

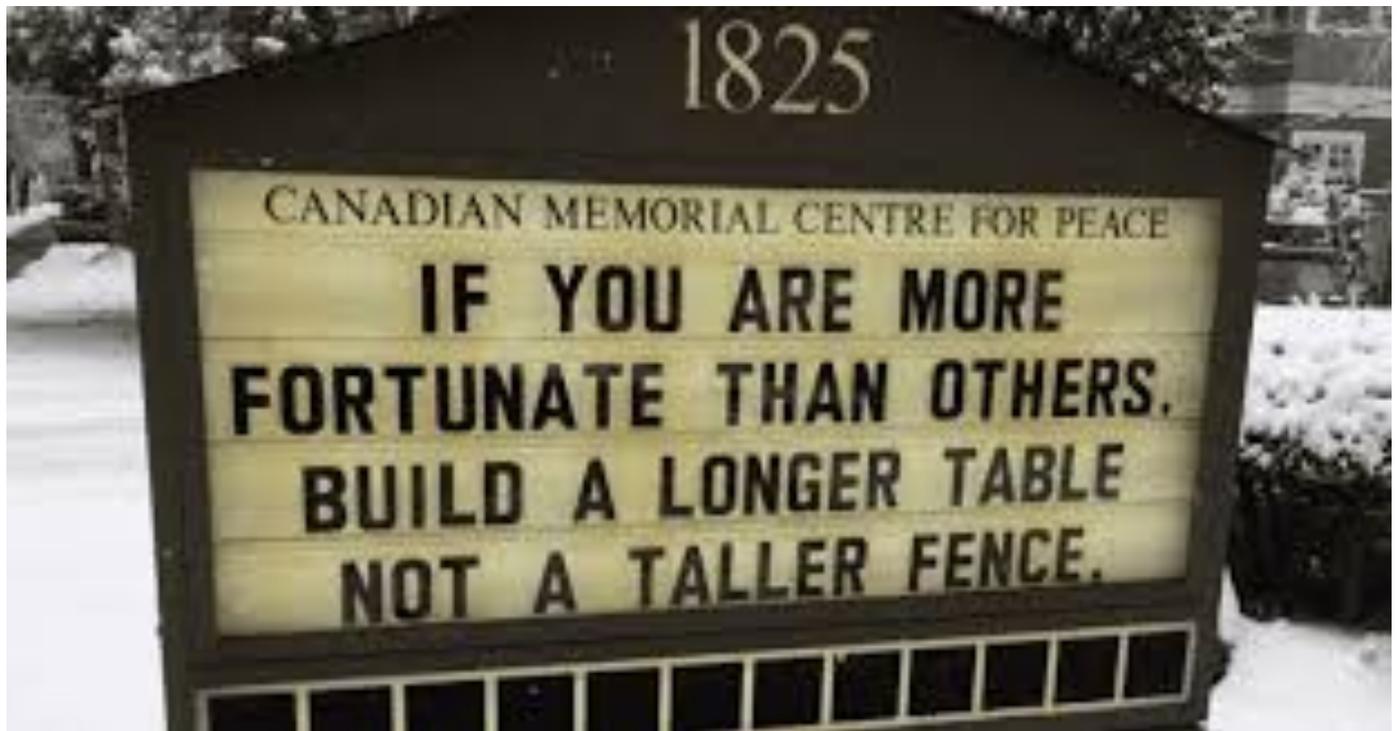
Women Transcending Boundaries Monthly Newsletter

Bringing women of faith together after 9/11



All information also available on our website wtb.org

JANUARY 2021



Due to the CoronaVirus, all of our events have been postponed or canceled until health authorities determine it is safe to gather again. Please notice that the Book Club IS meeting via Zoom. If you need information on how to ZOOM into the meeting, please contact Anne Flaherty annebflaherty@gmail.com or 315-247-9729



Letter from our President

Dear Friends and Members of WTB,

January 2021 is here! A New Year of possibilities – of opportunities and challenges. Hopefully this year will see the end of the pandemic. WTB is looking forward to planning monthly meetings again, where we can participate in programs in person, share refreshments, and talk together face to face.

January also begins our membership year at WTB. I am hoping that each of you interested in participating in our programs will become an official member. It is easy to officially join – all you need to do is submit a membership application. A printable copy is available on our website. I will be sending out an email with a 2021 Membership Form as well. Just fill it out and mail to WTB, PO Box 6847, Syracuse, NY 13217. That's all it takes!

You will notice that dues are \$25 per year. These dues help support our programs such as the Refugee Sewing Project, WTB Book Club, annual World Interfaith Harmony Assembly (in collaboration with InterFaith Works), monthly meetings (panels, gatherings, films), and the WTB InterFaith Achievement Award given to one or more graduating senior girls in the Syracuse City School District. If you are able to pay dues, we are grateful—but dues are not necessary to become a member. We want to know that you are interested in hearing about our programs and might be interested in sharing your ideas for projects and meeting topics.

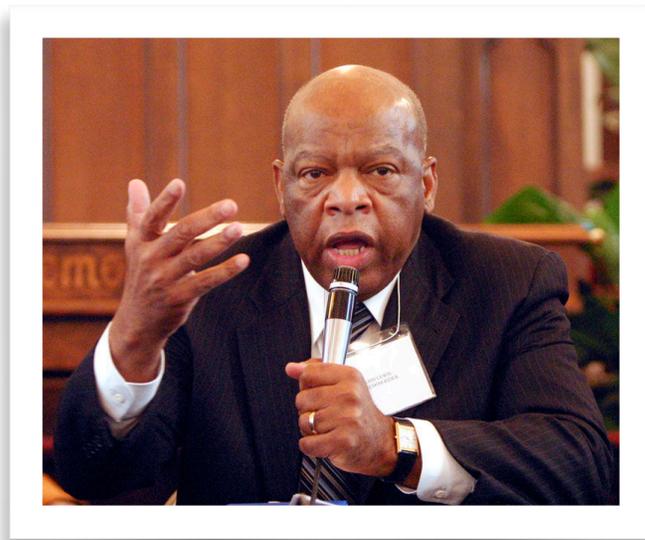
Several women sent in dues toward the end of 2020. If you did, please fill out a membership form for 2021 anyway – we want to be sure to include you on our current membership list.

WTB is an organization founded after 9/11, and its mission is really to see “the other” as “us.” So many Americans seem to look on other groups of Americans, of people, as “the other.” If there was ever a time to grow understanding between women of different faiths and cultures and backgrounds—this is it.

So please join us as we move forward into this new year...building on our commonalities, creating meaningful connections, becoming “us.”

Sincerely,

Barb Bova,
President,
Women Transcending Boundaries



Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year; It is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble.

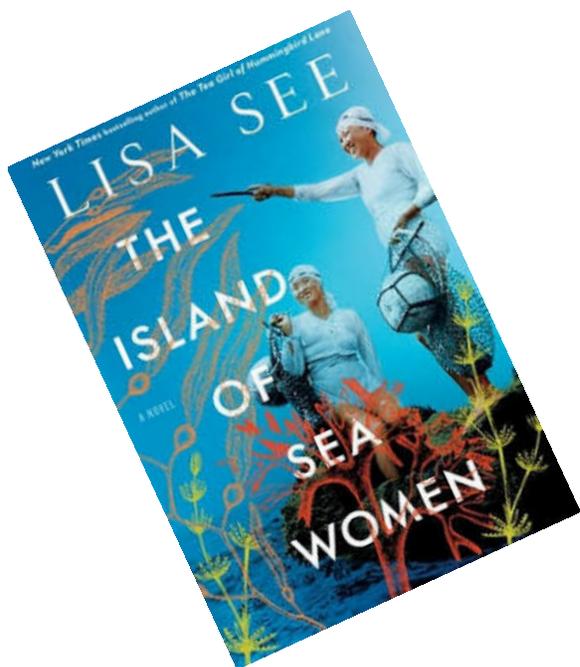
-A tweet from U.S. Congressman John Lewis, June 2018



WTB Book Club Changes - new date! new venue!

WTB Book Club now meets the second Monday of the month, from 7 pm - 9 pm. We will be meeting on Zoom for the foreseeable future.

That's right -- Book Club has continued to meet on Zoom! Thanks to Anne Flaherty for hosting! Zoom was new to many of us--but we have had some great "virtual" book chats.



MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021

The Island of Sea Women by Lisa See

Set on the Korean island of Jeju, *The Island of Sea Women* follows Mi-ja and Young-sook, two girls from very different backgrounds, as they begin working in the sea with their village's all-female diving collective.

This beautiful, thoughtful novel illuminates a unique and unforgettable culture, one where the women are in charge, engaging in dangerous physical work, and the men take care of the children.

UPCOMING BOOKS and DATES

February 8 - The Book of Longings by Sue Monk Kidd

March 8 - India Calling by Anand Giridharadas

WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US!! Contact Jennifer Crittenden by email robertscrittenden@verizon.net to sign up.



May the nectar of kindness touch our lips as we speak, may we find in ourselves the vast blue sky of inclusiveness and may our hands turn the wheel of time toward a more just world, a more beautiful world, a world worthy of our holy lives.

LARRY WARD

With the coming of the New year and new hope the WTB program committee is committed to bringing new and inspiring programs to our community. Hopefully by spring we will be able to get back together in person. We are looking forward to sharing stories, forming new friendships and building strong community relationships. If you have ideas for programs or projects please let us know. If you would like to help plan programs consider joining our committee. All are welcome ! Stay safe and hope to see you all soon. I think we will need a party!

Thank you,
Danya



December 2020

Dear Friends and Members of **Women Transcending Boundaries**,

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP – OR JOIN US FOR THE FIRST TIME!!

Please consider becoming a member of WTB in 2021; our membership year runs the calendar year from January through December. Memberships support our mission to nurture mutual respect and understanding and build relationships among women of different faiths and cultures. We sponsor a book club, a sewing class for refugee women, and we network with like-minded organizations to share our personal and collective stories and to serve women in our community. We are excited to move forward with our monthly meetings as soon as the pandemic situation allows!

A 2021 WTB Membership Form is attached to this email and can also be printed from our website. Dues are \$25 per year; we welcome your membership even if you cannot pay dues. Forms and dues can be sent to WTB, P.O. Box 6847, Syracuse, NY 13217. (WTB is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit.)

Note: If you have paid 2020 dues within the past two months, please fill out a 2021 Membership Form anyway. We want to be sure your name is included in our 2021 membership list!

Our membership form includes a box to check if you would like to be notified of volunteer opportunities within WTB and/or within the community. We welcome your voice, talents, and ideas in planning and implementing programs and initiatives as your time and interest allow.

Thank you for your support of WTB over the years – especially this unique year. We do hope you will become an official member of Women Transcending Boundaries for 2021!!

Sincerely,

Barb Bova

Barbara Bova
President of Women Transcending Boundaries, Inc.



Women Transcending Boundaries, Inc.

A Metro Syracuse Women's Group Founded After 9/11/01

P.O. Box 6847, Syracuse, NY 13217

www.wtb.org

2021 MEMBERSHIP FORM

New Member _____

Renewing Member _____

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION CLEARLY

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phones: (home) _____ (work) _____ (cell) _____

E-mail: _____ Occupation: _____

Religion (optional): _____ Native Country: _____

How did you first learn about WTB? _____

Do you have special interests that bring you to WTB? _____

Would you like to receive more information about specific needs and volunteer opportunities ...
within WTB? in the greater Central New York community?

Dues (\$25 per year) \$ _____

***Note:** Dues are appreciated but not mandatory for membership. However, you must fill out and submit this form in order to be a WTB member.*

Donation: \$ _____

Your additional donation will help fund WTB projects and activities, including scholarships for women who cannot afford to pay dues.

Total paid on ____/____/____ by cash __ or check __ \$ _____

Women Transcending Boundaries, Inc.
is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) charitable corporation.
All dues and donations are tax deductible.

Please submit this completed form at any WTB meeting or by mail to the address at the top of this form.

WTB Mission Statement:

We are an egalitarian community of women coming together to respect and learn more about each other's various spiritual beliefs, cultures, and common concerns. It is our intent to share our experiences with the wider community, to educate, and to serve.



Our Mission

Connect volunteer knitters and crocheters with breast cancer survivors to offer free Knitted Knockers to any woman who wants them. There is a huge demand for Knitted Knockers that can't be met by any one group but together we can do it! If someone in each area will set a goal of meeting the need in just their county it can happen!

The knitting knockers website provides detailed instructions, videos, and helpful directions as to where to send them.

Knitty Gritty yarn shop at 1153 West Fayette St collects them; subsequently they are distributed to breast cancer centers by Carol Merritt, a wonderful knitting person.

100% soft cotton yarn must be used. The website provides a list of specific cotton yarns. But any soft cotton yarn, fingering, DK is fine. I bought my cotton yarn at Yarn Cupboard in Jamesville.

I welcome anyone to email me with questions

Thanks and Happy Holiday
Lorraine Markley lgmbeads@verizon.net

One day people will touch and talk perhaps easily,
And loving be natural as breathing and warm as sunlight,
And people will untie themselves, as string is unknotted,
Unfold and yawn and stretch and spread their fingers,
Unfurl, uncurl like seaweed returned to the sea,
And work will be simple and swift as a seagull flying,
And play will be casual and quiet as a seagull settling,
And the clocks will stop, and no one will wonder or care or
notice,
And people will smile without reason, even in winter, even in
the rain.

From Collected Poems (Bloodaxe, 2011). Posted by kind
permission of Bloodaxe Books.



SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL'S

PLOWSHARES CRAFTSFAIR



JOIN US ONLINE
plowsharescraftsfair.org

**Help celebrate the 50th Anniversary with 10 weeks
of sharing, shopping, & crafts from November 20-January 31
and a SPECIAL 50th Anniversary Celebratory Weekend
of online performances & live-streaming events on Dec. 5-6!**

Central New York's premier multicultural crafts fair, Plowshares celebrates a world where people enjoy their work and have control over it. With 50 participating regional craftspeople and community groups, it is a marketplace of ideas and beautifully diverse, handmade items. In addition to browsing and shopping from crafters and organizations, there will also be virtual versions of other familiar features of Plowshares:

- The SPC Marketplace through which to buy books, calendars, buttons, magnets, T-shirts, and more
- An online Silent Auction where you can bid on a great selection of gift certificates for local restaurants and businesses
- Live-streamed entertainment and music AND
- Opportunities to talk with crafters, SPC organizers, and community members via Zoom

'Sometimes'

Sometimes things don't go, after all,
from bad to worse. Some years, muscadel
faces down frost; green thrives; the crops don't fail.
Sometimes a man aims high, and all goes well.

A people sometimes will step back from war,
elect an honest man, decide they care
enough, that they can't leave some stranger poor.
Some men become what they were born for.

Sometimes our best intentions do not go
amiss; sometimes we do as we meant to.
The sun will sometimes melt a field of sorrow
that seemed hard frozen; may it happen for you.

By British poet Sheenagh Pugh



THE REFUGEE SEWING CLASS

WTB Refugee Sewing (Cottage) Project. In person sewing classes at the Northside Learning Center are unlikely to resume before next September. WTB continues to receive donations of fabric and of sewing machines, which are restored and gifted to graduates of the class. Contact Jennifer robertscrittenden@verizon.net for further information.



WTB's Holiday Gifting

WTB was excited to participate in InterFaith Works' Ambassador Program this year. As "Santa" for a refugee family of six from Congo with children aged 3 months through 7 years, we selected, purchased, and wrapped presents of toys and clothes for each family member. In addition to a lovely bag of gifts put together by Cindy Rahrle, the mom received gift cards to TOPS, an assortment of fancy teas, and a lovely crochet bead necklace handmade by Lorraine Markley. We hope this family had as much joy opening the gifts as we had assembling them!

Several women donated their purchases, which enabled WTB to include a Target gift certificate so the family could buy needed winter coats and gear.

A *huge* thank you to those who worked on this project – **Linda Chambers, Sarah Clark, Carol Lipson, Lorraine Markley, Ann Port, Cindy Rahrle, Rosalie Young, Jennifer Roberts Crittenden and Barbara Bova**. Thank you to Ann Port's grandchildren, **Logan** (age 6) and **Amelia** (age almost 5) who offered expert advice on what children their ages would like to receive and made them special cards. We are grateful to **Jodi Bova** for allowing us to use her home as a collection site.

WTB also collected some "extra" items-- outerwear, unopened crock pot, and unused Turkish tea service. Daryl Files of InterFaith Works will see that these get to a refugee family who can use them.

Thank you to each of you who made this project a success – and so much fun!!

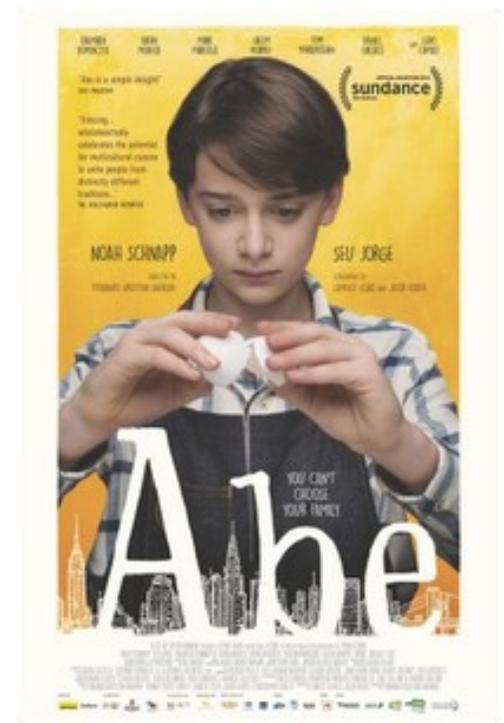




I watched a movie this week which I enjoyed. It is called Abe, the name of the 12- year- old boy (Noah Schnapp) featured in the film. His dilemma is that his grandparents on his father's side are Palestinian Muslim and those on the other side are Israeli Jewish. Both want what is best for the boy. You can imagine what family meals are like at this household. Abe loves to cook and he hopes to find a way to unite both sides: fusion food.

The movie ends with a song sung by Jorge Drexler: Soy un moro judío. It is in Spanish. Thus, I have included the words in both languages below. Judy Antoine

<https://www.google.com/search?q=abe%20movie%20song%20soy%20un%20moro%20judio>



MILONGA DEL MORO JUDIO

Por cada muro un lamento
en Jerusalén la dorada
y mil vidas malgastadas
por cada mandamiento.
Yo soy polvo de tu viento
y aunque sangro de tu herida,
y cada piedra querida
guarda mi amor más profundo,
no hay una piedra en el mundo
que valga lo que una vida.

[estribillo:]

Yo soy un moro judío
que vive con los cristianos,
no sé que Dios es el mío
ni cuales son mis hermanos.
No hay muerto que no me duela,
no hay un bando ganador,
no hay nada más que dolor
y otra vida que se vuela.
La guerra es muy mala escuela
no importa el disfraz que viste,
perdonen que no me aliste
bajo ninguna bandera,
vale más cualquier quimera
que un trozo de tela triste.

[estribillo]

Y a nadie le dí permiso
para matar en mi nombre,
un hombre no es más que un hombre
y si hay Dios, así lo quiso.
El mismo suelo que piso
seguirá, yo me habré ido;
rumbo también del olvido
no hay doctrina que no vaya,
y no hay pueblo que no se haya
creído el pueblo elegido.

[estribillo]

MOORISH MOOR'S MILONGA

Each wall means a lament
In Jerusalem, the Golden city
And a thousand wasted lives
Is what every commandment means
I am dust of your wind
And even if I bleed from your wound
And every dear rock
Keeps my deepest love
There's no rock in this world
That is worth for a life

chorus:

I am a Jewish Moor
That lives among Christians
I don't know which is my God
Neither which ones are my brothers

There's no death that doesn't make me
sad
There's not a winner side
There's nothing but pain
And another life that's gone
War is a very bad school
It does not matter how they dress it
Forgive me if I don't join
To the service of anyone's flag
Any chimera is better
Than a sad piece of fabric

chorus

I never gave anyone the permission
To kill on my name
A man is nothing more than a man
And if there's a God, that's the way He
wanted it
The ground on which I'm standing
Will last, I will be gone
And also there's not any doctrine
That doesn't go in the way to
forgetfulness
And there's no people
That hasn't ever believed to be the
chosen one

Hello Ladies!

I hope you had a nice weekend.

I am reaching out to let you know we will have our second cooking class at 11 am on Jan 9th, 2021. During these unprecedented days, one of the best things you can do while at home is to learn a new culture and cuisine. Feel free to share this email with friends and family who may be interested or looking to pass time.

We are looking forward to seeing you in virtual cooking class.

Please RSVP us at this email address by Jan 5th.

Have a good night,

CNY Rise Center Cooking Class Committee

TURKISH COOKING CLASS



LAHMACUN
(Meat Pizza)



ONION SALAD



UN HELVASI
(Flour Halva)

Please join us on Jan. 9th at 11 am to our online cooking class via Zoom.
PLEASE RSVP by January 5th at cnyriseladies@gmail.com to get your recipe and invitation link.





May hope rise in your soul
As the sun rises in the sky,
May joy dance in this day
And lift your heart up high.

www.prayerscapes.com

