

## Celebrate “Friendship February” with CWGA

As a former educator, I always think of February as the “Friendship” month. After all most of us celebrate Valentine’s Day in some way, and in schools we came to see it as a month to encourage building relationships with old friends while being open to new ones. Once a week we would facilitate “friendship circles” which consisted of a group of student representatives from each grade, Kindergarten through eighth grades. The elder students were the leaders of the activity each week, and the activities were focused on developing relationships and learning more about each other in a multi-age setting. You are probably wondering why I am telling you all of this in an article about CWGA. I have said this before in previous articles, but CWGA is not only about playing and improving our golf game, but also about nurturing relationships among members. At our January Board Meeting, our annual calendar was approved and is currently posted on our website, [CWGA.org](http://CWGA.org). The calendar has many examples of the many activities planned for this year to give time for activities that encourage us to learn more about current and new members as well as improve our golf skills.

The three preseason luncheons planned by our membership committee starts the relationship “golf” ball rolling before members officially get to play and is much like the “Friendship Circles” that I just described, building relationships with old friends (current members) while being open to new friendships (new members). January’s luncheon activity was sharing a favorite book. I learn a lot about people listening to them talk about their favorite book and the genre that they love to read. For example, anyone who knows me well, would not find it surprising that I prefer literature that depicts strong women characters in history and fiction. Books that uncover, for example, the invisible role that women played in history as in the books *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly and *The Rose Code* by Kate Quinn. Books that tell of the brave and ambitious women who rail against a repressive society, and who are fighting to realize her full potential, as in *A Book of Longings* by Susan Monk Kidd and *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. Since this article occurs before our January luncheon, I can’t report on anyone’s favorite book, but I am sure I will learn more about you through the books you love!

Our luncheon this month is on February 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM and the deadline for signing up is February 1<sup>st</sup>. Hopefully, you are reading this the same day this edition reaches you and in time to sign up! The Market Café will prepare and serve a delicious lunch consisting of a salad bar, chicken, pasta, bread sticks and cheesecake for \$25.00. Beer and wine will be available for \$5.00. After that lunch, we all will need to move around and work off some of those calories. Kaitlyn Howe, PGA Assistant Professional for Charbonneau Golf Club will demonstrate and lead us in fitness activities that will get us ready to play golf! My guess is that the floor will be shaking with activity, and that we will be shaking with laughter as we begin to work on getting “Fit for Golf”! I hope you do not miss this opportunity, but if you do, mark your calendar for March 7<sup>th</sup> our last winter gathering, and another delicious lunch and activity that will surly further develop your CWGA friendships before the season opener on April 4<sup>th</sup>!

Please check out the calendar for dates of upcoming events. Remember you are always welcome to attend CWGA Board meetings on the first Wednesday of every month.