZOOM.

On the 1st Wednesday, we usually come up with a specific topic or program, provided by one or several members of the group. For the 3rd Wednesday, we get together to chat and connect, sometimes using breakout rooms in ZOOM.

Since travel has been nearly impossible due to COVID, we “Traveled the World” on ZOOM for several months with members sharing a favorite travel destination. We visited Australia (Anita C), India (Kumari), South Africa (Ying), Italy (Lena), Costa Rica (Miguelina), China (Nora), Kyrgyzstan (Ornit), and New Zealand (Sharon & Sarah).



After the “Travel the World Series” we had an “Artful Travel” program presented by Leslie. She took slides of her father’s travels, did one digital cut in each slide, combined one portion from each of two slides to create a new image. The art theme was continued with a program where members talked about a favorite art museum/gallery, a favorite artist, or favorite artist’s work.

Other program topics have included Tech Questions & Help (with both questions and help provided by our members), Seated Tai Chi with Miguelina, and How I Met My Spouse. In March Ines, Elke, and Tamara will share their memories of their many years with the Friendship Group. Did

you know that the Friendship Groups started back in 1947?

Send Jette or Raf an email if you would like to join us.



**Friendship Group Chat**

Top Row: Jette, Raf, Eeva, Elke - Middle Row: Ying, Miguelina, Jing-ting & Mochin, Vilasini - Bottom Row: Leslie, Sharon, Elaine