

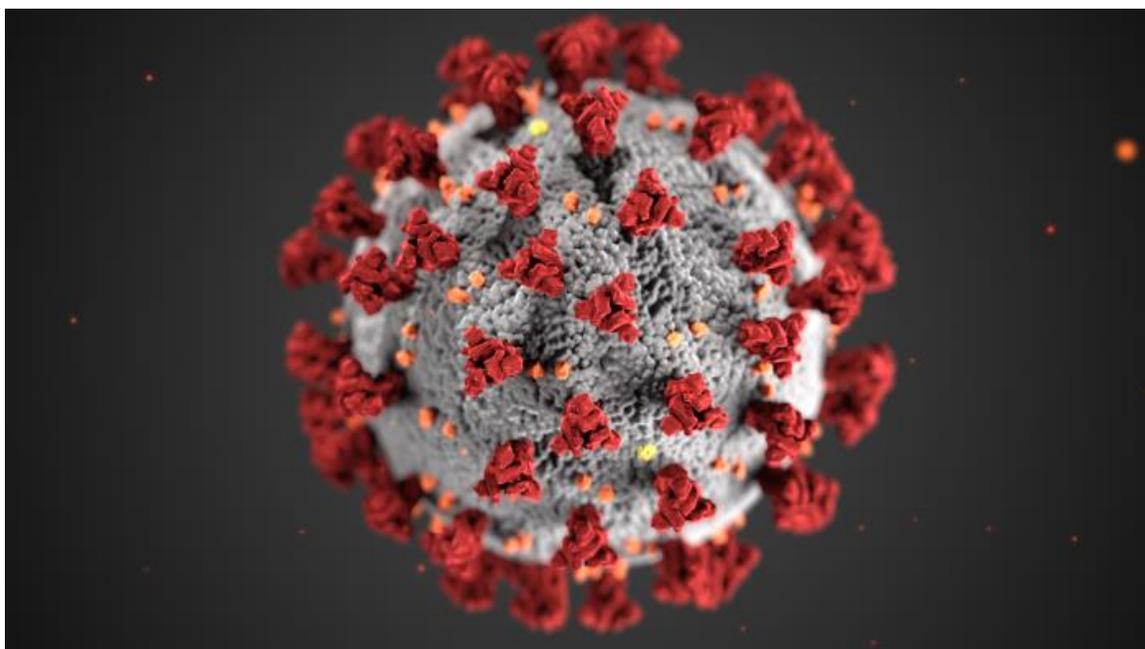
Women Transcending Boundaries Monthly Newsletter

Bringing women of faith together after 9/11



All information also available on our website wtb.org

September 2021



We thought we were DONE with the coronavirus but it and the variant, Delta, are still making life difficult for us. Thus, we have cancelled our September 19 monthly meeting. We are working hard to get programs for the next 2 months. WTB continues!



UPCOMING MONTHLY MEETINGS

October 17, 2021 3:00 - 5:00

November 21, 2021 3:00 - 5:00



President's Corner

Welcome to Women Transcending Boundaries! Our theme this year is “Rebuilding Community!”

WTB is a group of women who come together to share stories, grow relationships and learn about each other’s traditions. Formed just after 9/11/2001, our organization has been going strong for two full decades.

We hope you will want to actively participate in WTB this year! We look forward to meeting and reconnecting with you at our program meetings and at our “schmais” (informal gatherings at local, often ethnic, restaurants). We try to hold program meetings on the third Sunday of the month from 3-5 pm and are in the process of planning programs for **October 17th** and **November 21st**.

Please ***email, text or call*** me to share your ideas and suggestions for programs and activities for the coming year. WTB’s mission of bringing women together across boundaries has never been more important than it is now. We need your vision and energy to grow and build connections among women in our richly diverse community.

Here are some specific ways you can get involved:

- Help plan service projects and/or program meetings
- Help network and collaborate on projects with other local women’s groups
- Share your social media and technology expertise
- Share your accounting and financial expertise

Whether you are new to WTB or have been active over the years, please reach out and get involved. This year is all about “rebuilding community” and moving forward!

Barb

Barbara Bova, President

babova@aol.com or (315) 415-2797 cell

BOOK CLUB

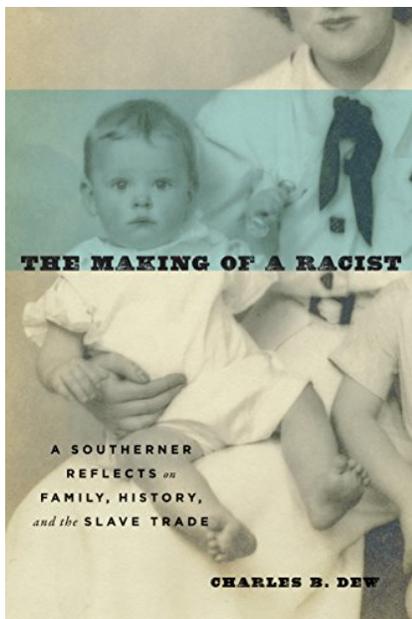
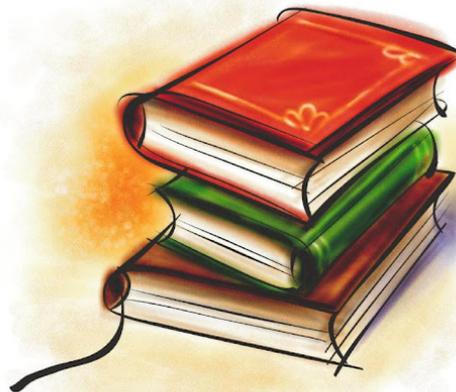
The Making of a Racist

by Charles Dew

Monday, September 13th

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Via Zoom



The Making of a Racist

*A Southerner Reflects on Family,
History and the Slave Trade*

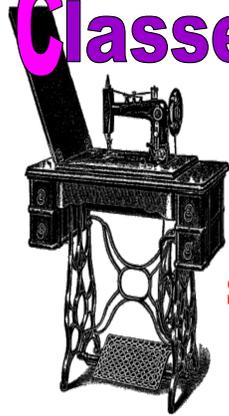
In this powerful memoir, Charles Dew, one of America's most respected historians of the South--and particularly its history of slavery--turns the focus on his own life, which began not in the halls of enlightenment but in a society unequivocally committed to segregation.

Our book club continues to meet via Zoom generally on the second Monday of the month, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. We select books that shed insight into social issues and the impact of faith in our world today. Until further notice, our meetings are led in Zoom. If you would like to join the book club either in person or on Zoom, please call or text Jennifer at 315-345-9217

- Oct. 11 – *North of Dawn*, by Nuruddin Farah

Presented by:
Women Transcending Boundaries

Refugee Sewing Classes



FREE!

Starting Soon
Every Thursday
12:15 - 2:45

FOR MORE INFO: Call Jennifer
315-345-9217



8 CLASSES **NorthSide Learning Center**
2:30 HOURS EACH (downstairs)
501 Park Street, Syracuse, NY 13208

You must be vaccinated for covid and bring your vaccination record to the first class. All of the teachers are vaccinated.

To register: text your name and the word "sewing" to 315-345-9217
The first 8 students will be in this class and will be notified to come.

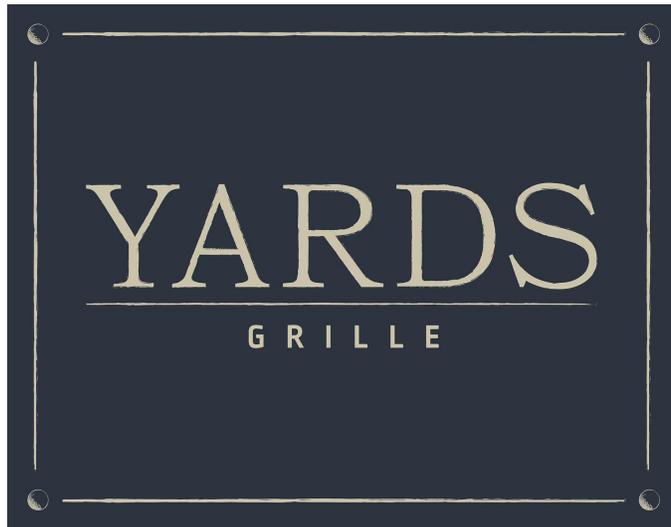
Sewing with New Americans:

The teachers are all ready to begin sewing classes at the North Side Learning Center soon. I have many boxes of donated fabric, as pandemic gave sewers and inheritors time to sort their stash and pass on excess. My basement is full of portable sewing machines and six people are storing machines in cabinets until it is time to give them away. My informational poster to alert caseworkers and possible students didn't pass muster with Tai Ngo Shaw, the founder of New American Forum, so he revised it into a visual format more appealing to refugees, including non-readers. I am distributing this to InterFaith Works, Refugee and Immigrant Self-Empowerment (RISE), New American Forum, Salt City Harvest Farm, Catholic Charities (CYO), Refugee Assistance Program at the Syracuse City School District (RAP), North Side Learning Center, and White library.

If your church or mosque or synagogue or other spiritual center has outreach to refugees (including food pantries) and would distribute this information, I will be happy to email or hand deliver the beautiful new poster. Call or text me at 315-345-9217.

At this time we have only 2 students registered for class. The new poster may bring us additional students. We will start when we have more sign-ups.

Thanks for your interest in our sewing program,
Jennifer



Thursday, September 23rd 6pm - 8 pm

Place: **Yards Grille**, 5648 Green Lakes Park Dr.,
Fayetteville, NY 13066 (315) 632-6015

This is the Restaurant near the Golf Course at the top of the hill under new management . There is a varied menu – appetizers, salads, sandwiches to more expensive entrees. There are vegetarian options.

We hope to eat on the scenic patio – weather and staffing permitted.

No reservations for patio or groups under 10 but hopefully we can get seated to enjoy the view!

WHAT IS SCHMAI?

Schmai is an informal get together to try new foods and expand friendships. Try a Schmai. No need to RSVP—just stop by the restaurant and look for the WTB sign on a table. Hope to see you there!





Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Eastern Farm Workers Association School Supply Drive.

On August 25th and 26th WTB President Barb Bova delivered a variety of needed school supplies--including 26 backpacks--to the Eastern Farm Workers Association office.

THANK YOU to all who contributed -- EFWA was very grateful! These bright new supplies will get the school year off to a bright start for the students EFWA serves!

Barb, WTB President



Sept 1-Sept 30th WTB is holding a **Food Drive** in support of Pantry Partners, part of the Community Campaign for Love of Interfaith Works of CNY. Pantry Partners alleviates food insecurity through a network of food distribution sites in local churches as it builds cooperative relationships among members of our community. Pantry partners has created its first community garden this summer -- harvesting collards, beans, peppers, tomatoes, sweet potatoes and more!

Drop off locations:

- Fayetteville - 53 Lyndon Rd 13066 (WTB box on porch)
- Liverpool - 7546 Marble Dr. 13088 (front porch near door)
- Baldwinsville - 9603 Dunderry Heights 13027 (front porch near door)
- Syracuse (East) - 305 Carlton Dr. 13214 (porch near front door)
- Syracuse - Interreligious Food Consortium, 731 James St. (access on Willow Street in back)
- call Barb 315 415-2797 for pickup



WE GREATLY APPRECIATE

Pasta	Canned Fruits	Peanut Butter
Rice	Canned Vegetables	Vegetable Oil
Cereal	Canned Tuna	Walnuts/Almonds
Oatmeal	Canned Soup	Shelf Stable Milk
Flour	Canned Beans	Dried Beans
Jelly	Boxed Mac & Cheese	Juice (not refrigerated)

Please bring items to

Interreligious Food Consortium

731 James St. Syracuse, NY 13203

If you need us to pick up your donations, call/email Garang

July 1th—September 30th

Contact:

Garang Ajak

Program Manager

315-449-3552, ext. 126

gajak@ifwcny.org

InterFaith Works
of Central New York
Center for Dialogue & Action

**We Appreciate
You!**



Ruth Colvin & Smita Rane

Ruth Colvin Attends WTB Open House in Honor of Smita Rane

WTB Founder Betsy Wiggins hosted a very special open house at her home Monday evening August 23rd. The event honored Smita Rane, long time member of WTB living in Hyderabad, India and visiting the United States this summer. About twenty women attended--some active in WTB at our beginnings after 9/11. They brought finger foods to share and lots of enthusiasm to visit with Smita and re-connect with each other. Smita shared her wonderful optimism and enthusiasm for her work in India. It was inspiring to hear how a group of women she helped organize in Hyderabad have pooled their talents to support women and girls in reaching their educational, financial and personal goals.

We were honored that Ruth Colvin was able to be part of Smita's reception. Ruth was instrumental in organizing WTB at its inception. A hundred four years young and going strong, Ruth can only be described as a national treasure--founder of Literacy Volunteers of America (now ProLiteracy), international traveler as an advocate for world literacy, and recipient of numerous national and international awards including the Presidential Medal of Freedom (2006). Ruth shared wisdom garnered through her rich life experiences. She referenced her book *Off the Beaten Path: Stories of People around the World* (2011) when she talked of what travel can teach us about our differences and commonalities. Ruth gifted Smita an autographed copy of her recent memoir *My Travels Through Life, Love, Literacy* (2020).

The evening highlighted the 20 year history of WTB--and the profound ways committed women can impact their communities for good.



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.

Please consider becoming actively involved in WTB this year. Our program year runs from September to May. We welcome your ideas and skills. Here are three opportunities to help shape the direction of our organization.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEMBER

Program committee plans the monthly programs. We typically have programs once a month, September through May. Committee members meet monthly to plan out the meetings. We are looking for new ideas, and your voice would be welcomed!!

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE MEMBER

This committee meets as needed to publicize WTB events. WTB would love to expand and improve our social media outreach. The pandemic has shown us we will need to improve our Zoom skills and become more facile with options such as Google Pages. We hope to improve our publicity this year and would be grateful for your help and any knowledge you can share.

We really need help with FB, Instagram and technology in general.

SERVICE COMMITTEE MEMBER

When we could not meet in person due to Covid, WTB did more service projects than usual, collecting items for Rise Above Poverty, Eastern Farm Workers Association, Interfaith Works of Central New York, We Rise Above the Streets, and St. Lucy's Food Pantry. If you would like to help plan our service projects for the coming year, this committee is for you!

Please contact Barbara Bova (email babova@aol.com; text or call 315-415-2797) if you'd like more information or to let us know that you are interested in joining a committee!!

Become a member of Women Transcending Boundaries!

You need only fill out a 2021 Membership Form to officially join.
A form is available on our website www.wtb.org or you can use the easy online link
<https://forms.gle/oShFU2D5VnzNQPHv6>