



CCW News

A Cornell Club of Washington Publication
 Editor-in-Chief: Claudia T. Benack '74

December 2020

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An Afternoon with Sung J. Woo '94: "Skin Deep"

After a brief pause last March, the CCW Book Club resumed meeting regularly via Zoom on a Sunday afternoon in April, and became the first Virtual Book Club. Sung J. Woo (Arts '94) joined Liz Pomper, the CCW Book Club regulars and their guests on Zoom on the evening of October 25th to discuss his new novel "*Skin Deep*", which is set in a familiar place. In the novel, Korean-American adoptee Siobahn O'Brien, a rookie private detective, encounters politely dangerous men in white turtlenecks, vegan cooking that might kill her, and possibly deadly yoga poses while searching for a friend's missing daughter. Woo's short stories and essays have appeared in *The New York Times*, *PEN/Guernica*, and *Vox*. He has written three novels, "*Skin Deep*" (2020), "*Love Love*" (2015), and "*Everything Asian*" (2009), which won the 2010 Asian Pacific American Librarians Association Literature Award. In a wide-ranging discussion, participants learned how Woo first became interested in writing. He hadn't even started reading for pleasure until his sophomore year of high school when a friend introduced him to Stephen King. The discussion focused on how he constructed the plot, why he chose to create a female protagonist, and what readers can look forward to in the next book in the series. Woo also shared his recommendations to read books by Stewart O'Nan and Richard Yates, as well as reminiscing about *The Nines*. The next CCW Book Club reads are "*The Splendid and the Vile*", by Erik Larsen, and "*The Vanishing Half*", by Brit Bennett. New members are welcome! Like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/cornellclubdcbookclub>. We are looking forward to getting together again with Sung.

Cornell Virtual Global Mixers

Making friends around the world, Cornellians are mixing virtually via Zoom every 2 weeks. In November, attendees shared stories about Cornell in a series of small breakout rooms led by trained discussion hosts, sang the alma mater, and made more friends in the after-party. Following the success of October's Zinck's Night Virtual Mixer of 136 attendees, 170 Cornellians came to the Nov. 1st mixer, 243 Cornellians on the 14th and another 100+ on the 29th! By using Zoom, video chat attendees are split into small breakout rooms, so everyone can mingle and chat in smaller groups, and reminisce about Prelims/Finals, Holidays, Snow Days, Slope/Spring Day festivities, Donlon/Risley, dorm life, Louie's and more. See us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/anypersonanyparty>

- "Delightful as always. Keep up the excitement"
- "Brilliant! Thank you. I enjoyed it immensely, and stayed to the end!"
- "It was really interesting listening to the people from India describe some of their culture. I loved it, It was another fun night."

CCW Board of Directors

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First Vice President, Lisa Burns Griffin '87
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Events at a Glance

CCW is Cornell's largest all-volunteer regional club and one of its most active. Membership helps local alumni connect through social events and service programs advancing Cornell's mission through community-engaged discovery and learning that contribute to solving many of the local and world's challenges. CCW offers engaging programs and activities for alumni, students, and friends in the greater Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

CCW Pints & Purls - Knit a Big Red Scarf Virtual Event

Come join us for an evening session of knitting and good conversation. Bring your own project, or learn how to knit a big red scarf for the cold weather outside. It'll be a Zoom meeting with smaller breakout rooms for learning and conversing. Questions: Grace Tucker gkt25@cornell.edu

- December 2, 2020 - 8:00PM <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3997212>
- December 16, 2020 - 8:00PM <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3997214>
- December 30, 2020 - 8:00PM <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3997215>

CCW Virtual Book Club: "The Splendid and the Vile" by Erik Larson

December 6, 2020 6:00PM Drawing on diaries, original archival documents, and once-secret intelligence reports Erik Larson provides a lens on London's darkest year through the day-to-day experience of Churchill and his family. Register at: <https://cornellclubdc.org/event-4018613> Contact Liz Pomper ehp3@cornell.edu.

CCW Monthly Board & Programming Meetings Virtual Event

December 8, 2020 7:00PM - 8:30PM <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3970967> and <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3970974>. Monthly CCW board and planning meetings open to all members and others. Contact: Matt Nieman president@cornellclubdc.org. Jim Schoonmaker programming@cornellclubdc.org

Cornell Snow Days, Ice Skating, and Wintertime Fun

December 14, 2020 7:30 PM Virtual Event. Want to learn more about Cornell's history? Looking for a great reason to get together online with Cornell friends or spend some time learning something new? Join us each month to hear from the legendary Corey Ryan Earle '07 at one of his 'history happy hours' this fall. Go to: <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3944256> and click **Choose Your Adventure** to register!

CCW Solve a Crossword Puzzle Together Virtual Event

Join Tony Chen lc465@cornell.edu and CCW members solve a NY Times Crossword Puzzle using video chat.

- December 5, 2020 - 3:00PM- 4:00PM <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3974753>
- December 12, 2020 - 3:00PM- 4:00PM <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3974754>
- December 19, 2020 - 3:00PM- 4:00PM <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3974758>
- December 26, 2020 - 3:00PM- 4:00PM <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3974759>

CCW Community Service: Cards for Hospitalized Kids (CFHK)

Join CCW on December 3rd to make cards for hospitalized children across the country! Cards may be holiday-specific or seasonal. Can't make it? Craft on your own! CFHK prefers to receive the cards at least 2 weeks before the holiday. Mail all of your cards in bulk (in one envelope) to Cards for Hospitalized Kids, 7290 W. Devon Ave., Chicago, IL 60631. More info: <http://www.cardsforhospitalizedkids.com/> or register to join us: <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-4053196>

Cornell University Virtual Events, Webinars and Live Streams

CU Events and Alumni Events: <https://events.cornell.edu/> and <https://alumni.cornell.edu/events/>

Volunteer Corner

The organizations below are all accepting **donations of masks, non-perishable food, and other healthcare/household supplies.**

- **SOME (So Others Might Eat):** SOME is an interfaith, community-based organization that exists to help the poor and homeless of our nation's capital by addressing immediate needs and offering services to break the cycle of homeless. Learn more here: <https://www.some.org/>
- **N Street Village:** N St Village empowers homeless and low-income women in Washington, D.C. to claim their highest quality of life by offering a broad spectrum of services, housing, and advocacy. Learn more here: <https://www.nstreetvillage.org/get-involved/>
- **Salvation Army - National Capital Area:** The Salvation Army is a charitable Christian organization serving those in crisis in the District; from providing hot meals to bill assistance. Learn more here: <https://salvationarmynca.org/volunteer/>

Communications

Are you a fan of Instagram and Facebook? Help CCW with our communications efforts including our social media and email updates. Contact Steve Piekarec at communications@cornellclubdc.org

Community Service

Are you currently involved in any remote or socially distanced volunteering? We'd love to hear from you! Reach out to Julia Buffinton and Drew Zukosky at communityservice@cornellclubdc.org

Editorial

Interested in assisting CCW with its newsletter and informing the local Cornell community about local goings-on? What to be published? Contact Claudia Benack at newsletter@cornellclubdc.org

Finance Committee

Do you have a background in accounting or tax law? Or want to become more familiar with these areas and how they work in the non-profit context? Contact Mel Zurn at treasurer@cornellclubdc.org

Membership

Invite your Cornell classmates and alums to join CCW. Renew/update your membership, contact, newsletter and email preferences. Contact Annalise Schoonmaker and Justin Kondrat at membership@cornellclubdc.org

Programming

Want more Programs? The CCW Programming Committee welcomes suggestions for programs and volunteers to help with them! Contact Jim Schoonmaker at programming@cornellclubdc.org

Technology

Looking for people with website experience to help in the redesign of the CCW website. Contact Webmaster at webmaster@cornellclubdc.org

Nominations

Interested in serving on the 2021-2022 CCW Board of Directors? Consider being nominated to serve CCW. Contact Terry Horner at nominations@cornellclubdc.org

CCW History

We need your help whether you are a past or present CCW Board member, Cornell alumnus at large and interested in CCW history from 1966 to the present. Contact CCW Historian, Gladys Stifel, at gl23@cornell.edu

CCW News

Cornell Club of Washington
2148 O Street NW
Washington, DC 20037
www.cornellclubdc.org
newsletter@cornellclubdc.org

December 2020

Moved? New email? Update your member profile at www.cornellclubdc.org

Do you have ideas for CCW News? Or corrections? Email us at: newsletter@cornellclubdc.org

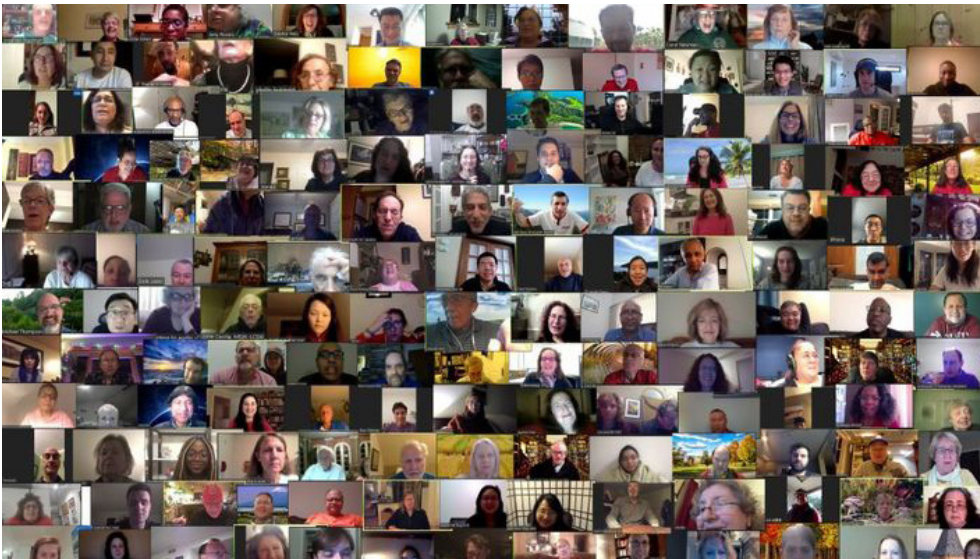
Event Venues and Speakers Wanted

Do you have a meeting space that CCW could use for lectures or receptions?

Do you know a local Cornellian who would be a great speaker?

Contact Jim Schoonmaker at programming@cornellclubdc.org

Cornell Around the World



New CCW Members

- 1) Chiara Alvisi ('20)
- 2) Angie Bernard ('84)
- 3) Rex Ukaejiofo ('20)
- 4) Betrearon Tezera ('15)
- 5) Karen Souryal ('92)
- 6) John Orłowski ('10 and '12)
- 7) Caroline Orłowski ('13)
- 8) Seamus Murphy (Parent '84)
- 9) Elke-Esmeralda Dikoume ('16)

CCW News

Do you know a local Cornellian who should be featured in a future newsletter?

Contact Claudia Benack at newsletter@cornellclubdc.org