SISTER
CLUB NEWS
SCN – May- 2023

WWW.WCICLUBS.ORG

Friendship Through Understanding – Understanding Through Education & Friendship



VIVIENNE SHEN

In This Issue

President's Message	1
WCI News	2
Anglo-German IWA	3
Broward IWC	4
IWC Hamburg	5
IWC New England	6
IWC Israel	7
IWC Philadelphia	8
IWC Porto Alegre	9
The Women's League Beirut	10
VIA Lebanon Int'l Club	11
Welcome to California Int'l Club	12
Welcome to Colorado	13
Welcome to Florida	14
Welcome to Korea	15
Welcome to London	16
Welcome to Taipei	17
Welcome to Turkish Cyprus	18
Welcome to Washington	19
Women's Int'l Border Club	20
Women's Int'l Club Jakarta	21

WCI President's Greetings

It is my great honor to be elected as Welcome International President 2023-2025. First, I would like to express my gratitude to WCI Founder's Representatives, Caroline and Eshrat, for their safeguard the founder's vision on the right direction for a long time and taking responsibility as WCI Directors of 2022-2023 to move WCI forward smoothly.

Welcome Clubs are organized around differences. Members of each affiliated club are from different countries and different cultures with different backgrounds and professions, very diverse and inclusive. But all come together for the same goal - empowering women through education, understanding and friendship. 20 affiliated clubs around the world as a network share and learn from each other through various platforms providing by WCI, such as board meetings, webinars, and biannual conferences. Since WCI gained the special consultative status with ECOSOC in 2020, WCI UN Council under Past President Maria Fernanda's leadership spent tremendous time and energy to elevate WCI's visibility at the international society, especially to unite WCI sister clubs to complete CSW67 online Parallel Event, hosted on March 7, 2023. It was truly a huge success. It strengthened members' recognition of WCI. Two clubs reinstated, a fantastic ripple effect. As WCI President of next biennium, I would like to set a goal for WCI membership - in each Continent, either establishing a new Welcome Club or inviting an Existing International Women's Club to join WCI. The more we try, the more surprising outcomes may happen!

As to the 2024 WCI Conference, I am very pleased to announce that, Welcome to Taipei International Club, which I belong to, has decided to host this biannual event, which was postponed twice due to Covid 19, scheduled from 14-18, April 2024 in Taipei, Taiwan. A post-conference trip will be arranged as an option for the participants, including members' families and friends.

The last, not least, I thank you all, our outstanding EC members and the WCI board of 2021-2023, for your long-term unselfish devotion to WCI. As a Chinese saying, "When flowers blossom, butterflies will arrive." Let us work together to achieve another successful biennium.

Vivienne Shen – WCI President

WCI NEWS



Dear Ladies,

It is with great pleasure that I address you as we start a new time at the UN Council.Having presented our very first WCI Parallel Event in March of 2023 at CSW67 and showed the unique work our Sister Clubs do in the five regions in the world, we are now looking into the future.

Together with a very competent group of ladies, we are evaluating the possibility of partnering with other international organizations to present our event at the United Nations next year.

WCI as an international organization that is firm on its principles of friendship, understanding and education believes in the importance of relating to other international organizations with similar goals. In the exchange, they can grow in competence and wisdom.

2023 will be a busy year as we work on different ways for WCI to contribute with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Likewise, we hope WCI Board of Directors and Sister Clubs get more involved in projects as we evolve.

As the Scottish writer, Robert Louis Stevenson, said, "Do not judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant".

Please write to us with your ideas and suggestions. They are always welcome.

With Kind Regards,

Maria Fernanda Arduino

Director, UN Council

EDITORS' ZONE

SCN Editor

Copy & Design Editor

Welcome to our newest 2024 WCI President Vivienne Shen. Looking forward to a new year, with new ideas, under our new leadership. Appreciation goes out to all the WCI Sister Clubs around the globe, for their contribution to our newsletter that bonds us together and enriches our experiences. Looking forward to our meeting in September. Until then, enjoy a relaxing and fun filled summer with your loved ones.

DISCLAIMER: WCI publishes Sister Club News with content provided by WCI member clubs. Each club is responsible for the information and photos provided to WCI. WCI reserves the right to edit information or refuse to publish any material deemed to be inappropriate or inconsistent with WCI's standards and objectives. Sister Club News is distributed to WCI Associate and Affiliate members and appears on WCI's website and is used by WCI to promote membership in WCI.

c

FROM BEAN TO BAR - OUR VISIT TO THE CHOCOVERSUM, HAMBURG



At the entrance of the Chocoversum we were welcomed by a very nice young lady, our guide, who introduced us to the topic of cocoa processing and chocolate production. Equipped with a small crispy waffle to get started, we proceeded behind a heavy curtain where a huge, deliciously fragrant chocolate fountain from which thick brown chocolate flowed was waiting for us. So, all we had to do was hold the waffle underneath and try it! There were plenty of other opportunities during the tour to touch and taste the cocoa bean in its various stages in the chocolate-making process.



Our journey into the world of cocoa had begun. As well as experiencing the taste and smell of cocoa beans, we learned where the cocoa tree grows, (did you know that the flowers are pollinated by mosquitoes?), how the pods are harvested and processed (fermentation) and how cocoa is traded all over the world. We also heard about the dark side of cocoa farming: many growers are very poorly paid and have terrible working conditions, partly due to the way cocoa is traded. Cocoa production can also involve child labour or even slavery. However, we also learned that efforts are being made to change this. Some chocolate producers now have their own plantations, so they can control the process from bean to bar and know exactly where their cocoa beans come from. Working conditions on these plantations are better and production more sustainable - workers get paid a living wage, child exploitation is prohibited, likewise certain chemicals. We as individuals can help by being selective when we purchase chocolate - look for the Fairtrade mark for example, or other logos or information on the chocolate wrappers.



The highlight of our visit was making our very own chocolate bar. There were jars full of sprinkles, smarties, jellybeans, crunchy bits etc., which we could use to decorate the liquid chocolate in its mould. While our chocolate bars were cooling down in the refrigerator, we were introduced to the further processes of chocolate production.



Cocoa beans are dried, cleaned and roasted. Then they are put in a crusher and the shells are removed. What remains, the cocoa bean nibs, are the basis for chocolate. They are ground to make a cocoa mass and heated to produce cocoa butter/cocoa solids when cooled. To obtain the smooth, velvety liquid chocolate the final process is conching, so-called because the original vessels used for this purpose looked like conch shells. This can take between 16 and 96 hours. This purely mechanical process significantly refines the taste of the cocoa beans. In this way, the taste and intensity of the aromas can be precisely adjusted. During conching, sugar and cocoa butter can also be added. For milk chocolate, milk powder is added.



We left the tour each with our own bar of chocolate and then looked at (and bought) chocolate goodies on display in the salesroom.

What a glorious Chocolate Day!

By AGIWA Member,Sabine Rommeney

BROWARD INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB – SPRING NEWSLETTER



In March, we held at beautiful Jacaranda Golf Club with many people attending. Guests were entertained byVignetta Jazz our annual event for International Women's Day chaired by Dinora Mclellan and we celebrated and honored 3 of our long-time members, Gloria Fredericks, Guyana, Chantal Valsecchi, France and Hermine Vogler, Germany. The event was Band and then enjoyed an elegant lunch. Our guest motivational speaker was Rita Case, from Rick Case Automotive, who gave a most informative and inspirational speech on leadership in the community. Rita was the first woman in the automotive dealership business and had a hard time breaking into a mainly male oriented business, but she stressed how important it is to never give up and no matter where you go, to always be dressed for the occasion and dress for success. Rita is the author of a book, Our Customers, our Friends about what 50 years in business has taught her about sales success and philanthropy. Everyone received a copy of her book. We recently held our Installation and Membership Lunch at Lago Mar Country Club, co-chaired by Janet Brady and Helena Caplan, where we honored our outgoing Board of Directors and installed the new Board of Directors. Many of our "snowbirds" have already gone for the summer, but still the event was well attended by 64 members and friends and as usual we enjoyed seeing old friends and making some new ones. Guests were welcomed with a Prosecco Reception and a remarkable pianist, Rick Carussi, followed by lunch and the ceremonial part of the event. We welcome Betty Amundson our new President and the Board of Directors.





By Janet Brady Liaison

Nowruz, the Iranian New Year!

At the heart of our sisterhood lies the belief in the power of friendship and the celebration of diverse cultures. On March 1, 2023, we gathered at the home of our esteemed Vice President, Dr. Batoul Shahid Liebsch, for an early Nowruz celebration. This joyous occasion not only brought together 30 of our cherished club members but also highlighted the importance of Nowruz in Iranian culture.





Dr. Batoul Shahid Liebsch enlightened us about the significance of Nowruz. She showcased a magnificent Haftseen table, a symbol of the New Year's decoration, which represents the love of nature, life's preciousness, and the bonds of family. Adorned with vibrant elements, the Haftseen table captured the essence of this ancient Iranian festival. Our taste buds rejoiced as we indulged in a delectable spread of Persian food, appetizers, and sweets. To add to the ambiance, traditional tea services were offered, inviting us to savor every sip.

Nowruz, which means "new day", rooted in ancient traditions and marks the beginning of the vernal equinox in Iran. From March 21st, this enchanting festival extends over 13 days, during which people embrace the spirit of togetherness, visiting loved ones and exchanging gifts in the form of new bills. It is a time when Iranian households transform their spaces with the Haftseen table, symbolizing their reverence for nature, life, and family. The grand finale of Nowruz, known as Sizdahbedar, is celebrated on the 13th day. On this day, we venture into nature, relishing in the beauty of the great outdoors through picnics and joyful gatherings. It is a reminder of the boundless happiness that nature bestows upon us and the importance of cherishing these moments together.



As we reflect on this magnificent Nowruz celebration, let us embrace the lessons it imparts. Let us nurture our friendships, strengthen our bonds, and empower one another as we journey through life together. Our sisterhood magazine stands as a testament to the power of unity, inspiring women across the globe to celebrate diversity, honor traditions, and embark on the path of empowerment. Together, we are unstoppable. Together, we celebrate Nowruz

By

By Andreína Parés Acosta - Liaison

Creative, Excited and Engaged!

This describes the International Women's Club of New England

Our success in fundraising last year provided considerable funding for educational activities and improving the lives of women and children in 3 different organizations. This year's fundraising efforts will support 4 charities whose missions include multi-cultural children's education; solutions to poverty; and fostering cross cultural understanding through youth journalism.

Our next and largest fundraiser, the Fashion Show luncheon, features members modeling beautiful ensembles with hats to match. Delicious food and lots of laughs!

Monthly events include luncheons with guest speakers, potlucks, book club & French and German clubs. Additional activities include bowling, museum trips, theme fundraising luncheons, and our holiday fair to be held in November.



It is so very rewarding to be contributing to the growth of multicultural understanding and education and having fun too!





By Denise Gaffney, WCI

Some news to 10th July 2023

The International Women's Club Israel was founded 55 years ago, in 1968. This historical date was celebrated in May of 2023, alongside the 75th Anniversary of the State of Israel, in the beautiful garden of Adina Gottesman. Adina was President of IWC Israel in 1980-1981. It was with her and Ziona Primor, President of IWC Israel in 2012-2013 that I attend the WCI Conference in Rome. There, lasting friendships were made.

The presidential term of IWC Israel lasts for one year. In 2022-2023, our President Gigi Harpaz decided to renew the connection between IWC Israeland WCI, a connection which should never have lapsed. She asked me to be responsible for this. I enthusiastically accepted and thus, am now the Club Liaison.

Our Club, of 250 members, of many nationalities, organizes stimulating events each month. For example, in April 2023, these included Knitting and Stitching, Music, The Active Club, Lectures, Gardening & Environment, Discover Israel, Book Club, History of Israel, Special Events, Charity Cuisine and World Culture, Bridge Classes, Hebrew Classes, Padel Club and Mahjong . Each President brings new ideas and our incoming President Tracy Jones Freeman will be introducing new and innovate groups.

Our 2023 year culminated in a cruise, organized by outgoing President Gigi Harpaz and our member Daniella Oren. The luxurious ship cruised to Turkey, Greece and Cyprus. This was followed by a trip to Turkey, organized by Suzette Renick President in 2008-2009. Born in Turkey, Suzette knew exactly which marvelous places to take our members, including hot air ballooning in Cappadocia.

We look forward to the Presidency of American-born Tracy Jones Freeman. Whose husband is the Jerusalem Representative of the Baha'i World Center.



Levana Zamir, president of the Israel-Egypt Friendship Society, having just received an award from the Mayor of Tel Aviv



Adina Gottesman



Past President Evelyn Roth and Esther Zamir, daughter of Levana Zamir

Gigi Harpaz



By **Mary-Clare Adam Bernstein - Liaison**

Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Greetings from Philadelphia! Our Club is growing with lots of new, younger members joining us on the many wonderful monthly outings, Happy Hours, potlucks and language coffees. This spring we enjoyed a tour of the beautifully restored mansion and native flower gardens at Stoneleigh, an informative walking tour of the Historic Chestnut Hill section of Philadelphia viewing many German and French influenced homes and gardens. We also toured the Athenaeum, a member supported historic library in old Philadelphia founded in 1814.

Just yesterday, June 8th, we held our business end of the year lunch at the Inn on the Swarthmore College campus and voted on our board members, many of them signing on for another term.

Our annual dues include a donation to our three charities that support not for profit organizations serving women and families.

By popular demand, our activities coordinator now includes outings during the summer. We will be visiting the Marimekko exhibit in June at the Swedish American Museum and enjoy a picnic at the beautiful Chanticleer pleasure Gardens in August.



Thank you to all who attended our numerous recent events likethe Stoneleigh Garden Visit, Chestnut Hill Walking Tour, aswell as our monthly Coffees, luncheons and Potlucks.















We wish our sister club friends a lovely restful summer (or winter in the southern hemisphere).

By Jacqueline Yates, Liaison IWCP

Empowerment of Students at Schools

Our activities started effectively just in March. During summer months, people part in different directions and we seldom get together.

The enclosed pictures show two social meetings we have had (in March and April).

In relation to our community activities, we continue to support an after-school program in an institution called ACASA which cares for more than 50 children as the school year in Brasil begins in March, we had a campaign among our members and provided the children with the school material they needed for the year.

Also, we have donated meat and eggs to complement staple meals in an institution called Educandário São João Batista where children with special needs spend the day.

Two of our members have donated pianos to a music school that has several underprivileged students who are not able to have their own instruments .We plan to organize a concert to take place in one of our social occasions and thereby be able to collect more instruments. . Finally, we keep engaged in providing help to Rango Solidário, a project that cares for homeless people. This month we collected items such as toothpaste, soap and other hygiene items for 150 individuals.

I would like to send our regards to the members of all sister clubs and, once more, mention the privilege it is to be part of IWC.





By Isaura Riedl –Liaison IWC Porto alegre ,Brasil

Women's League Centennial 2022

Our Society, The Women's League is one of the oldest Women societies in Lebanon for it was founded in 1919 by eight American ladies whose husbands were professors at the American University of Beirut at that time .So it was founded at the aftermath of the First World War. It's mission at that time was to help the needy people who survived the war in their living.
The League kept going on inspire of the two world wars, the Lebanese war and all the troubles in Lebanon after that.
Now the mission of the League is to fulfill its commitment to its scholarship Fund in helping each year a challenged student at AUB in pursuing his studies.
On May 30 of the year 2022, we celebrated its Centennial even after three years as due to the pandemic in previous years we could not go on with the celebration.
The term of the current Executive Board has come to an end and a new one was elected for the coming two years 2023-2025 to take office in October 2023.
Our motto is The Women's League is 100 years Old and still going strong.



Presenting the League's Donation to the Scholarship Fund at American University of Beirut.



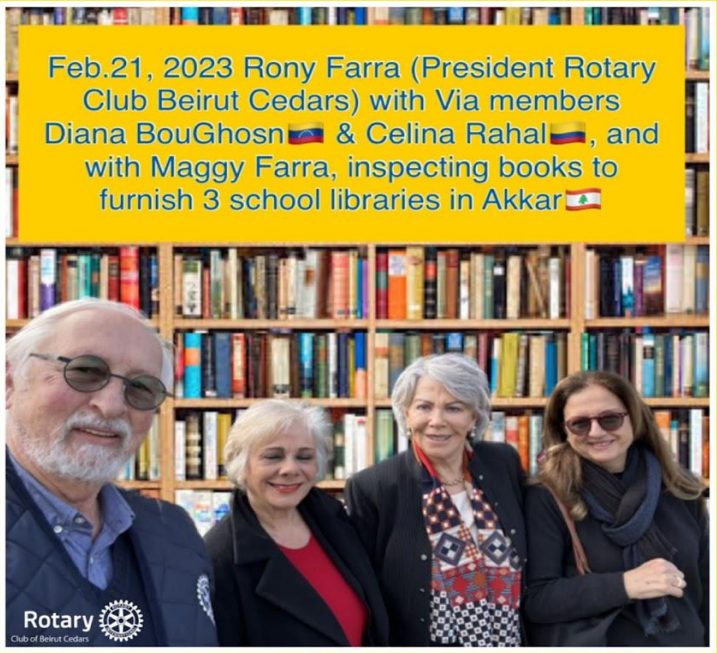
The current Executive Board of the Women's League



Receiving an award from Mrs.Samar MEZHER of the Izzat MEZHER Museum

By **Lamia Kawar – WL President**

VIA Education Program 2023



On behalf of VIA &with the collaboration of Rotary club, VIA donates 600 English books to Akkar area, North Lebanon on the 23of May. VIA chose three English schools:
-Tripoli Evangelical school for boys& girls
Modern school, Akkar -
Ajyal school ,Akkar.
The donations were distributed by the president Celina Rahal ,thus VIA education program 2023 is done













By **Celina Rahal -President**

WELCOME TO CALIFORNIA INTERNATIONAL CLUB

WELCOME TO CALIFORNIA INTERNATIONAL CLUB

WCIC is the first sister club in California, was founded in 2002 by Maria Neighbors and Vilma Boettcher. Since its inception has been a small club dedicated to the promotion of friendship and culture interchange. Currently we have forty members from twenty-one different countries, part of the diversification is due that many of us come from Spain and Latin-America.

Maria Walker is the president, Nancy Olenick the Secretary, Rosemary Robertson the Treasurer and Elizabeth Long the Liaison.

We initiated the year celebrating the Chinese New Year where a small group of adorable Chinese ladies joined us, including the world-renowned linguist and language scholar Dr. Lilly Cheng, who gave us an interesting explanation about the New Year Celebration.



Also Dr. Lilly Cheng Invited us to visit the Chinese Cultural Museum in downtown San Diego, where she is a prominent figure in the establishment of the museum and making known the Chinese contribution to the city since its initial stages.



.



Celebrated Mardi Grass with a very vivid participation where everybody ending dancing samba.



In April celebrated Earth Day with a garden breakfast and tour given by Mark Donnally an expert in landscaping.



By **Maria D Walker - President**

May 24th 2023, 45th Anniversary of Welcome to Colorado

May 24th 2023, 45th Anniversary of Welcome to Colorado This last 6 month has kept us very busy preparing for our big celebration as our annual Spring Brunch was marking the 45th Anniversary of the founding of our Club. The lunch also open to some husbands as well, was well attended with over 100 members and guests who enjoyed a very special lunch with drinks and were entertained by a great tenor who sang lovely songs and a pianist who played a background music all along. Our special day was made even more special because thanks to one of our Senators it was recognized in the Colorado Senate as Welcome to Colorado Day. This 2nd part of the year has seen so many different events, one of them that soon became the most popular has been “Just Coffee” organized once/month on the model of our first meetings that our founder and my good friend, Gay Johnson had planned at the very beginning. We have also some very popular recurring games like Bridge, Majong, Mexican Train, Rummiq., We have some very popular lectures, special ethnic lunches in members homes, and visits to places of interest. Additionally Spanish and French clubs meet as well once/monyj in members’ homes as well as 2 book clubs. We have come out of Covid with renewed enthusiasm, ready to get together and have fun. We are looking forward to the next International Conference. I am attaching a few pictures taken at our Gala Anniversary.











By Anne Cucchi. -- President

WELCOME TO FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL CLUB

Welcome to Florida International Club bid a fond farewell to the outgoing 2021–2023 Executive Board and welcomed the incoming Executive Board with open arms.

While New Year's Day is widely heralded as a time of reflection and new beginnings, in Naples, it is the start and end of season that signal change. In November, we look forward to seeing old friends, making new friends, and hearing about summer adventures. When season winds down in April, it brings a time of reflection and gratitude for the relationships we forge, the tug of heartstrings as routines shift, and the happy knowledge that WFLIC offers the promise of a meaningful and rewarding next season.

As we reminisce about the past two years, we thank our Members for the positive feedback regarding our illustrious Luncheon Speaker Program: Artist Paul Arsenault; Deb Logan, Blue Zones Project; Annabelle Tometich and Diana Biederman, Naples Daily News Food Critics; Collier County Sheriff Kevin Rambosk; Ben Siegel, Executive Director of the Lee County Port Authority/RSW; Grand Piano Series artists Milana Streveza and Konstantin Soukhovetski; Paul Beirnes, Executive Director of Naples, Marco Island, Everglades Convention and Visitors Bureau; and Sergeant Brian Sawyer from the Collier County Sheriff's Office. Our season's Grand Finale featured renowned Artist Sir Roland Richardson, who shared his philosophical outlook and remarkable art with our membership.

Our New Member application season was wildly successful, with an incoming group of talented, enthusiastic, and accomplished women. Interest in WFLIC was such that we have a waiting list for next season. The Executive Board, WFLIC volunteers, Interest Group Leaders, and Special Event organizers created and curated fulfilling and illuminating educational and enjoyable activities. We take wonderful memories with us as we move forward with gratitude and appreciation for each other and for WFLIC.

As this chapter closes, I wish all of us a happy, healthy, and grateful next chapter, filled with the camaraderie and *esprit de corps* that comes with volunteering and being part of a worthy cause alongside inspiring individuals. We congratulate WFLIC new president Luba Rotsztain and her team and offer them our most generous support as we look forward to the amazing things, we know they will accomplish!







From left, Reem Iversen (Past President and 2023 Marian Adair Award Recipient), Maria Dines (Past President and WCI Liaison), and Maria Winkler (Past President and 2023 Marian Adair Award Recipient); Donna Suddeth, Cynthia Lynch, Robbie Weaver; Art in the Afternoon Interest Group led by Minh Haeusler

By Maria Dines, WCI Liaison

WELCOME TO KOREA INTERNATIONAL CLUB

General Assembly, 2023



On February 7, 2023, 30 members got together at the Girl Scout Auditorium to hold 2023 General Meeting and a special lecture.
The 2022 General meeting minutes got passed unanimously and members approved the 2023 plan of operation and the budget without dissent. Two new Board members were also appointed and approved by the members. Members also decided to leave the filling of the board members to the Board.
After the meeting, there was a special lecture by Dr. Jungsook Kim on the Women's Day. She basically talked about the process to reach the suffrage rights of women as well as the efforts to improve the conditions of women around the world. She also briefly explained the role and function of UN Commission on Status of Women and encouraged members to make effort to take active part in the activities.

Tour to Historic Place – To Naesosa Temple

Finally, our most well-known program is back. 'Tour to historic places'. This April we decided to go to Buan in Jeollabook do province. It's supposed to be a long way to go, so we, 22 people, met at 7:30 in the morning and got on the rented bus. It took around 4 hours to get to our first destination, Chaesokgang cliff. It refers to a rocky cliff and the sea around it and is known to be formed from many layers of rocks stratified by the sea many million years ago. It is nature's masterpiece of stratification and just out of this world.



The second stop was Naesosa Temple, which was built over one thousand years ago. The name carries the following meaning "May anyone who comes here revives their life." Once you step through the Iljoomun (One Pillar Gate), the fir trees stand towering emitting a distinctive fragrance that seems to purify our minds from daily drudgery. The next stop was a ride to Jeokbyeokgang Cliff area and the yellow Canola flowers were on the hills everywhere. We took many pictures on our own and in groups as well. Such an amazing time it was. We also dropped by at Suseongdang (another cliff area and with structures for offering prayers for the deceased).



We also had a lifetime experience watching how persistent and organized people can be. Saemangeum Sea Wall was absolutely the world's longest man-made dyke measuring 33 kilometers which reminded us of the Great Wall of China. The bus ride itself took quite a while and it was such an overwhelming experience.
Every moment mattered and left us unforgettable memories. No wonder people say 'Tour to historic places' Welcome to Korea International Club's star program.

Walking a trail 'Hanyang-The Old Capital of Joseon Dynasty'



It was a fine afternoon. 12 people met at Bosingak Pavilion and walked around Jongno, and Bukchon area which were the central town districts during Joseon Dynasty. Prof. Kyungja Oh led us through those areas with fun stories and historical episodes. It was such an interesting and informative tour. There are so many historically meaningful places, which people just pass by. UJeong ChongGuk(the beginning of Korea's modern post), Andong Church(church members consisting of Yangban(aristocrats) only and Gamgodang street.. Two hours passed by so quickly. I just can't wait for the next tour.

By **Sunny Shin - Liaison**

WTL HAPPY 40Th Anniversary

It was my great honour and privilege as Ambassador-at-Large for WCI to be invited as one of the Welcome Clubs International UN delegates to attend the CSW67 at the United Nations, New York in March.
It was a wonderful enlightening encounter and one I will always remember.
Welcome to London also celebrated its 40th Anniversary in May. It was a very enjoyable event accompanied by a very delicious celebratory cake.
We also spent a very exciting Derby Ladies Day at the races where we had so much fun and a lot of winners.
Our mission for this coming year is to recruit more international women to our club.
Welcome to London would like to take this opportunity and thank the Co-Directors of Welcome Clubs Int. Caroline Dimmers and Eshrat Demougeot for all their leadership and friendship during their tenure.
We also wish the incoming Welcome Clubs Int. President Vivienne Shen congratulations and all good wishes for her future term of office.
Herein, is a montage of photos from some of our events.













By Dee Phillips Medawar-

WELCOME TO TAIPEI INTERNATIONAL CLUB







Welcome to Taipei International Club Annual Registration Luncheon was held on Feb 10th. Joan Fuh was elected as new president. WTIC has a unique and time honored tradition, we welcome friends from all over the world to share the interest, wherever they may come from and wherever they may be.













Amazing Thai Cooking Demonstration has satiated our palate with delectable various Thai dishes. “A Symbol of Generosity” is an exquisite journey to experience the unique Saudi Arabian Coffee. We would like to share the happy moment with you throughout the most of our interest group programs; including Art & Culture, Exploration, Gourmet, Cooking Demonstration and Saudi Arabian Coffee Extravaganza.

By Olivia Jen --- WCI Liaison

WELCOME TO TURKISH CYPRUS CLUB

WELCOME TO TURKISH CYPRUS CLUB

115 Ecevit Cad., Girne, Kıbrıs - Tel: 0392 815 65 00 - Email: info@ramadancemil.com



The children of a family who survived the catastrophic earthquake in Türkiye in February 2023 are standing in front of



A dinner organized by WCI members. with spouses and distinguished guests.



WCI organized a Happy Hour event and The administrative staff of Bayraktar a Bazaar and sold homemade traditional. Turkish Cypriot desserts to encourage. producing women and fund raising.



Secondary School handing a certificate. of appreciation to the President and a member of WCI in recognition of the financial support given to their school.

By Servet Erkmen - President of Welcome to Turkish Cyprus Club

WELCOME TO WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL CLUB

WCI Edition

Spring 2023

WTW has blossomed alongside the flowers of Spring. We have had as many as five events in one week, with a minimum of two events weekly!



We ushered in a new Interest Group, Cultural Expressions, which gets to the heart of our mission. Our members get to share their country and introduce their culture to others, beginning with Bulgaria.



Individual members are further celebrated through "Telling Our Stories" or a very musical "WTW's Got Talent". TV programming has competition! Our interest groups continue to meet in homes or around historic and cultural DC venues.







WTW was very pleased to participate in the annual UN CSW meetings. Aside from presenting at the WCI Parallel Event and attending the meetings, it was a lovely opportunity to be with WCI sisters in NYC!





WTW continues to grow and thrive, with new members from around the world joining every season.



Our Literature, Travel & More Group shared their "Quotable Amelia Earhart" webinar with WCI Sister Clubs. It was so inspirational that sister clubs have requested repeat showings! Our friendships across WCI help us all soar!



JENNY SICAT CRABBE
WCI LIAISON, 2022-2024

www.welcometowashingtonclub.org

By **Jenny Sicat Crabbe WCI Liaison**

Women's International Border Club

San Diego, California, Cheri Wise, Editor and Liaison

New Executive Board Members, January 2023: Marie Louise Sczyrbowski, President; Zarin Rafiei,Vice President; Mona Beizai, Treasurer; Beverly Sturr, Secretary; Brigitte Menges, Event Coordinator; Cheri Wise, Newsletter Editor, Writer and Liaison.

Membership Drive, January 2023 was held at **Mona Beizai's** beautiful home in La Jolla**.** About 25 members attended this luncheon to recruit new members. Since January we have had 9 new members:3 from Germany, 1 from Italy, 1 from Ukraine, 2 from Iran, 1 from Equator and 1 from India. The WIBC is becoming more diversified. Dues were collected for the coming year and personal data was collected for the WIBC Roster. We now have 44 members.





Valentine's Day Luncheon, February 14, 2023, was held at **Angela Hecht's** lovely home in Del Mar with 30 people in attendance. Angela baked her famous chicken dish and several other side dishes. The Sweet Adeline Chorus sang romantic songs.

Women's International Day, March 8, 2023, was celebrated at **Coasterra**, a Mexican, Restaurant. **Marie Luise Sczybows**ki, our President, gave a very uplifting talk about the status of women during history and some of the reforms since then to recognize women's outstanding achievements and promote gender equality. **Zain Rafiei**,,Vice President, made 3 suggestions for women: 1) Don't let anyone force you to do something that you don't want to do.2) Live up to your dreams and make them a reality.3)





Take care of yourself inside and out.



Spring Potluck, Sharing Table, Creative Rock & Egg Art, April 3, 2023 was held at **Florencia Label's Clubhouse** in Solana Beach**.** Members brought a covered dish or dessert for lunch then decorated rocks or eggs under the creative guidance of **Marie Luise**. There was also a **Sharing Table** where you could leave or take a previously loved treasure.



Soup & Salad Bar with Floral Arrangements, May 1, 2023. Members were asked to watch two U-Tube videos about floral arrangements, to bring their own flowers and a flat plate or bowl and a salad. Once lunch was over, our members created their own beautiful arrangements.

BY Cheri Wise, Editor and Liaison

WIC Jakarta Social Welfare Donation



WIC Jakarta Social Welfare donated wheelchairs to the seniors at Kelompok Lansia Dahlia Sangamon senior, an elderly man who cannot walk freely with his own legs. His wife has to tend to him all the time. Our wheelchair initiative has helped him to more around easily. This empowers the wife to be free to do other things to provide for the family.

WIC Jakarta Scholarship chairperson Dr. Fennieka Kristianto wanted empower the scholarship students especially the young women by developing a strong sense of self through seminars starting with the talked about " Emotional Intelligence: Self Awareness" by Dr. Fennieka Kristianto and " The Stewardship of Time, Talents, Values of character and Finances







By See Mun Leong- Suparmo