



President's Letter

Dear Ladies,

Spring! We are ready for the beautiful new flowers, the birds returning to nest and the warmer weather. For us the middle of the United States, this has been a severe winter. We have had cold, cold temperatures and record amounts of snow. Our grandchildren are playing in the mounds of snow in our yard at this time. We are eager for Spring!

We are also eager for news of your clubs. I look forward to reading the stories of your wonderful activities. We love to see the pictures of the smiling women sharing good times together. What a joyful email to read!

Thanks to all of you for being so creative in events you organize for your women. This is an outstanding time to be a member of Welcome Clubs International--a time when you can share the vision of friendship and understanding among women around the world.

With gratitude and love to all of you,
Caroline Adair Dimmers
WCI, President

The WCI Vision & Mission

It's purpose is to unite a Worldwide network of independent international women's clubs around the world that share a common goal of cross-cultural education and friendship

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Welcome to Colorado International Club

"A CUP OF FRIENDSHIP"

In keeping with Welcome Clubs International's tradition, Welcome to Colorado International Club celebrated "A Cup of Friendship Tea" on International Women's Day, March 8, 2014. Candles twinkled in the beautiful Columbine Country Club as members shared warm memories, tea sandwiches and petit fours. Members participated in the program which focused on recognizing women who had made a difference in women's lives, both locally and internationally. Some stories brought tears to everyone's eyes. The day ended with appreciation and admiration of the great women of the past.



Julia Banks

Berkshire International Club

Annual Degustation at the home of Karen Carhat
It has been traditional to open our fall events with a “Dégustation”. Dégustation as its name evokes (from Latin de-

gustareto taste) is a delightful and delicious event. We all share in tasting and enjoying small portions of dishes that have been brought by all present. Dishes usually represent a specialty of members’ native countries and contribute to the enjoyment of this convivial gathering.

This year, with about 75 members and guests we delighted in an enormous range of excellent dishes from all over the world. But the success of the event was also due to our location. We met in Lee at **Karen Carhart’s** wonderful home on a hill

overlooking Laurel Lake. It was a beautiful early fall afternoon, and the blue sky and reflection of the lake were so enticing that we ate outside and strolled on the lawn toward the lake in friendly gatherings.

Vera Lecoc



Women’s League of Beirut

The monthly January speaker for the Women's League at AUB and the American Women's Club of Beirut at Rotana Hotel was Dr. Wajih Akkari, the General Manager of Lion’s Club District 351 including Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq. Dr. Akkari has explained the “New Vision” of the Lion’s Club and how the cornerstone of the Lion’s Club is vision care and treatment. Dr. Akkari and the Lion’s Club have been instrumental in improving the quality and amount of vision care in and around Lebanon. The Lion’s Club has also been active in other areas such as environment. In a joint venture with Boecker, the Lion’s Club has created “green spaces” which will improve air quality and provide green spaces for residents in Beirut. The Lion’s Club is also raising awareness and improving treatment for other health issues such as Alzheimer’s, Psoriasis, and Diabetes.

Rihab Ouri

International Women's Club Porto Alegre, Brazil



Our club members continued their activities during the summer vacation, took it to the beach while Porto Alegre roasted in heat of the Sahara desert. On January 31st. Hellen Shen offered a Charity lunch to celebrate the Chinese New Year. February 15th, Lydia Ling hosted the 93rd. birthday of her



but

husband S.M. Ling and transferred the gift money to our project for the children in the slum.

On February 19th, Mara Rubia, our Associate offered the First Club Encounter at her home to start the meetings in Porto Alegre. See how happy we are to be back to work.

ACTIVITIES IN MARCH:

Lunch celebrating January, February, March birthdays with International Women's Day. Special participation of Sue Lukins, our ex-president now living in Australia.

Suzy Lee

Welcome to Taipei International Club's Sister Club New, 2014 Spring

The 2014 Lunar New Year Luncheon at The Formosa Regent Taipei was a great success. We had not only one of its biggest turnouts, but also more than 40 different cultures from diplomatic and the international community. Together, we enjoyed the shows and shared the joy. As we have successfully galloped into the year of horse, we look forward to developing stronger ties and friendship throughout our exchanges and gatherings in the year ahead.



Vivienne Shen

Association of Turkey Women in Britain



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(2)



(3)

Photo 1 Members, families and friends enjoying an evening of music and dinner at the Efes Restaurant

Photo 2 Cultural conference and book signing with famous Writer and Artist Ms. Ayse Erbulak

Photo 3 Sunday Brunch with Members of families and friends and Mrs. Oya Tuncali Representative for Northern Cyprus

Funda Aksanoglu

International Women's Club of Hamburg



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1. Day trip to Bremen: The ladies took about an hour train ride from Hamburg to Bremen. They visited the Christmas Market, as well as the shopping center "Waterfront" Bremen.

2. Halloween Party: It's organized as the October Ladies' Night Out. Those who dressed up for the occasion were automatically included in the competition for the most innovative costume. Partners and Guests were invited.

3. Valentine's Day: This Neighborhood Coffee was held on Valentine's Day. The Ladies were asked by the host to Wear red and White.

Pramodo Yant

Welcome To Florida International Club



IT'S ALL ABOUT OUR MEMBERS!

February has been all about our WFIC Members! I hope those who attended our first ever **Members Tea*** on the 12th left knowing how important each member is to our club. Beginning with our Feb New Members to our celebrated Charter Members and all of us in-between's we



cannot do without a one of you. If you have not met our 21 newest members, please take the next opportunity to do so for they are going to make outstanding members. Eleven in the group are internationals. They have attended an Orientation session to learn the history, bylaws and meet not only the leadership of our club but to learn about their fellow new members. Let's all make them feel truly Welcome to Our Club.

If you missed the Members Tea you also missed a celebration to honor our five Charter Members: Peggy Drescher, Helen Ann Federspiel, Helen M. Fox, Mary Lou Nadeau and Nancy B. Wallace. A video presentation of the early history of Marion Adair, WTW, the founding of WFIC and the involvement of these five Charter members from the original 86 Charters was expertly done by Barb Roy. We were even treated to the original song that was sung at all the early meetings. The autobiographies of these wonderful ladies, accompanied by actual photographs taken from our historical archives, was narrated by past President Nancy Furstner. Pat Adams, another past President, presented each lady with an ivory silk peony reminiscent of Marion Adair's' flower of choice for Presidents. As each lady stepped forward a certificate was presented naming her an Honorary Lifetime member of WFIC. All those in attendance rose to give these long serving members the applause they deserve. "Thank you" has never been said enough to all those who gave time volunteering to make this a special event: Bobbie Turner, Tea Chair and her team of members from last year's group, Lis Schwesinger, Membership Director who through her introductions of our New Members made each more special to us, Dorly Rebholz who capture all on film and Rosemary Bonham-Smith for her words of inspiration on friendship. It was a lovely way to spend the afternoon with friends over tea!



Pamela Girtman, President

International Women's Club of Philadelphia

Attached are three pictures from the 25th Anniversary celebration of the IWC Philadelphia on March 8th which was also International World Woman's Day.

A festive lunch with a view of City Hall at the hotel "Le Meridien", Philadelphia was preceded by a trolley tour through the city. During lunch a slight show with memorable pictures from 25 years of club events were shown. In her speech IWCP's President Helga Neubert said:

"Through the club many of us have found true and dear friends, we built lasting friendships, we learned to appreciate different customs, cultures, and attitudes, and we have learned tolerance, understanding and acceptance. We have built understanding between cultures and countries. Every one of you should be proud of your friendships and close ties".

We hope to enjoy many more events like this in the company of our friends from all over the world!

Ursula Hoika

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL BORDER CLUB

The International Women's Day Celebration, March 7th 2014

The luncheon took place in one of the most elegant dining rooms of Rancho Santa Fe Golf Club. The tables were impeccably set-up for 31 participants. The Speaker, Barbara Stangl, was introduced to



speaking about the high toll paid by the brave and courageous ladies who in 1886 went on strike against



oppression in their search for job equality between genres. Entertainment – It was the kick of the afternoon. Terry and her husband Carlos, producers and performers of the Spanish Zarzuela.... (a Spanish style opera) "Luisa Fernanda" were outstanding! The audience requested an encore and they presented a second musical number "The Phantom of the Opera". Wow! Terry and Carlos (she a member of WIBC) and her husband Carlos Oliva, raffle two tickets among the audience for their forthcoming performance "Rigoletto" by Verdi, in September 21014.

Five new members join WIBC during the luncheon and they were:

Irina Papina (Russia), sponsored by Gaby Osborn (Germany), Sonny Baja-Kajeh and Fay Kajeh (Iraan), sponsored by Mona Beizai (Iran), Nancy Leitner, (USA) sponsored by Carol Lander (USA) Kathleen Le Miew-Sevastio (USA) and Barbara La Grandeur (USA), sponsored by Michelle La Grandour.

WIBC continues working toward its ultimate goal: Friendship and understanding among women's of all nations.

Viima G. Boettche

International Women's Club of New England

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

Twenty ladies celebrated International Women's Day at a Greek restaurant in Portsmouth, NH. We shared stories about traditions brought down to us by an important woman in our lives. We were regaled with stories of families singing, chocolate bombs with candy inside, mangers and other holiday traditions. Some stories were poignant and touching, some of which was amusing and all of them interesting.



Several WCI EC and other members have met many of the ladies in this picture seen enjoying their Greek Lunch.



Left to right: Denise Martel, Rosa Hernandez and Shona Taplin shared traditions from French Canadian Maine, Mexico and Ireland.

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2013 CHARITIES:

At our January meeting, the International Women's Club of New England presented grants from the charity funds raised during 2013. We gave \$5500 to Kids Free to Grow, Kennebunk, ME; \$2,750 to End 68 Hours of Hunger, Kittery, ME; and \$2,750 to Seacoast Family Food Pantry, Portsmouth, NH

Pictured above are Rosa Hernandez, IWCNE Fundraising Chair and Kris Lynes, Coordinator for 68 Hours of Hunger graphically explaining

Zoi Diamon

International Women's Club, Ankara



We have organized A Fashion Show with the help of Mehmet Koylu on March 25th. at the Hilton Hotel in Ankara. The Fashion show was well attended by more than 300 participants including members of diplomatic missions.



Revenue obtained was donated to Charity Organizations.

İNCİLAY KAFTANOĞLU

Kensington Chelsea Women's Club London

KCWC has enjoyed another busy year (our 31st!) of continued companionship, organization and special events and activities as we offer a multitude of experiences to the London community. We highlight this spring our monthly General Meeting.

Held on 3 April at the London Geographical Society headquarters, our April meeting welcomes Guest Speaker, Peter Medhurst on Paintings Inspired by Music & Music Inspired by Paintings - 200 Years of Cross-Fertilization (1800-2010). February's monthly meeting featured Donald Jackson - The Queen's Calligrapher on The Saint John's Bible, and in March we enjoyed guest speaker, AA Gill, speaking on Courage in Congo (pictured). The general meeting is always a festive place to meet and mingle, and the lectures most inspiring.



Susan Lenora

Editor Rihab Ouri

