Worldwide Link

Welcome Clubs International, Inc. Magazine

Winter, 2009



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Worldwide Link

Winter, 2009-2010
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Editor
Lise H. McCartney

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All contributing articles to the Link should be sent to

WCI ELECTIONS

The election of the WCI President will take place the winter of 2009. the term of the President is July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2012. Please refer to the WCI Bylaws for the procedure for nominations and election.

WCI CALENDAR

January, 2010

Election of WCI President

February 1, 2010

WCI Executive Committee Meeting
Bonita Bay, Florida

May 1-5, 2010

WCI International Conference
Porto Alegre, Brazil

www.welcomeclubs.org

Letter from the President



Dear Members of WCI,

There is a proverb: "good things take time". Our Link magazine, for which we all have been waiting enthusiastically, is finally here. This issue contains many good articles. It is informative, educational, entertaining and joyful to read.

It is our own baby. I would particularly like to thank Lise McCartney for working so diligently on this magazine by collecting high-level articles, editing, designing the layout, proof reading, printing and particularly managing the fund to have it published.

I know besides Lise, there are many others to thank for their hard and exemplary standards of efforts for the Link. Among these are Lois Fisher and Joan Larson who offered to help with the mailing and other chores. Thank you,Lise, and your superb team.

We have **good news!**

March 8, 2010 the women of the world are recognized through **International Women's Day.** WCI's tradition is for all Clubs to celebrate the beauty of women in unison by an **International Tea or special event held on this day.** Celebrate with the knowledge that you are participating in a "cup of friendship" with fellow members of our Clubs around the world. Please send news of your Club events to WCI's Ambassador at Large, so we may share it with all Clubs. We look forward to hearing from your Club soon!

New Web Site - in the new few weeks WCI will unveil its new Web Site. An exciting feature of the site will enable your Club to share the news of your activities with other Clubs. Our Web Site address remains the same: www.welcomeclubs.org

Brazil – International Conference, May 1-5, 2010, Porto Alegre, Brazil !!
Porto Alegre is a safe, charming, modern, costal city approximately 800 miles south of Rio de Janeiro. Our sisters of the Porto Alegre Club have planned an outstanding program of culture, entertainment, days trips out of the city, and much, much more. This is the opportunity of a lifetime to meet and create friendships with women from around the world. Don't miss it! The complete program and registration form are on the WCI Web Site. The cost is reasonable and spouses are welcome. Make plans to attend this exciting event today!

In friendship,
Elizabeth Lamb, Ph.D.
President

Welcome to WCI's New Member Club

International Women's Club
The International Center of the Upstate
Greenville, South Carolina

The International Women's Club (IWC) welcomes women of all nationalities to participate in it's many activities. Members meet on the first Tuesday of every month from September to May. In addition, IWC offers a variety of other activities during its club year, i.e. tours, hiking, luncheons and dinners and cultural events.

The International Center of the Upstate (ICU) is a non-profit organization devoted to promoting cross-cultural understanding among local and international residents of Upstate South Carolina.

Our mission:

- To welcome people of all nations into this region to gain knowledge, establish friendships and share their culture and talents;
- To provide information, programs and services to benefit and promote residents and international businesses in our region;
- To foster cultural diversity and harmony in our growing community.

The ICU provides a wide range of programs and services that support and promote the image of the Upstate as an important hub for international investment and trade. Our vision is to be the leading international organization in the Upstate for services, resources, and information for individuals and businesses with global interests and activities, and to be an advocate for international cultural diversity and harmony in our community.

Since its inception in 1999, the ICU has been recognized as a leading advocate for intercultural understanding and education in Upstate South Carolina. In 2005, the ICU received a Diversity Leadership Award for promoting international diversity. The award was granted by the Richard W. Riley Institute at Furman University and the Greenville Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with the Spartanburg Area and Anderson Area Chambers of Commerce. The award recognizes outstanding achievement in promoting international diversity n the Upstate region of South Carolina.

The IWC joined WCI in June, 2008. Learn more about IWC and ICU at ***www.internationalupstate.org.***

Associação Beneficente Internacional
Women's Club Porto Alegre

WELCOME CLUBS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

PORTO ALEGRE, RS, BRAZIL

MAY 1-5, 2010

Date	*Program*	*Guests*
FRIDAY APRIL 30	**ARRIVAL AT AIRPORT SALGADO FILHO AND TRANSPORT TO HOTEL EMBAIXADOR FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS. CHECK-IN HOTEL, FREE EVENING.**	
SATURDAY MAY 1st.:	**WCI BOARD OF DIRECTORS-BOD* ONLY**: 7:00 am to 8:30 am--Breakfast buffet. 8:30 am to 9:00 am--REGISTRATION and receive materials from IWCPOA**. 9:00 am Leave hotel for special meeting location. 9: 30 am to 12:00 noon - Meeting of WCI BOD 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm--Lunch prepared and served by IWCPOA Board at location. 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm--Continuation of WCI BOD Meeting. 3:00 pm--Return to Hotel 4:00 pm.- Cocktail and fashion show at Miriam´s boutique Tête a Tête.	**CONFERENCE ATTENDEES AND GUESTS NOT PARTICIPATING IN WCI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING:** All Day check-in. 4:00 pm. Cocktail and fashion show at Miriam´s Boutique Tête a Tête.
	8:00 pm – OFFICIAL OPENING of Conference for delegates and visitors. 9:00 pm – Dinner with show	
SUNDAY – MAY 2nd	7:00 am to 8:30 am--Breakfast Buffet. 8:30 am to 10:30 am.--FILM Presentation of Club social projects with comments by Suzy Lee. Participation of Confederation of Brazilian Women´s Club. 10:30 am to 11:00 am - COFFEE BREAK. 11:00 am to 12:30 pm--Talk and discussion on family relations in social work by Dr. Rita Mendonça. Participation of Confederation of Brazilian Women´s Club. 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm. -- LUNCH AT HOTEL. 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm -- Time reserved for WCI BOD and Club Members meeting.	2:30 pm to 5:00 pm--Walking tour of Historical District of Porto Alegre in English for WCI guests.
	8:00 pm – Dinner at Parque de Harmonia with Gaúcho show.	
MONDAY MAY 3rd.	7:00 am to 8:30 am--Breakfast Buffet. 8:30 am to 12:00 noon--Time reserved for WCI BOD and Club Members meeting with Workshops.	10:00 am to 12:00 noon --Shopping
	12:30 pm to 2:00 pm--LUNCH AT HOTEL. 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm --Small group visit to the computer class in the Methodist Church next to the Hotel.	
	5:00 pm. Cocktail at ANZETUTO SHOE STORE and FREE NIGHT around the Moinho de Vento area accompanied by local Club members.	

Date	Program	Guests
TUESDAY MAY 4 th	VISIT TO THE TOWN OF GRAMADO 6:00 am to 7:00 am---Breakfast Buffet. 8:00 am ---Leaving by bus from Hotel to go to GRAMADO in the mountains to spend the day. Lunch and Dinner included.	
WEDNESDAY MAY 5th	7:00 am to 8:30 am: Breakfast Buffet. 9:00 am to 11:00 am: A Visit to the Children´s Club in the slum of Vila Pinto with a performance by the students. 11:30 am to 3:00 pm: A visit to the Museum of the artist Iberê Camargo. Lunch at the Sailing Club Veleiros do Sul. 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm: City Tour of the Southern part of Porto Alegre and Porto Alegre old town. 6:00 pm: Return to hotel to prepare for FAREWELL DINNER.	
	8:00 pm: FAREWELL DINNER AT HOTEL with Carnival music and dance.	
THURSDAY MAY 6th:	7:00 am to 8:30 am: Breakfast Buffet for the last time. Check out from hotel and take the bus transport to the airport to follow the POST CONFERENCE TOUR AGENT or TAKE YOUR PLANE FOR HOME. **BOA VIAGEM!** **Registration fee of $150 is due February 1, 2010** **Conference Package fee of US$450 must be sent by March 31, 2010** **Attendees responsible for their hotel reservations** **Complete conference registration forms and instructions will be sent to club Presidents and Liaisons**	

Optional Post Conference Trips

6-DAY TOUR TO IGUASSU FALLS/RIO DE JANEIRO
May 6—12, 2010

VALUE per person Double	US$1,643 dollars
VALUE per person single	US$2,482 dollars
TAXA EMBARQUE	US$23 dollars

12-DAY TOUR TO IGUASSU FALLS/RECIFE/SALVADOR/RIO DE JANEIRO
MAY 6-18, 2010

VALUE per person DBL(double)	US$2,808 dollars
VALUE per person SGL(individual)	US$4,237 dollars
TAX EMBARQUE	US$45 dollars

PRICES MAY CHANGE BASED ON DOLLAR EXCHANGE RATE AT TIME OF PAYMENT

Prices include air fare between cities, tours, hotels.

Details for these tours have been sent to Club Presidents and Liaisons

Associação Beneficente Internacional
Women's Club Porto Alegre

HISTORY OF PORTO ALEGRE WOMEN'S CLUB

In 1964, a group of American Women founded the **American Women's Association.** The purpose of this club was to help Americans and Brazilians married to Americans acclimate to living in Porto Alegre and also to undertake a charity project in the community.

In 1987, the name changed to **International Women's Club,** more in the image of the members, a group of international women from over 20 countries and other States in Brazil.

In 1994, the club was officially registered with the local government as a charity club and changed its name to **Associação Beneficente Internacional Women's Club Porto Alegre.** It also became a member of the **General Federation of Women's Clubs** in Washington DC. and a member of the Brazilian **Confederação dos Women's Clubs.**

In 2005 the Club joined Welcome Clubs International (WCI), an international organization based in Washington DC with 31 clubs around the world.

From 1998 until 2006 **IWCPOA** has received recognition from all the governmental organs that deal with social work, especially with children. The last recognition was from the Federal Government in Brasilia. These certificates are renewable every year when we send in our reports.

Since 1964 the Association has had the pleasure of meeting and helping hundreds of members from different countries that came through Porto Alegre. Participation in our Club has given the members opportunity to meet an international group of people with varied interest, customs, cultures and languages and to learn more about Porto Alegre and the Brazilian way of life. Some have found that special friend to help through the difficult time of adjustment in a new country. In addition to friendship the members are offered the opportunity to help the community through our projects. Our charity work had grown from a modest distribution of milk and food to local favela crèches (slum daycare centers) to the projects we founded below all free of charge.

CLUBE DA CRIANÇA (Children's Club): Our targets are children between 7 and 15 years old living especially around Vila Bom Jesus, Vila Pinto and Vila Fátima. This is an after school assistance and tutoring program. Beside tutoring, we have our workshops with the objectives: to offer an opportunity to the children to develop abilities for life; enlarge their cultural universe; stimulate the pleasure of learning and the duty to study in search of their citizenship. The members of our club do 90% of the volunteer work. Two of our volunteer members offers psychological assistance to the children. They work with the children individually or in groups to give them healthy individual conditions to live in the family and in society. One volunteer psycho-pedagogue looks over the materials that we use to teach the children. We hired a social worker to help the families in the process of educating their children. We have meetings along the year to link together the family, the school and the children.

Besides the school tutoring program from the 1st to the 8th grade in the Clube da Criança, we felt the necessity to bring the children beyond Primary school. Therefore we founded the CLUBE DE INFORMÁTICA (COMPUTER CLUB) in the year 2000. It is a continuation Clube da Criança's work. We continue to teach them discipline through information technology. It is a two-year computer course that would prepare them for the working market. The requirement is matriculation in a Public High School. Besides computer learning, there are talks and debates on social attitudes, working ethics, professional attitudes of honesty, punctuality, perseverance, and solidarity to prepare them in transition to a professional life. All of those that graduated from our Computer learning center are employed. We have five of them studying in college with full scholarships after they have found a job.

It is very gratifying to feel our work had been rewarded. We believe we are on the right path.

Porto Alegre, Brazil



Founded in 1742 by immigrants from the Azores, Portugal, Porto Alegre ("Happy Port") is the tenth most populous municipality in Brazil and the capital city of the Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul. One of the most important cultural, political and economic centers of Southern Brazil, Rio Grande do Sul is also the centre of Brazil's fourth largest metropolitan area.



The city lies on the eastern bank of the Rio Guaiba (Guaiba Lake), where five rivers converge to form the Lagoa dos Patos (Lagoon of the Ducks), a giant freshwater lagoon navigable by even the largest of ships. This five-river junction has become an important port as well as a chief industrial and commercial center of Brazil.

Before 1742, Porto Alegre was the port of Viamão on the shore of Guaíba Lake. Its ancient name was Porto dos Casais (Port of the couples), and it was initially settled by Azorians. Many families of settlers also came from the city of Rio Grande (*Big River*) in the Lagunar region, to the south, a military fortress at that time.

In the late 19th century the city received many immigrants from other parts of the world, particularly Germany, Italy, and Poland. The vast majority of the population is of European descent. This city, established 250 years ago, is considered one of the best places in Brazil for living. Porto Alegre is a vibrant and modern town, where strong cultural habits are still present.



Porto Alegre is the home of the legendary *Gaucho*. As famous as his northern cousin, the American cowboy, the gaucho has roamed the rolling plains of the Pampas for about 300 years. The name gaucho comes from a South American word for outcast, as gauchos have always chosen to live beyond the law of the cities. The men work on the ranches, fixing fences and corrals (pens for animals), tending the horses, and looking after the large herds of cattle. Tough, self-reliant, and free, the gauchos have become legendary heroes and are the traditional keepers of culture. Nowadays the term Gaucho is also used to refer to any person born in the State of Rio Grande do Sul.

The Monumento ao Laçador, represents the well known Brazilian Gaucho. It is located near Porto Alegre International Airport, and soon became a famous city landmark as well as the most wanted item in souvenirs stores. Visit the Central Market, the building is itself an attraction. It was built in 1869, on neoclassical style, and was almost demolished some years ago. Instead, the city decided for a complete remodeling of its interior, maintaining the outside part exactly how it was 150 years ago. Today, it is not only a showcase of Rio Grande do Sul traditional dishes and culture, but also a landmark in town. Rio Grande do Sul is famous for its *churrasco* (barbecue) and *chimarrão* (a strong and hot tea) always served in *Porongos*, (the Gaucho mug). Here, preparing them is considered not only an art but also a local specialty. Among the most popular items you will find there are tons delicious home made fruit jams and creams prepared by the German settlers from west Rio Grande, great red and white wines from the northern gaucho mountains, a wide selections of cheese and special meats prepared by the Italian settlers, as well fruits and chocolate candies from the city of Pelotas.



Porto Alegre

The most fashionable place in the heart of the city is Rua da Praia (Beach street), the crowded commercial downtown area. The beach is gone long ago, but the name remains, and next to it you will find many attractions which tell the story of south Brazil. Visit Memorial do Rio Grande do Sul (1020, Rua 7 de Setembro with a restaurant, library and The South Traditions Museum), Casa de Cultura Mario Quintana (736 Rua da Praia St, honoring the famous gaucho poet), and Museu Julio de Castilhos (1231 Duque de Caxias St, former home of the president of Rio Grande do Sul, where there are documents, maps and items related to the state history).



Visit one of the many *CTG´s* (*Centro de Tradicao Gaucha*) in town, the right place for hearing some music, watching traditional dances and Gaucho traditions. Here, old time traditions are all kept alive and well. Some of the most traditional dances are the *Tirana, Balaio, Pezinho e Pau de Fita*. Also the *Chula* is an old traditional musical challenge, where two dancers must accomplish elaborate movements, dancing over a stick on the ground, without touching it. And please, during your Gaucho afternoon, do not forget to try the *Chimarrao*, a kind of hot tea.

Porto Alegre is well known in Brazil for its diverse nightlife. The city's clubs, pubs, bars and restaurants provide entertainment for a wide range of tastes and budgets, going from the cheap, traditional beer-'n-bite in a corner bar to all-night raves, and classy nightclubs. At night the right place to be is at Moinhos de Vento (Windmills) quarter, where are some of the most refined and fashioned restaurants, bars, coffee shops, and dance clubs.

There are hundreds of beaches in Rio Grande do Sul state, some crowded, some quiet, some fashionable and some looking like forgotten places. It is up to you do decide which way to go, according to your mood. Actually, between *Torres* at north (right photo), and *Chui* (at south, Uruguai border), you will find just one beach, more than 300 miles long, and some say this is the longest continuous beach in the Americas.



Walking in the streets of Porto Alegre is going up and down at every moment. From the first settlement next to Guaiba River, the city extended to the nearby area, including many hills (*coxilhas*, in gaucho language). There are at least forty hills in the central area.



Football (soccer) is a passion of the people from Porto Alegre. There is a big rivalry between two football clubs,Grêmio Foot-Ball Porto Alegrense, founded in 1903; and Sport Club Internacional, founded in 1909. The regional championship is usually won by one of these teams. The confrontation between Grêmio and Internacional is known as Gre-Nal. Both teams already won the main championships possible to South American clubs: the Copa Libertadores and the Club World Championship

Porto Alegre is one of the cities that will represent the World cup in 2014 FIFA World Cup.

Located at the junction of five rivers, the port of Porto Alegre is an important alluvial port as well as one of the chief industrial and commercial centers in Brazil The "Gaucho capital" has a broad-based economy that lays particular emphasis on agriculture and industry. Agricultural production includes produce such as plums, peaches, rice and cassava grown on rural smallholdings. Products of the rich agricultural and pastoral hinterland, such as soybeans, leather, canned beef, and rice, are exported from Porto Alegre to destinations as far away as Africa and Japan. The shoe and leather industries are also important, especially in Novo Hamburgo, in the Metropolitan Region of Porto Alegre. You won't be able to resist the beautiful leather handbags and shoes, so leave plenty of room in your luggage.



Porto Alegre

More than 70 neighborhoods are part of the city and 2/3 of the population are concentrated in the Zona Norte (Northern Zone), where most of the economic activity, including the city center, takes place. Porto Alegre was the seat of the World Social Forum in 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2005. As the second largest city in southern Brazil, it is an important industrial center and also a center for *gaúcho* (the popular name for natives of the State) history and culture, and home to several important Brazilian universities, such as UFRGS, UFCSPA and PUCRS. In 2000, the literacy rate was 97%.

Porto Alegre is also one of the wealthiest cities in Latin America, and one of the most diverse. It has welcomed immigrants from all over the world, the largest numbers coming from Portugal, Germany, Italy, Spain and Poland. There are also significant Arab and Jewish contingents in the population.



Salgado Filho International Airport serves flights operated by major Brazilian airlines to many areas in Brazil and other South American countries.

Porto Alegre's sister cities:

Kanazawa, Japan *1967*
Morano Calabro, Italy *1982*
Ribeira Grande, Portugal *1982*
La Plata, Argentina *1982*
Punta del Este, Uruguay *1984*
Natal, Brazil *1992*
Horta, Portugal *1993*
Rosario, Argentina *1994*
Saint Petersburg, Russia *2000*
Portalegre, Portugal *2000*
Austin, United States *2002*
Suzhou, China *2004*
Newark, United States *2006*

Climate

Porto Alegre is located in the subtropical area. Average precipitation is high and regular throughout the year. Summer temperatures often rise above 32°C (90°F) with high levels of humidity. The average temperature during our Conference (May) 2oC (63oF) with highs of 21oC (71oF) and lows of 12oC (55oF).

Language

Portuguese is the official national language, and thus the primary language taught in schools. But English and Spanish are also part of the official high school curriculum. There are also international schools, such as the Pan American School of Porto Alegre.

Tourist Visa

A Visa is required for U.S. citizens traveling to Brazil. Citizens of most European and South American countries do not require a visa. You need to check with a Brazilian Consulate or Embassy to see if a visa is required. Make sure your passport is valid for at least 6 months after your date of entry into Brazil. You might want to check out Ambassador Passport and Visa Services **www.ambassadorpassport.com** if you wish to apply for a visa by mail.

Currency

The ***real*** (English pronunciation - rei'a), plural **reais;** 1 ***real*** equals 100 ***centavos***
Symbol: R$
Coins; 5 10, 25, 50 centavos, R$1
Banknotes: R$2, R$5, R$10, R$20, R$50, R$100
The decimal separator is the comma (,): R$123,45 means 123 reais, 45 centavos.

The Marian Adair Achievement Award

Winning design by artist

Julia San Ramon

Dr. San Ramon is a member of both the Women's International Border Club and Welcome to California.

Julia San Roman was recently chosen from among 500 artists to exhibit at the San Diego Museum of Art.



Thank You

WCI wishes to thank participating clubs and their members for outstanding award design submissions.

Our International Conference host club selects the Recipient of The Marian Adair Achievement Award. It is awarded to a woman in their respective area who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to WCI's goals of cross-cultural education and knowledge.

The Award will be presented at WCI Bi-Annual International Conferences. The Award's first presentation will be at our 2010 International Conference in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

News From Our Clubs —

International Women's Club of Israel



President's Summary Report of IWC-Israel for the Activity Years 2008-2009.

Suzette Reyna
IWC President—Israel

As my tenure comes to an end by June 30th, I look back on a most rewarding year, and the privilege of having served as the President of the IWC Israel for the year 2008-2009 and as Vice President for the year 2006-2008. It has been a great honour but most of all, it has been an enriching experience to get to know so many truly remarkable ladies.

Seeing the club grow and succeed, as well as reaching the goals we set forth, has been most gratifying for us all. The Executive and I are humbled by the encouragement and appreciation that we have received throughout the year from so many members of the club, both current and former, from Israel and from all over the world.

It is important to emphasize that we have enjoyed serving this extraordinary organization greatly, and sincerely wish the future administration much success and much satisfaction, as we have had during our term.

This year's accomplishments are due in part to two main objectives. Firstly, the Executive clearly defined the main goals, objectives and priorities which serve best the core Purpose of our Club. We put "Sincere Friendship and Harmony among all the Members of the IWC" at the top of our "List of Priorities".

Secondly, because of this, the second objective was achievable: To update the approach the club takes regarding membership and activity issues and to upgrade the Image of the IWC.

It is important to point out that much of our success has to do with the wealth of qualitative abilities, of generosity and kindness of spirit that abound in our Club, combined with the devoted work of our members in performing their activities throughout the year. The following groups implemented this policy in all their actions, and thus promoted the objectives and the image of the Club:

-members of the Executive,
-members of the Board and Committees,
-many volunteers and generous ladies

The Executive and I are honoured to see the deep friendships flourishing among our members, which induces the welcoming ambiance within the IWC family.

The Executive carried out its objective with a team replete of highly qualified management skills that performed efficiently; it used the model of "Inspiring" and "Leading by Example" for the entire administration and for the Club as well.

Here were some of the tools used throughout our tenure:
Regular meetings of the Executive and Board have been very instrumental and effective in smoothly running the Club.
Thoughtfully prepared "Meeting Agendas" aided in the efficiency in "Conducting the Meetings" and accuracy in preparing comprehensive "Minutes of the Meetings". Finally, thanks to the continuous follow-ups by the members of the Administration, every decision taken at the meetings has been successfully executed.

The Executive and the Heads of Committees adapted from the very beginning and watched carefully how we do things and how we work together, keeping in mind that this is as important as what we do. Where there is a team spirit, the desired good results have taken care of themselves.

An impressive number of existing and new Committees and functions were established. The Executive smoothly coordinated the remarkable number of functions every month, by closely working with the Committees and the Newsletter Editor.

Through its President and Secretary, the Executive maintained an open channel of communication for IWC members on the bases of 7 days a week and 24 hours a day. This channel effectively operated via e-mails, by phone conversations and by face to face meetings, giving immediate responses to day to day issues.

The Executive took a major part in organizing some of the Flag Ship Events of the club, including Israel's 60th Anniversary Celebration, the Opening Brunch, the Knesset visit, a memorable Trip to Istanbul, the upcoming End of the Year Celebration Brunch and more.

Advertisements in the Newsletter were another initiative of the Executive and have been successfully implemented by the efforts of the respective Committee. We recovered a large part of the printing costs of our Newsletters.

The Membership List has been upgraded and the photos of the members have been included in the booklet for the convenience and fast acquaintance among the members.

The IWC has enhanced the relations and cooperation with the DSC (Diplomatic Spouses Club of Israel) on reciprocal bases. The results have been felt throughout the year.

We have experienced and enjoyed a high rate of attendance and participant's satisfaction, in almost every IWC event.

Inter-Committees' Co-operation has been successfully implemented

Continued on page 12

News From Our Clubs —

International Women's Club of Israel….continued from page 11

in various events of the club.

The Hospitality Committee has worked with devotion to welcome every new international member

Most activities have been documented immediately in virtual Photo Albums together with the President's remarks and shared with all the members of the IWC family the same day via email. Thus, every member has been kept abreast and involved on-line and throughout the year on what is happening in the Club, and they had a vivid sense of participation.

Parting with tradition, the 1st and last grand celebration events of the year have been done at the Turkish & the USA residences, respectively. Most other events have taken place at Israeli homes.

This in turn helped us give more of a local and regional flair to our international friends.

Furthermore, a wide variety of complementary activities was offered.

It is an honour to announce to you the New Executive for the years 2009-2010:

Incoming President: Margarita Steigniy, Russia
Adviser to the President: Suzette Reyna, Israel /Turkey
Incoming Vice President: Lucy Ramot, Israel
Second Vice President: Sheryn Hylton-Parker, USA/Jamaica
Secretary: Yvette Trubowitch, Israel /Belgium
Membership Convener: Paulette Ben-Haim, Israel /Great Britain
Treasurer: Valerie Adamson, USA
Newsletter Editor: Maxine Levite, Israel /South Africa

International Women's Club of New England

On January 24, 2009, IWCNE held our favorite luncheon meeting of the year. This is when we present checks to selected charities. This year our major award of $6000 went to the Southern Maine Agency on Aging Money Minders program in Scarborough, ME. They offer their services to Senior Citizens, who need help managing their finances and finding helpful resources. We will donate $4000 each to York County Shelter Programs in Alfred, ME and New Heights of Portsmouth, NH for their "The Whole Thing" program. The former provides 24 hour shelter for the homeless and the opportunity for employment, as well as distributing more than a million dollars worth of food throughout York County each year. 'The Whole Thing' is directed towards Middle School girls, teaching holistic healthy mind and body concepts, as well as providing special programs and role model guest speakers.

Money for our charities is raised throughout the year with potluck dinners, a Fashion Show, a Holiday Fair, a flea market, a Garden Party at Strawberry Banke, and other smaller events. All of these combine fun and raising money and are an important part of our group comradery and feeling of togetherness.

We will immediately begin the process of choosing recipients of our grants for 2009. Members and others are asked to recommend possible charities, and applications are sent to them. After these are received at the appointed time, a committee meets to discuss each applicant. We follow up by interviewing 5 or 6 of the applicants and choose our major recipient, as well as two others. When the club was founded they pledged to give $5000 to one charity each year, and other grants would be given as funds permitted. Fortunately, our funds have continued to grow, and we have contributed over $120,000 to family charities in both America and foreign countries.

Charline Ludgate
IWCNE President 2007 and 2008

Welcome to Colorado Celebrates 30 years

Hello Fellow WCI Friends!

This was our big anniversary year to celebrate 30 years of constant caring, building and nurturing of friendships and of understanding among 300-plus members of Welcome to Colorado. And that we did!

We wanted to make it a celebration to express our joy and to honor the philosophy that draws all of us around the world together - women of different cultures sharing their diversity as well as their uniqueness. Our Club thrives on these tenets.

We were privileged to hear from our founder, Gay Johnson; and many of our past presidents were there to rejoice in this gathering. It was pure icing on the cake to have our WCI President, Padmini Durr, be with us to expand our local awareness under the umbrella of international friendship. We thank you, Padmini, for making this event even more special for us.

It was especially important for us to acknowledge all the women who had become members in the beginning years of our Club, and who are still participating actively in our programs. They are the foundation and cornerstones of our Club that allow the rest of us to build the walls higher to embrace more growth. They received special corsages to thank them for their long-lasting support.

Our attendance was record high as we filled a lovely country club in the midst of one of our prettiest autumns on record in Denver. Members wore their native costumes in a parade around the room. We sat at colorful tables festooned with turquoise and yellow napkins and bows, anchored by three yellow roses in the center to symbolize friendship and our three decades of existence. Each member received a special bookmark hand painted with a columbine, our Club flower. It was especially beautiful and well orchestrated by our President-Elect, Aida Souviron.

To top it off, we ended our program with a local mariachi band that got everyone to their feet, dancing, twirling, clasping hands in laughter and joy for being there that day, at that time amongst so many friends. It truly was a meaningful 30th anniversary party!

Katheryn Swanson
President
Welcome to Colorado

Visit to the Women's League of Beirut

I was in Lebanon, my country of birth during September to October 2009 accompanied by my daughter, Raya, who was born there but hasn't been back in many years. She decided to join me on this most rewarding trip, both enjoying the warmth of family and friends, the fascination of historical sites, lush green countryside, mountains, the beautiful Mediterranean sea and delicious food.

I came back with warm greetings from members of the Beirut Women's League who were most welcoming and invited me to attend the October meeting, their first for the year 2009-2010. The meeting was held on the beautiful campus of the American University of Beirut at "West Hall", an old building where as a child, I attended many entertaining events. This is where all graduation ceremonies took place on the grounds outside of the building and also where during such ceremonies, I received my graduate nursing diploma. Unfortunately, Leila Ghantous, the president of the BWL was away on vacation but former president Chrystal Bikhazi, members of the board and vice-president Selwa Darmiani presided at the meeting. After proper recognitions and introductions including the speaker and a medical director who spoke on health care, she introduced me. I conveyed warm regards from all members of WCI and spoke about our organization as well as Welcome to Washington and how much we were looking forward to seeing them in Puerto Alegre, Brazil next May. Following the meeting at the coffee hour, many came to talk to me about our club and about Brazil. I was also invited to attend the American Women's Organization meeting. I promised I would send them all the information on WCI since I was leaving early the morning of their meeting date. Unfortunately, the Beirut Women's League is unable to plan for a board meeting in 2011 but hopefully will do so in the future. Let us continue to work in faith together and keep our hopes up.

Aida M. Armaly
Welcome to Washington
WCI Membership
Director, Middle East



We at Welcome to London had an active and interesting year. We are privileged to live in London, to walk by the mighty Thames, to look at Big Ben or meander in Harrods or Oxford Street is exhilarating and refreshing.

We made three special visits to the pinnacles of history, culture and democracy. Our first objective earlier in the year was The Royal Hampton Court Palace with its magnificent Royal Chapel, its ornate ceilings and walls not to mention the State and Queens apartments and the regal gardens. Exhausting for the feet but our members will go again.

The second visit was in March to the British Library, one of our national treasures. Its collection of books and periodicals, now numbering some one million volumes, are stored on some fifteen miles of open-access shelves. Three million new items are added every year. Among the treasured collections are the Magna Carta, Leonardo De Vinci's Notebook and the recordings of Nelson Mandela's Rivonia trial. I could go on and on but you should not miss the Library whenever you come to London.

The third visit was to the Mother of Parliaments -The Palace of Westminster. The building was destroyed by fire in 1834 and it took Sir Charles Barry thirty years to rebuild this imposing structure. The House of Commons was also destroyed during the Second World War and was rebuilt and only completed in 1950. To walk into this historical building is truly awesome. Seeing the members of Parliament scurrying around is quite a sight.

Amongst our many programmes the International Women's Day was also celebrated at the prestigious Institute of Directors Club with some members from WCI Hamburg. They also paid a visit to the Abbey of St. Albans which is one of the oldest churches. We celebrated WCI's anniversary with a morning of orange blossoms (champs and orange) and an afternoon tea at the ever popular Royal Automobile Club. Question time with our colourful mayor at City Hall by the Thames is always an attraction. Morning coffees at The University Women's Club are held on the first Tuesday of every month and have proved very popular. Our summer programmes consisted of BBQs and a trip to the Emerald Isle (Ireland), our AGM in September so until then.

With best wishes from London,

Dee Phillips Medawar
Welcome to London

WCI Annual Board of Directors Meeting

Washington, DC
June 3—5, 2009

Annual reports from WCI clubs were presented by the Club Presidents in attendance, including a film retrospective on Welcome to Washington in honor of the club's 50th Anniversary, presented by Leilane Mehler, Lisa Cheng of Welcome to Taipei gave the Board an excellent power point presentation on Taipei's activities.

Anna Kristina Sawtelle, WCI Regional Membership Chair, lead a discussion on improving and strengthening interaction between WCI and member clubs. Ana Kristina shared some of the suggestions:

- Continue communicating with membership. Much communication is done through the Link. (All Links can be accessed from WCI website.)
- Liaisons are key to communication between WCI, Presidents, and membership. The Liaison is responsible for getting information from WCI to clubs.
- Club visits should be encouraged.
- Field Reporters are important in getting information from clubs into Link. A suggestion was made to set up a chat room to exchange ideas.
- Many clubs would welcome contact with club members from Sister Clubs when they visit their areas.
- The importance of exposing the clubs and membership to one another was emphasized.
- One club suggested having an essay contest, for example, "My Country and Where I Live"with the winning essay to be published in the Link.



During WCI Orientation and round table discussions, Julia Banks presented each group with real problems encountered by member clubs. Groups discussed these issues with the members at their table and then reported back to the entire group their solutions. Discussion of club problems was expanded when one club request input about a delicate issue they were currently facing.

Kathy Swanson, Welcome to Colorado presented an overview of her club's administrative manual and discussed its usefulness in administering the club on an ongoing basis.

Donna Suddeth, Welcome to Florida, discussed their club's successful exchange visit with a neighboring sister club in Tampa Bay. She discussed the details of arranging such a visit. Both clubs found the exchange visit worthwhile and recommended such visit to other clubs.



Special Presentations

The WCI Board was very honored to welcome His Excellency Dennis G. Antoine, former Ambassador of Granada. Ambassador gave a very interesting talk on "Effective Diplomacy - A Practitioner's Prospective." The Ambassador relayed his experiences in learning the diplomatic ropes and navigating protocol in Washington DC, particularly from the vantage point of representing a small country.



Dr. Dorothy Moore is a member of Welcome to Washington and holds apointments at George Washington University. Using WCI's mission statement "Friendship through understanding .....Understanding through friendship" Dr. Moore addressed the question "How is this possible in a high tech world?" She sorted the answer into three aspects: communication, trust, and respect. Dr Moore also discussed the levels of communication: experience level, verbal level, conceptual level, and symbolic level.

The WCI Board of Directors extend a very large THANK YOU to our hosts, Welcome to Washington. They arranged several sightseeing venues and social activities for WCI Board members during their visit.









Water Cliff Legend, (Shui Hu Chuan)
Introducing a Chinese Classical Literature Masterpiece
by Elizabeth Lamb, Ph.D.

One of the Welcome Club International goals is " KNOWLEDGE." The readers of *Link* magazine are all well educated. You all know Western literature, but you may not be so familiar with Chinese literature.

Water Cliff Legend (Shui Hu Chuan) is my translation of this classic novel. The other titles are *All Men Are Brothers, Water Margin, Outlaws of the Marsh.* Pearl S. Buck, an American writer, translated and published this book in 1933. She titled the story "All Men Are Brothers."

I am teaching Chinese Classic Literature in college, and I wrote 300,000-word dissertation on *Shui Hu Chuan*. Since this is such important book in Chinese literature, it has been read by millions of people, since it first appeared in the middle of the 16th century between 1522 and 1566.

This book was introduced to Western readers as early as 1883 by an Italian Alfouso Andreozzi, who translated part of the book. It was published in Firenze by Giovanui Dotti under the title "Il Dente di Budda." Two years later Edoardo Sonzogno published the book again in Milan and changed the title to "Storie delle Spiagge".

Maximilian Kern, a German, translated the book into German from the Italian version. In 1927, another German Albert Ehrenstein translated a different part of *Shui Hu Chuan* and named it "Raeober and Soldaten."

In 1929, British G. Dunlop translated the German vision into English and published in London. W. H. Jackson, an American, also translated part of the story, and called it "Water Margin." Pearl S. Buck's translation was the entire story, and it was well received by the American public.

In 1938, Pearl S. Buck received the Nobel Prize for her book "The Good Earth."She gave a speech at Swedish Academy in Stockholm, in which she mentioned about this outstanding Chinese classic *All Men Are Brothers*.

Among all the translations, I personally think the best one is by a Chinese-naturalized Jewish-American scholar: Sidney Shapiro's *Outlaws of the Marsh* in 1980.

This book tells the stories of 108 bandits, including three women outlaws, in the Sung Dynasty 960 - 1279). The main characters number 36, and each one has a vivid nickname. For example, the leader Sung Jiang is called ' wanted rain,'because he always helps people in need. The female bandit Sun Er-liang is called 'the monster at night,' because she uses human flesh as meat to make Pao Tze, Chinese hamburger at night. Of course, those are the corpses of evil people.



Water Cliff Legend, (Shui Hu Chuan), a Chinese Classical Literature Masterpiece (photo by Elizabeth Lamb)

Some characters in this novel were actual historical persons, such as Kao Chiu and Sung Jiang, but most were fictional characters.

In the mid-13th century, there was a book named *Old Incidents in Hsuan Ho Period of the Great Sung Dynasty*. Hsuan Ho was the period of Emperor Hui Chung, the second to the last Emperor of the Northern Sung.

In this book, Sung Jiang's story was mentioned. Since then, story writers expanded it into many stories. In the Yuan Dynasty (1260 - 1368), many dramas were based on these stories, which later became the themes for Kun opera and Peking opera. Therefore, *Shui Hu Chuan* was spread more and more.

The opening episode of *Shui Hu Chuan* is the release of the 108 spirits from a sealed underground cell. This is followed by the rise of Kao Chiu -- how he met the Prince and later became the Emperor. The moment Kao attained power, he started to accumulate his personal fortune by false accusations. People had to use money to buy their freedom. Each one of the 36 characters had their own story, different from each other.

But gradually by the middle part of the novel, they all meet together to rescue Sung Jiang. He was an officer and always helped those people, who had been falsely accused. Sung got himself into trouble, because his concubine found out he had a connection with the bandits on Mount Liang. During an

Continued on page 17

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argument, Sung killed his concubine. He was arrested and sentenced to death. On the day of execution, he was rescued by the heroes from Mount Liang. Later, he became the leader of Mount Liang.

Each individual story is very interesting and vivid. The best know were "Wu Soong Kills the Tiger," "Sung Jiang Kills his Concubine," "The Escape of Lin Chung," "Lu Ta Saves the King Family," "Stealing the Birthday Present," and "Yung Chih Sells his Treasured Knife."

Why is *Shui Hu Chuan* considered an important piece of Chinese literature? I think the reasons are:

1. It is considered one of the four most valued Chinese novels. The other three are:

   The Romance of the Three Kingdoms, The Dream of Red Chamber, and *Monkey*

2. The writing skill is superb, with vivid description of all the characters.
3. The novel advocates the value of a gallant fraternity, with trust between friends being more important than one's own life.
4. It promotes the freedom of thought, harassing the authorities, and anti-corruption.
5. It was the very first Chinese novel written in the spoken language.
6. It spreads the belief that the rich should help the poor.
7. The characters and the story became a popular description of modern daily life. One can use a name or a phrase, or only few words to explain a whole concept. Such as you are like Sung Jiang, which means you are very helpful. Or a person is forced to go to Mount Liang, which there no alternative. If a person has not read the book, he would not understand the meaning of these phrases.

Finally, many Chinese traditional operas are based on the story of *Shui Hu Chuan*. Many foreigners say that *Shui Hu Chuan* is the Chinese Robin Hood, but I think it is more than Robin Hood, because this book has had a deep influence on Chinese literature and customs.

Welcome to Washington Celebrates 50 Years

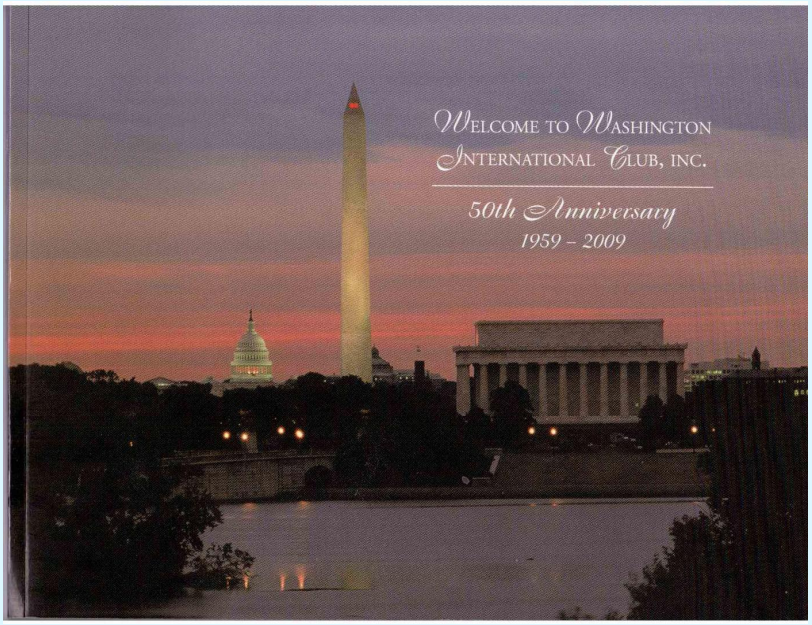
Welcome to Washington was first organized on April 13, 1959. In attendance at its initial meeting were some 135 members representing 85 US women and 50 international women.

Celebrating it's Golden Anniversary on April 13, 2009, the organization marked fifty years of friendship among women of all nations. Welcome to Washington established itself, in the words of Founder Marian Adair, "*to bring together women from different countries, to share mutual interests, to learn from each other, and to establish deep and lasting friendships.*"

As part of its celebration, a Golden Jubilee Luncheon was held on May 15, 2009, where President Leilane Mehler unveiled a video chronicling the Club's 50 years.

In addition, Past President Nancy Marshall wrote a comprehensive history of WW. Published as a commemorative book, Luncheon attendees each received a copy.

A sunset dinner cruise on the Potomac River held on June 7 concluded the Anniversary celebrations. Welcome to Washington organizers extended a warm invitation to members of the WCI Board of Directors to join the festivities.



Congratulations to
Welcome to Washington on
50 years of outstanding success
and best wishes for the next
50 years.

Welcome to Washington
is the founding club of WCI

ISLAM

Islam is the fifth and final article in this series on five major religions. We have presented the material chronologically, starting with the oldest religions. The Link has received some feedback from members questioning the appropriateness of including these articles on religion, citing our non-religious policy. While WCI is non-religious, these articles are directed toward knowledge and understanding of other cultures and religion is one of the basic factors in all cultures. In order to better understand one another, we must also learn and understand each other's beliefs.

In his book "Religious Literacy"(Harper San-Francisco, 2007), Dr. Stephen Prothero states, *"In today's world it is irresponsible to use the word 'educated' to describe high school or college graduates who are ignorant of the ancient stories that continue to motivate the beliefs and behavior of the overwhelming majority of the world's population. In a world as robustly religious as ours, it is foolish to imagine that such graduates are equipped to participate fully in the politics of the nation or the affairs of the world."* Dr. Prothero is Chairman of the Religion Department at Boston University.

An Introduction to Islam
Those who follow Islam are called Muslims.

The word *Islam* means *submission to Allah* (God) and Muslims believe that everything in life should be at the service of Allah.

Muslims believe that God (Allah) revealed their faith to humanity through various prophets at various times, but that the final and complete revelation was given to the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) in the 7th century CE.



Allah written Arabic

Origins
The final revelation of Islam was given to humanity through the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) during the 7th CE in Arabia and spread rapidly through the Middle East.

Although Islam was not fully revealed to us until the 7th century, Muslims believe that it has always existed and that earlier prophets showed humankind parts of the truth.

Islam the second most popular faith in the world with over a thousand million adherents. It is very strong in Asia, and continues to grow everywhere else in the world.

There are around 1.6 million Muslims in Britain (according to the 2001 Census), making it the second most popular faith there, too.

Together with Judaism and Christianity, Islam is one of the three *Abrahamic Faiths* or *Religions of the Book*.

Holy Days
There are only two Muslim festivals set down in Islamic law: **Eid-ul-Fitr** and **Eid-ul-Adha** (*Eid* or *Id* is a word meaning festival). But there are also several other special days which Muslims celebrate.

Al-Hijra
Commemorates the Hijra (or Hegira) in 622 CE when the Prophet Muhammad moved from Mecca to Medina.

Ashura
Shi'a Muslims commemorate the martyrdom of Hussein, a grandson of the Prophet in 680 CE. It has been a day of fasting for Sunni Muslims since the days of the early Muslim community.

Milad un Nabi
Muslims think about Muhammad, and the events of his life. Shia Muslims celebrate it five days later.

Lailat al Miraj
Celebrates Prophet Muhammad's journey from Mecca to Jerusalem in a single night on a winged creature called Buraq. From Jerusalem he ascended into heaven, where he met the earlier prophets, and eventually God.

Lailat-ul-Bara'h
The Night of Forgiveness (Lailat-ul-Bara'h) takes place two weeks before Ramadan. Muslims spend the night in prayer seeking God's guidance and forgiveness for their sins. It is an opportunity to put the past behind them and forgive each other. Many Muslims believe that a person's destiny is fixed for the coming year by God on this night.

Lailat al Qadr
The Night of Power marks the night in which the Qur'an was first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad by Allah. No one knows of its exact date, but the Prophet said that it falls in the last 10 nights of Ramadan, and is most likely on the 27th night.

Eid ul Fitr
This marks the end of Ramadan, the month of fasting, and is a festival of great celebration. In Islamic countries it is a public holiday.

Eid ul Adha
This festival marks the end of the Hajj or holy pilgrimage, which is one of the 5 pillars of Islam. However it is celebrated by all Muslims, not just those who are on the pilgrimage.

The Bare Essentials of Islam:
- As a religious movement, Islam began in Arabia over 1300 years ago
- Muslims traditionally believe that Islam has always existed, but for practical purposes date their religion from 622 CE
- Muslims believe that Islam was revealed to humanity by the Prophet Muhammad
- Muhammad was a human being, not a god
- Muslims believe that Muhammad was the last prophet of God
- Muslims believe that there is only one god. The Arabic word for God is Allah
- The word *Islam* means *submission to God*
- The Muslim scripture is the Holy Qur'an
- The Muslim building for communal worship is called a Mosque
-

The Five Pillars of Islam are practices through which Muslims put their faith into action:
- **Shahadah**: declaration of faith
- **Salat**: ritual prayer 5 times a day
- **Zakat**: giving a fixed proportion to

- Sawm: fasting
- Hajj: pilgrimage to Mecca
-

Muslim Subdivisions
There are several different groups of Muslims, but all of them, in every country and community, regard their faith as a bond between them, and as a major part of their identity.

The largest Muslim group consists of Sunni Muslims who make up 90% of the world's Muslims.

The other main group is the Shi'ite Muslims, who are particularly strong in Iran.

The division between the Sunnis and the Shia is the largest and oldest in the history of Islam. To understand it, it is good to know a little bit about the political legacy of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).

When the Prophet (pbuh) died in the early 7th Century he not only left the religion of Islam but also an Islamic State in the Arabian Peninsula with around one hundred thousand Muslim inhabitants. It was the question of who should succeed the Prophet (pbuh) and lead the fledgling Islamic state that created the divide.

One group of Muslims (the larger group) elected Abu Bakr, a close companion of the Prophet (pbuh) as the next *caliph* (leader) of the Muslims and he was duly appointed. However a smaller group believed that the Prophet's son-in-law, Ali, should become the caliph. This reflected the belief that leadership of the Muslims is a divine right of the family of the Prophet (pbuh).

Muslims who believe that Abu Bakr should be the Prophet's successor have come to be known as Sunni. Muslims who believe Ali should have been the Prophet's successor are now known as Shia. The use of the word successor should not be confused to mean that that those that followed the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) were also prophets - both Shia and Sunni agree that Muhammad (pbuh) was the final prophet.

How do Sunni and Shia differ theologically?
Initially the difference between Sunni and Shia was merely a difference concerning who should lead the Muslim community. The Shia however not only preferred the family of the Prophet in their choice of leadership but also with regard to the Hadith Literature.

The interpretation of Hadith is an Islamic science for Shia and Sunnis. The Shia give preference to the Hadith as narrated by Ali and Fatima and their close associates. The Sunnis consider the Hadith narrated by any of twelve thousand companions equally. This ultimately led to a different understanding of Islam.

Sunni Muslims tend to follow the opinion of the 1st and 2nd Century (7th and 8th century Gregorian calendar) scholars Hanbali, Hanafi, Maliki and Shaafii.

The Shia believe only a living scholar must be followed.

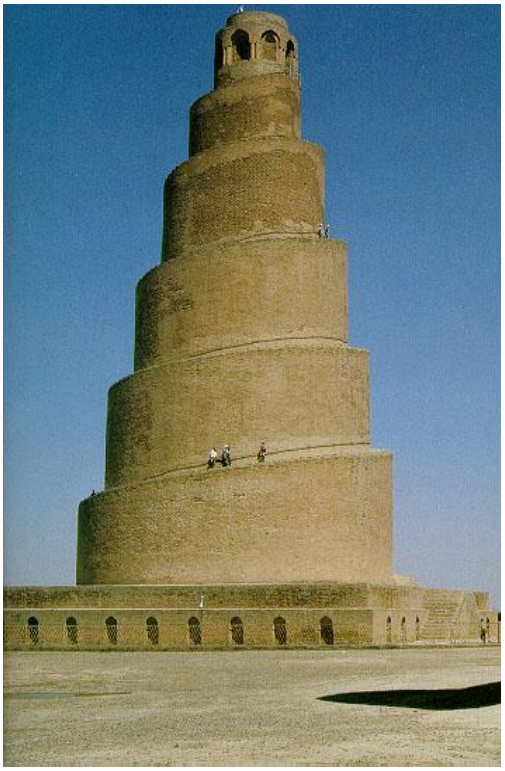
Practical Differences
Sunni Muslims pray five times a day, whereas Shia Muslims can combine prayers to pray three times a day. Shia prayers can often be identified by a small tablet of clay, from a holy place (often Karbala), on which they place their forehead whilst prostrating in prayer.

The practice of Muttah marriage, a temporary marriage, is also permitted in Shia Islam but Sunnis considered it forbidden as they believe the Prophet (pbuh) abolished it.

The relationship between Sunni and Shia Muslims through the ages has shaped their contemporary political landscape. The persecution of the family of the Prophet (pbuh) particularly and the early Shia followers has been a paradigm of martyrdom throughout Shia Islam's history.

How do Sunni and Shia view each other?
The majority of Sunni and Shia do not let their differences allow them to cast each other out of Islam. At the institutional level Shaikh Mahmood Shaltoot of Al-Azhar, Cairo, the oldest institution of Islamic learning considers Shia Islam to be an equally valid school of thought, along with the four Sunni schools.

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BBC *Religion and Ethics*, 2006



Great Mosque of Samarra
Built in 847 AD



Blue Mosque
Istanbul, Turkey
Built 1610—1619

WCI MEMBER CLUBS

ARMENIA
Diplomats' Spouses
Association of Armenia

BRAZIL
Int'l Women's Club Of Porto Alegre,
Rio Grande do Sul

BULGARIA
Welcome to Sofia

CHINA
Welcome Club Int'l Shanghai

FRANCE
Women's Int'l Club du
Languedoc-Roussillon

GERMANY
Int'l Women's Club,
Hamburg e.V.

INDIA
Overseas Women's Club of Bangalore

ISRAEL
Int'l Women's Club, Israel

LEBANON
Women'l League of Beirut

MADAGASCAR
Association Accueil
Madagascar-A.A.M

PHILIPPINES
Welcome to Manila Int'l lWomen's Club

SWITZERLAND
Zurich Int'l Women's Assoc., ZIWA
Asian Ladies Club of Switzerland, ALC

TAIWAN
Welcome to Taipei

TURKEY
Int'l Women's Club, Ankara
Int'l Women's Association-Istanbul
Welcome to Turkish Cyprus Club

UNITED KINGDOM
Welcome to London
FIWAL

UNITED STATES

California
Welcome to California (San Diego)
Women's Int'l Border Club (Chula Vista)

Colorado
Welcome to Colorado

District of Columbia
Welcome to Washington

Florida
Welcome to Florida (Naples)

Maine
Int'l Women's Club of New England

Massachusetts
Berkshire International Club
Int'l Women's Club of Boston

Pennsylvania
Int'l Women's Club of Philadelphia

South Carolina
International Women's Club,
The International Center of the Upstate

Affiliate Member
FIWAL
(Federation of International
Women's Associations in London)

All Pakistan Women's Assoc.
(APWA) UK Branch
American Women's Club Ltd. (AWC)
Arab Women's Assoc. (AWA)
Arab Women's Council
Australian Women's Club
Canadian Women's Club
Chilean Ladies Group
Chinese Women's Assoc. of Singapore
Commonwealth Countries' League (CCL)
Corona Worldwide
Dutch Women of Surry
Focus Information Services
Greek Ladies Association
Il Circolo Italian Cultural Assoc.
International Lyceum Club
Junior League of London (JLL)
Londres Accuel
Lyceum of Greek Women
New Zealand Women's Assoc.
Perwakilan London (The Malaysian Ladies Assoc.)
Petroleum Women's Club (PWC)
SOS Children's Villages of Pakistan
Te Kauri-Maori Women's Welfare League Branch (UK)
The London Ladies Club
The Women's Council
Spanish Ladies Club
Turkish Women's Philanthropic Assoc. (TWPA)
Ugandan Women's Assoc.
Welcome to London International
Women's India Assoc. of the UK

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