SCN – Issue 2 – MAY 2019

WCI Sister Club News

Keeping in Touch . . . Sharing Activities

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FROM OUR PRESIDENT:
To Friends and Members of Welcome Clubs International

Dear Ladies,

It is with great pleasure that I address you in this last edition of Sister Club News as WCI President.

Each Sister Club News has been a joy to read and has provided us with the possibility to learn about the events of each one of our Sister Clubs. What wonderful associations of women comprise WCI! What unique women strive to make this world a better place through their work on culture, society, education, friendship and understanding.

It has been an honour to serve WCI as President for the past three years, together with the Executive Committee. My sincere gratitude and appreciation go to each one of WCI women who have placed their trust on us. We have always acted with the best interests of WCI in mind.

May Rihab Ouri be commended on her lovely task of putting together Sister Club News in such professional manner.

I would like to wish a hearty welcome to Kim Riedel and wish her continued success in all her endeavours.

Kindest Regards,

Maria Fernanda Arduino

Editor

Rihab Ouri

Women's League of Beirut



Dear Ladies,

As we are watching Maria Fernanda- - - leaving her presidency post and missing her already, we welcome our new president Kim Riedel assuring her of our undivided attention and cooperation.

In Friendship,
SCN Editor Rihab Ouri

WCI EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Education

The **Montessori Method of education**, developed by **Dr. Maria Montessori**, is a child-centered educational approach based on scientific observations of children from birth to adulthood. [...] It is an approach that values the human spirit and the development of the whole person—physical, social, emotional, cognitive.[1]

WCI Education Initiative is built on the principle that learning is a lifelong pursuit.

WCI Education Initiative invites everyone to always seek knowledge and share knowledge.

WCI Education Initiative encourages its membership, whenever possible, to share the gift of learning with the community at large.

A bedrock belief of mine is the impactful role women can and do play as bridge builders and community builders.
(Haifa Fahoum Al Kaylani)

The highest result of education is tolerance.
(Helen Keller)

Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.
(Marian Wright Edelman)

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.
(Nelson Mandela)

Education breeds Confidence. Confidence breeds Hope. Hope breeds Peace.
(Confucius)

I am still learning.
(Michelangelo, at age 87)

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[1] "Montessori Education". In Wikipedia. Retrieved January 29, 2019 from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montessori_education

Welcome to Florida International Club

Welcome to Florida International Club ended its season with a very festive luncheon on April 10th at Bonita Bay Country Club. Internationally renowned concert pianist *Ilya Yakushev gave an* outstanding performance of “Rhapsody in Blue” and provided the musical highlight of the day.

The concert was followed by the recognition of the outgoing Board, Past Presidents, Special Appointees, Interest Group Chairs, Marian Adair Award, and the installation of new Board.

WFLIC had another very active season. Our members participated in over 25 different interest groups and attended several Special Events. In March we visited the local newspaper facility of the Naples Daily News and got a chance to chat with some reporters as well as see the complete printing process from blank reels of paper to the finished product.

In friendship,
Maria Winkler
WFLIC/WCI Liaison





WFLIC newsletter editor Emilia Libers with Maria Winkler, outgoing President and Reem Iversen, incoming President

WFLIC Interest Group Chairs



Pamela Girtman,Maria Neighbors, Roberta Walker, Michelle Heuschen



Internationally renowned concert pianist Ilya Yakushev

SOCIAL GATHERING – BRUNCH at Tania Menegotto





CULTURAL MEETINGS – Debate after the movie"Meditation Park"





CHARITY ACTION – School material donated to Centro Franciscano







In Friendship, Maria Helena do Valle
President IWC Porto Alegre



WIC Ladies performing the Chinese Drama "Sampek Engtay" to celebrate Chinese New Year



Our Ambassador Ladies at WIC's Birthday Party



Ladies of WIC join the Peru Embassy for a lively Peruvian folksdance which was performed as well at WIC's birthday.



Celebrating Chinese New Year
WIC President
Elmyra Bambang



WIC Jakarta at the 22nd Inter WIC Conference in Bandung - April 2019



Merry Christmas at WIC



A big "Thank You!" to our Sponsor delegation from Yogyakarta

In Friendship,

Karin Sukarya , Liaison

Welcome to Korea International Club (WKIC) Activity Summary (November 2018 - April 2019)

On November 27th from 10:30 to 2 o'clock, Welcome to Korea International Club had its 2nd Anniversary celebration and special lecture on the role of United Nations and the situation of Korea. Prof. Joon Oh, the post UN ambassador for Korea made a presentation on how, when and why United Nation got established and what 3 pillars - Peace, Development and Human Rights are and why they are working as important criteria. After the lecture, Prof. Kyungjoon Park made a congratulatory performance with beautiful arias. Such a beautiful addition to the birthday of WKIC.



It was an election day! On Feb. 14th, 2019, 53 members got together at the Girl Scout Auditorium to hold 2019 General Meeting. Some of the guest speakers talked about how much political circumstances have changed and delivered a congratulatory message on WKIC's job and the progress it made to enhance the integration of education and gender equality. 2018 General meeting minutes got passed unanimously and members approved the 2018 plan of operation and the budget without dissent. There was an election for the President and the board members. President Jungsook Kim was re-elected as the Co-President along with Ms. Minji Lee, a former Vice President of Girl Scout Federation. New Board Members got established by adding three new members on top of the old members.



One of the main program to expand our frame of reference! Since some Board members are going to Ireland to attend WCI Board Meeting in May this year, WKIC wanted to find out more about Ireland and its ongoing effort on political policies and Women's empowerment. We invited His Excellency Julian Clare, asked him to share his idea, and gathered together in Seoul Club on April 18th at 11am. He started his speech with some famous riddle and went on saying that Ireland was committed to political gender quota and reducing the gap between male and female participation rates in the workforce and the gender pay gap. There was a vital discussion on education, childcare, abortion, paternity leave, and specific political women's policies between two countries.





31 participants seemed so thrilled and actively engaged in a conversation afterwards during the luncheon.

In Friendship,
Sunny Jungsun Shin, Liaison



The first half of 2019 has been busy! We welcomed our new board and president, Charline Ludgate, at the January luncheon. We also awarded $13,000 raised in 2018 to four local charities benefiting women and children. All monthly luncheons have been well-attended. The April luncheon featured former Ambassador to Azerbaijan Robert Cekuta and was attended by over half our membership.



Other activities we enjoyed were an International Women's Day celebration, where we partnered with our local library to offer a film and refreshments to the public, and a St. Patrick's Day fundraising event featuring a local band playing Irish music.



The Gallery Goers group took an informative tour of The Music Hall, a nearby regional cultural center. Members also participated in a "beat the winter blues" shopping, lunch and chocolate tour outing.



We were excited to form a new German language group, which now meets monthly for lunch and conversation. Our French language group, Francophone, also continued to meet monthly. The singing group, Les Chanteuses, entertained at more than 20 nursing homes and other facilities.

Other fundraisers included a monthly potluck and a fancy cocktail party at a member's home in March featuring live music by another member's jazz ensemble. Our club continues to be a happy and vibrant place for all women interested in intercultural fellowship.

In Friendship,
Linda Anderson

Welcome to Taipei International Club

On Chinese New Year Luncheon, we gathered together not only to celebrate the Chinese New Year but also to vote for the new 2019 Board Members.








Exploration Group Trips to:

1. Beitou Museum
2. Tien Fang Organic Tea Field
3. Legislative Yuan







WTIC International Cooking Demonstration, *Hola Mexico!*









Art and Culture:
A note on the changing seasons;
Flower arrangement exhibition

Olivia Jen, Deputy Executive Secretary

What are the ingredients for a successful Spanish Fiesta?



First, you need exciting Spanish/Latino music.
Second, you must have authentic food cooked at home.
Third, if you can, you should have some guests from a Latino/Spanish country.
Finally, you need a dynamic leader who coordinates all the activities, just like a conductor coordinates the musicians of an orchestra.



Around the Scrabble board, players faced the usual challenges of proper spellings, acceptable words, and uncooperative tiles that refused to stay put on their squares. Ellen Croibier started strongly with "oxyde," but Monique Jalbert was the winner in the end, despite the laudable linguistic efforts of her competitors. Coffee and tea were generously provided by the library, and various treats were contributed by participants, making for an especially enjoyable winter afternoon gathering. We all appreciated the welcoming atmosphere at the Lee Library for these events and will continue to schedule our meetings there for the coming year.

In Friendship,

Irene Bernstein-Pechmèze

and Laura Vidale

The association which I preside , the Women's League of Beirut is 100 years old. I am proud to inform you that it is the oldest women association in my country, Lebanon. We are a group of 160 ladies most of them are Lebanese and others have double nationalities, like USA, France, Norway, Denmark, Armenia, England, Brazil and other Arab countries.

The Women's League was founded by faculty housewives of the American University of Beirut. The Mission is to promote a broad acquaintance, to socialize, learn and support one another and establish social network.

Its aim is to secure a yearly scholarship fund for a disabled student in AUB (American University of Beirut). We have monthly general meetings where we invite a guest speaker. Our programs are diversified and cover educational and cultural subjects which are very stimulating. In addition, we have recreational events.

We usually have 3 big events during the year, Christmas Lunch and Mother's Day celebration lunch, which were very successful this year. They were done in big hotels where members and guests were enjoyed the music and songs performed by a professional singer. We will end the year with a Garden party in the garden of Marquand House, the residence of the American University of Beirut.

During the year we had many mini meetings with a limited number of participants where we meet in a café and we invite a lady coach to talk about different topics of interest like nutrition, sport, clinical psychology and etiquette and other subjects.





In addition to our monthly programs, we had monthly trips to different parts of Lebanon where we visited sites of historical interest and made field trips to social welfare centers. From the activities we have made this year, we learned a lot about each other, where friendship developed according to the spirit of the Women's League.

Every year, for this event we invite an embassy to present a musical progam of dancing and songs showing their culture and heritage. This year the Ukraine embassy will be our sponsors in the garden party which will take place in June 2019 where we invite diplomatic people and social figures.

During this party I present the Women's League donation to the President of the University. The amount of money is collected from membership fees and other activities done during the year to assist a disabled student in his education at the university.

In addition to our monthly programs, we had monthly trips to different parts of Lebanon where we visited sites of historical interest and made field trips to social welfare centers. The members look forward with great excitement for the upcoming trips which they enjoy a lot. From the activities we have made this year, we learned a lot about each other, where friendship developed according to the spirit of the Women's League.

In Friendship,
Salwa Damiani, President

IWCP(Philadelphia) Activities Report Spring 2019

Our monthly outings this spring took us for a fabulous tour inside The University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archeology and Anthropology:

Ancient Egypt: From Discovery to Display March 20

Mummies and artifacts tell archaeologists about what life was like in ancient Egypt. But how do objects make their journey from excavation site to Museum display? Peel back the curtain and get a behind-the-scenes view of the Penn Museum's famed Egyptian collection. This roughly 6,000-square-foot exhibition introduces visitors to the history of ancient Egypt and includes elements of open artifact storage as well as active object conservation, offering an inside look into where objects come from, how they are researched and cared for, and how they are prepared for display.

Potluck Lunches: Our monthly pot lucks are very popular and a way for many members new and old tomingle and get to know each other in a home of a fellow membe

Expat Potluck Dinner with or without a Friend: These very popular monthly evening gatherings at a rotating member's house give us a chance to meet the partners of our members.

Mural Arts Tour: Mural Mile Walking Tour April 23

On a glorious spring day 20 members walked through center city Philadelphia's quaint streets and










hear about this fabulous social justice program where prison inmates have a chance to take classes sponsored by the Mural Arts program to reenter in the workplace after release. Many spectacular Murals were admired on this 2-hour walking tour. We encourage members from other clubs to come visit our lovely city and experience one of these unusual and inspiring tours.

Book Clubs: There has been a good amount of interest in these two book clubs. Having them each in a different location serves our members well, who are spread out all over the city and suburbs. It is lovely to see again the diversity in ages of the participants.

In the Burbs: Monday, March 11, 12 pm (noon)
The Little Paris Book Shop, by Nina George

In The City: Thursday, March 28, 12 pm (noon)
The Signature of All Things, by Elizabeth Gilbert

Happy Hour : After 5 Members of all different ages love these monthly gatherings .

In The City: 2nd Thursday 5-7 pm Liberté Lounge, Sofitel Hotel

Jacqueline Yates, Liaison

Welcome to Colorado International Club

Welcome to Colorado celebrated the 2019 Spring Lunch on Thursday, May 3. The annual event was an opportunity to express our appreciation for our volunteers, member's support and Interest Chair's intellectual contributions through the year. It was a delightful lunch with music entertainment.











In Friendship,
Jeanette Malek , President

IWC Hamburg
launches its first **WCI EDUCATION INITIATIVE** activity!

It had been months in the making and planning. Together with our WCI Committee, I am extremely proud to share with all of you the success of our very first Club activity, called "**Women's Lounge",** in line with WCI's Education Initiative, *Friendship through Education*. Its purpose is to provide our members the opportunities to exchange ideas, discuss topics of interest that are relevant to us in an informal and casual atmosphere. In turn, we hope that we can learn together and learn about each other. The title of our first discussion was "**Women's Perspectives: Identity, Assimilation and Integration**". With over 50 different nationalities in our Club, coming from different backgrounds, cultures and beliefs, we have a rich source of diverse and unique perspectives.

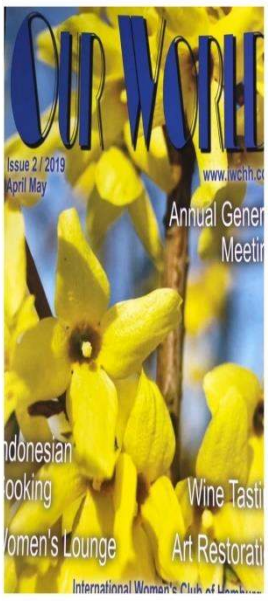
For the premiere of our Women's Lounge, we met one warm afternoon in a centrally located Cafe in downtown Hamburg. For a more personalized and effective dialogue, we have strictly limited the number of participants to 12 Ladies. The new activity was well received that we quickly had the maximum number of signees in just a few days after it was announced.

To start with, we chose a topic which we believed almost every members of our Club could relate with. We invited two remarkable women Guests to share their captivating stories and could offer us distinct point of views. Their contributions stirred the discussion in very interesting directions. Innately, we are all storytellers and at the same time, we are also very curious to hear from each other. Therefore, the conversation flowed naturally and easily, each and everyone actively participated and contributed to the discussion. In no time, we were engaged in a lively and stimulating conversation that the two hours spent went by so quickly.

In the end, we discovered how different our views are, shaped by the differences in our backgrounds and even our personalities. But we also came to the realization how similar we all are, bounded by the similar experiences we all had, the challenges we were confronted with and eventually, for many of us , making Hamburg to our new "home"! Indeed an afternoon where we gained new knowledge and perspectives, an aftenoon well spent! We look forward with great excitement and anticipation for the next upcoming **Women's Lounge** in June and those that will follow thereafter.









In Friendship
Vena Velarde Iversen, Liaison

Welcome to Turkish Cyprus Club

We would like to share with you some info and pictures of the events that we organized.

In December our President Inci Musannif, former President Isin Ramadan Cemil and Treasurer Servet Erkmen presented our donation for KIKEV (Organization for the Education of Children with Hearing Impairments).





In January we had our New Year Celebration Luncheon where we also celebrated the birthday of members .

In February we visited ARUCAD University of Art for an interesting lecture on Printing and Illustrations during the Ottoman Empire.



In Friendship
Zeynep Akgunay, Liason

Some of the activities held by the Anglo-German International Women's Association

A VISIT TO THE HAMBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Members had a tour of the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce. A group of ten AGIWA members recently enjoyed a very informative and interesting visit to the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce, situated at the rear of Hamburg's Town Hall. It was founded in 1665 and Its membership today consists of some 160,000 companies whose annual fees total approximately 37 million euros. There are some 265 employees working within the building. We are guided through this magnificent classical building by Mr Heinz Dickmann, a committee member. The ground floor houses the largest known commercial library worldwide and is open for use by the public. Hanging from the ceiling in the Börsensaal are very impressive model convoy ships such as those used to combat piracy in bygone centuries, and a well preserved wooden buoy, complete with chain and stone dating from the 17th century and used to channel ships along the Elbe.

A MEMBER'S MEMORIES OF SIX YEARS IN KAZAKHSTAN





On a beautiful April afternoon, 30 ladies were welcomed in Ulrike's home to hear from Martina Kitta and her husband Reinhold about their experience of living in Kazakhstan. Martina introduced the country to us and explained the geographical areas with photos. Kazakhstan's capital is Nursultan; until recently it was Astana. We were introduced to the traditions and culture of Kazakhstan and the different foods for special occasions. Thanks to a TV screen and a laptop we were all able to appreciate the wonderful photos. Martina had also brought some of her souvenirs including a musical instrument. Martina and Reinhold spent six years as expatriates in Atyrau on the Caspian Sea. Reinhold worked in the oil industry and explained to us how the oil production worksin the Caspian Sea.

FOUNDING MEMBER CELEBRATES 90TH BIRTHDAY



Next month, AGIWA will celebrate the 90th birthday of one of our founding members, Antje Thietz-Bartum. Antje is an energetic and supportive member of the club, participating in many activities as a contributing member. She is a published writer of several books and written work, and contributes original poetry which is read at our annual Christmas luncheon and part of the AGIWA celebration. We will honour her at the legendary Hotel Louis C. Jacob and celebrate her contribution and commitment to the club on June 25th.

Kim Riedel
Liaison

Dear Sister Clubs,

Greetings from Broward International Women's Club (BIWC) of Fort Lauderdale. We are an active vibrant group of ladies representing 40 countries. Over the last quarter we had some wonderful activities which included outings, lunches and events. These activities gave our members and their guests an opportunity to be educated in the cultures and cuisines of our international community.

One of the highlights of this quarter for our Club was the opportunity to honor and celebrate four of our members for International Women's Day. Our guest speaker was Bonnie Clearwater, the Director and Chief Curator of Nova Southeastern University Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, who shared with us a variety of work of Women In the Arts in the national and international community.

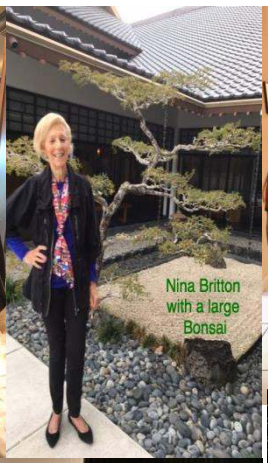
We are preparing for the Installation of our 2019 - 2021 slate of Officers, along with honoring our volunteers who supported the work of BIWC for the last two years. More will be shared in the next issue. Please enjoy the articles provided.

The Board of Directors of the Broward International Women's Club wishes all of our Sister Clubs a wonderful summer. ***Winnifred McPherson, BIWC President***

BIWC started the New Year in Grand International Fashion with a trip to the Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens. Lunch was a sumptuous Bento Box filled with more than most of us could eat, and we sat in a lovely outdoor dining pavilion overlooking the magnificent gardens. We then split into two groups and were guided by a docent who explained the large sculptures constructed of soft material and lacquered multiple times until they were extremely hard. The remainder of the afternoon was spent walking the magnificent gardens. We each had a wand with the recording of what we were seeing at that particular location. We were transported into a different culture and environment than our own, a beautiful, tranquil day.

Our first Membership Meeting for 2019 was held at the home of Janet Brady which was attended by 45 of our members and several students who were recipients of our scholarship. As usual, our members provided the most delicious buffet of international food together with an equally wonderful dessert table. We welcomed in the New Year and updated the Membership on our future plans. Our speaker, who is also one of our sponsors, was a financial expert giving advice on preparing for retirement.













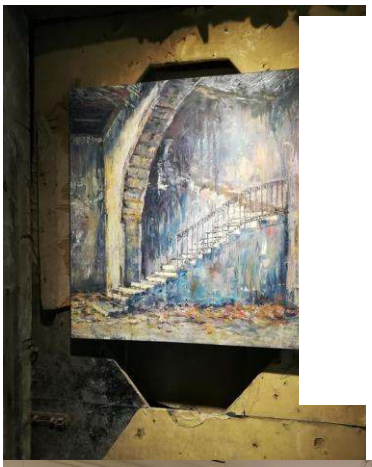


In Friendship,
Janet Brady, Co-Liaison

Our main goal at VIA Lebanon is to teach our foreign members about Lebanon, as we get to learn about their respective countries. We encourage all our members to create programs about their homeland. I believe we have started accomplishing these goals. We started in September with a splendid brunch at the magnificent gardens of Alice and Roger Edde. We had a tour of part of the gardens, which cover up a mountain. We had a flower arrangement demonstration by Tania Kabbani, a flower arranging designer, and we enjoyed our host's hospitality at her beautiful home.







We toured the quaint village of Sofar and saw the art exhibition by Tom Young, a British artist who exhibits his works in dilapidated homes and castles that could be demolished. By bringing the public to these wonderful buildings, he helps preserve them and sometimes, get renovated for the public to enjoy. In this case, The Grand Sofar Hotel, the greatest hotel in the mountains overlooking Beirut was famous in its days for hosting guests as Omar Sharif and other Arab luminaries.





Of course we couldn't miss the opportunity to see The Dalloul Art Foundation. The Dalloul family amassed the largest collection of the best Arab painters from the Arab world. Their collection has more than 4500 paintings. When you visit you get to only see 500 paintings. Soon they will build their permanent Art Museum in Beirut. We were lucky to visit and tour the premises with the personal guidance of the son's owner, Bassil Dalloul! It was two and a half hours of amazing art work and anecdotes about the paintings and its artists.



In Friendship / Rihab Ouri, Liaison