Volume 2, Issue 2

December, 2002

www.welcomeclubs.org

Worldwide Link

Welcome Clubs International, Inc.

MEMBER CLUBS

Cyprus
Welcome to Turkish Cyprus Club
Germany
International Women's Club, Hamburg e.V.
Israel
International Women's Club, Israel
Jordan
Welcome to Jordan
Madagascar
Association Accueil Madagascar-A.A.M
Taiwan
Welcome to Taipei
Turkey
International Women's Club in Ankara
International Women's Association-Istanbul
United Kingdom
Welcome to London
Welcome to Wessex
United States
California
Welcome to California Int'l Club
Connecticut
International Women's Club
Colorado
Welcome to Colorado
District of Columbia
Welcome to Washington
Florida
Welcome to Florida
Welcome to Tampa Bay Int'l Club
Maine
Int'l Women's Club of New England
Massachusetts
Berkshire International Club
Michigan
Int'l Women's Assn. of S.E. Michigan
Pennsylvania
Int'l Women's Club of Philadelphia

Editor

FROM OUR CHAIRMAN



On behalf of Welcome Clubs International Executive Committee I wish you and each and every member of your clubs a successful and eventful New Calendar Year.

Although the world around us has been in turmoil, our little world of Welcome Clubs International has served as a safe haven. Our only agenda has been to link hands with each other in friendship and understanding. We will continue to strive to reach and touch all those who are in need of our understanding.

Unfortunately, the inauguration of our club in Jordan had to be postponed due to political uncertainty in that region. On the positive side, preparations are under way both for our Interim Conference in Hamburg May 16-21, 2003 and our Biennial Conference in Washington in the spring of 2004. We have a new club in La Jolla, California.

To honor our Founder, Marian Adair, we established a Fund in her name. It is called the *"**Marion Wood Adair Fund**"* for the continued promotion and growth of "friendship and understanding". Welcome to Taipei has generously decided to donate $5000.00 to WCI. This money will be allocated to the *"**Marion Wood Adair Fund**."*

Looking forward to seeing you all in Hamburg.

In friendship,
Eshrat Demougeot

Link With the Editor

In these uncertain times, it is well to remember Eshrat's words about our organization: "We are not politically motivated but politically sensitive".

We, as women are intrinsically sensitive to all sorts of issues, not the least of which is a view of each other. We feel for our sisters in politically difficult countries but when we come together we are of one world. This was true at our past conferences in Taiwan, England, Turkey, Switzerland and in the diverse clubs in the United States. WCI blends thoughts and cultures into one common goal - friendships.

We need our field reporters to keep us abreast of what part their clubs play in this global endeavor. We need to see how each particular club falls in this worldwide link. Perhaps this sensitivity will carry over into fields about which we can only dream today. We united women are a beginning – how fortunate for us – and for everyone else.

Susan McCreary - Editor

Meet the President International Club of Hamburg



New President of International Women's Club of Hamburg
Nicky Nuesink

"I joined the IWC for the wide ranging contacts and friendship with the members of many nationalities. I also have been a member of a number of Ladies' and other expatriate clubs in Hamburg since arriving in 1991.

I was born in the County of Surrey in England. I am married to Nick who is half Dutch and half British. We have two grown-up children Amber and Dirk. I studied Art at the College of Clothing and Fashion Technology in London. After graduation I managed several outlets for fashion and beauty. In l969 I opened my own company in Guildford, Surrey, which I ran for several years.

My husband was working in different parts of Europe, and finally we moved to Hamburg, Germany."

Nicky Nuesink - President

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Welcome to WCI – Welcome to California International Club

The Del Mar Home of Angela Hecht was the sight of the first Welcome to California International Club member's tea on October 12, 2002. Thirteen interested women joined the ten member group for refreshments and an opportunity to learn about the recently formed club of the San Diego County. Chapter president Vilma Boettcher introduced liaison Maria Neighbors who made a presentation on the history and philosophy of Welcome Clubs International. Impetus for the new club got its start from Maria, who is also a member of the Florida Club International.

Of the twenty three women attending, seventeen were foreign born. In addition to the interest groups already established, many suggestions were offered on topics from Tai Chi to Cardiac Health and Financial Awareness.

The officers of the club are:
Vilma Boettcher – President
Maria Neighbors - Liaison
Rosemary Robertson – Vice President
Wendy Powers – Secretary
Carole Rosario – Gourmet Club
Angela Hecht - Advisor



Pictured from Left to Right: Officers of Welcome to California: Wendy Powers, Maria Neighbors, Vilma Boettcher, Carole Rosario, Rosemary Robertson, and Angela Hecht

Worldwide Link in Time

February 9-12, 2003
Executive Board Meeting in Naples, Florida

May 16 – 21, 2003
Interim Board Meeting in Hamburg, Germany

May 28, 2003
Welcome to London's 20th Anniversary

Spring, 2004
Worldwide Conference in Washington, D.C.

Finding your Prince

By Graciela De Ross, Welcome to Washington



I am certain that most of us, when we are single, identify ourselves with "**Cinderella**" and how she found her handsome prince." I certainly did!

After experiencing the 'macho' qualities of Mexican men, I decided to look for my prince in a foreign country. So, I joined The Experiment in International Living (an American Organization that promotes friendship and understanding among the peoples of all countries) and started to travel. I learned to "drop my slipper" with every eligible bachelor I fancied. Fortunately, many times the slipper did not fit - like with the Swiss boyfriend who was so stubborn and rigid that after two months of courtship and totally different personalities we were on each other's nerves. Next followed the venturesome Englishman, whose great ambition was to explore and settle in Brazil along the Amazon River. After one year of amorous and sincere correspondence, he dropped me because I was a 'city girl.' — I would never make it among the mosquitoes, snakes and piranhas. My Dutch prince was very wise when, after a sweet romance of three months, he told me that, if we were to marry I would have to learn to ride a bicycle and live in his family home with this mother and two sisters. He knew I would never make it without my car. I was also infatuated with an extremely handsome Italian that I met in a train going from Rome to Milan. After one month of correspondence, I happily showed my Italian teacher one of his letters. She was horrified at his bad spelling and, through his P.O. box and the Italian Embassy in Mexico, she had him investigated and learned that he was a postman and already married! I then decided that the best place for "A Fancy Ball" where I could drop my slipper was right in Mexico City, with it's large American Colony. I then concentrated all my dreams on finding an "American Prince". It has been 34 years that, with my brother's approval and my mother's permission, I finally caught Carl, my wonderful American Husband. Carl has turned out to be the best prince in the world for me!

The moral of this story is: "If you ever look for your prince, be sure where you drop your slipper."

Tenth Anniversary



At the 10th Jubilee of the International Women's Club of New England in York, Maine, from left to right: Nonie Hubrecht, Gwen Knowlton, Anna Kristina Sawtelle, Pearl Soumaini-Dayer, and Barbara Poulin.

The Jubilee Dinner of the International Women's Club of New England was enthusiastically attended by locals and WCI Executive Committee members on August 27, 2002. Besides beautiful decorations with balloons and a three course dinner, gifts for honorees and handmade bookmarks as favors for guests, there was accordion music to accompany the brilliant sunset.

One thousand dollars was presented by Ocean National Bank to the Club's charity – the York County Child Abuse and Neglect Council.

President, Anna Kristina Sawtelle was presented an inscribed gavel stand for her work with the Club.

Eshrat Demougeot, President of WCI and Donna Suddeth, Vice President of WCI represented the parent organization and spoke to the Club on various aspects of WCI.

Congratulations were read from some of the sister organizations. The committee is to be commended on the great success of this event.



The Obstacle in Our Path

In ancient times, a king had a boulder placed on a roadway. He then hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock.

Some of the king's wealthiest merchants and courtiers came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the king for not keeping the roads clear, but none did anything about getting the stone out of the way.

Then a peasant carrying a load of vegetables came upon the rock. Upon approaching the boulder, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded.

When the peasant turned to pick up his load of vegetables, he noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the king saying that the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway.

The peasant learned what many never understand. Every obstacle presents an opportunity to improve our condition.

The Cleaning Lady

A college professor gave a pop quiz to his students. The last question asked, "What is the name of the woman who cleans the school?"

Surely this was some kind of a joke. Everyone had seen the cleaning lade several times. She was tall, dark-haired and in her 50's. But none of the students knew her name.

Just before class ended, one student asked the professor if the last question would count toward the quiz grade. "Absolutely," said the professor. "In your careers you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and respect, even if all you do is smile and say hello."



WCI INTERIM COUNCIL MEETING

Hamburg, Germany
May 16 — 21, 2003

ITINERARY

FRIDAY, MAY 16	***Arrival of Delegates***
	Transportation to the hotel
7.30 p.m. for 8.00 p.m.	Concert by KLASSIK PHILHARMONIE, directed by Robert Stehli. Soloist: Cello by Panu Luosto (Mozart, Dvorak, Schumann), at the Music Hall, Johannes Brahms Platz Guest of Honour: Dr Dorothee Stapelfeldt, President of the Senate of Hamburg Welcoming Reception at the Music Hall.
SATURDAY, MAY 17	***Gala Evening Dinner Party***
10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon	City Hall Indoor Guided Tour and City Tour of Hamburg.
6.30 p.m.	Gala Evening dinner party with cultural presentation at the Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten, Neuer Jungfernstieg 9 – 14 (German singer Katharina Maria Kagel with pianist Silva Schmedding, and folk dances of the Philippines).
SUNDAY, MAY 18	***Tour of Lübeck***
	Morning Church services will be available in various churches. Details will be provided.
9.45 a.m.	Assemble at the entrance of the Marriott Hotel.
10.00 a.m.	Departure of Coach Tour of Lübeck with a guide in English.
1.00 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.	Lunch at the ``Restaurant Schiffergesellschaft``.
6.30 p.m. for 7.00 p.m.	Informal get-together at the home of Marie Louise Qvist.
MONDAY, MAY 19	***WCI Council Meeting***
9.30 a.m.	The Council meets at the Marriott Hotel, ABC Straße
12.30 a.m. – 2.00 p.m.	Buffet lunch at the ''American Place'', Marriott Hotel.
2.15 p.m. – 5 p.m.	The Council Meeting continues at the Marriott Hotel
7.30 p.m.	Gröninger Brewery, Ost-West Straße 47, 20457 Hamburg
TUESDAY, MAY 20	***WCI Council Meeting***
9.30 a.m.	The Council Meeting will continue at the Marriott Hotel
12.30 p.m. – 2 p.m.	Buffet lunch at the ''American Place'', Marriott Hotel
3:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.	Farewell Harbour Cruise on the Senate's Launch. Boarding at Landungsbrüken



Seated: Peggy Silverman, Past President of Welcome to Washington with Int'l Women's Club of Hamburg, Germany August of 2002. Stella Schumann of WCI Executive Committee is seated next to Peggy.

Worldwide Link to our Ambassadors

Our most recent Presidents and Liaisons
E-MAIL ADDRESSES

WCI Executive Committee
Faye Fang, Vice-Chair, Far East. .

Ankara -
Monique Akarcali - P . . . . . .
Nilgun Ozer - L . . . . . .

Berkshire -
Michelle Heuschen-Liegeois - L . .

California -
Velma Boettcher – P . . . . . .

Colorado -
Shahla Farhang - P . . . . . .

Cyprus -
Narin Ferdi -P . . . . . .
Heybeti Balman -L . . . . . .

Hamburg -
Nicky Nuesink - P . . . . . .T:

Istanbul -
Ayca Grdik - P. . . . . .

London -
Jenny Habib -L . . . . . .

SE Michigan -
Mary Vamos -P . . . . . .

Taipei -
Jacqueline Chiou -P . . . . . .

Washington -
Joan Chase - P. . . . . .
Faye Rokni -L . . . . . .

Wessex -
Sonia Blandy -P. . . . . .
Elizabeth Thomas -L . . . . . .

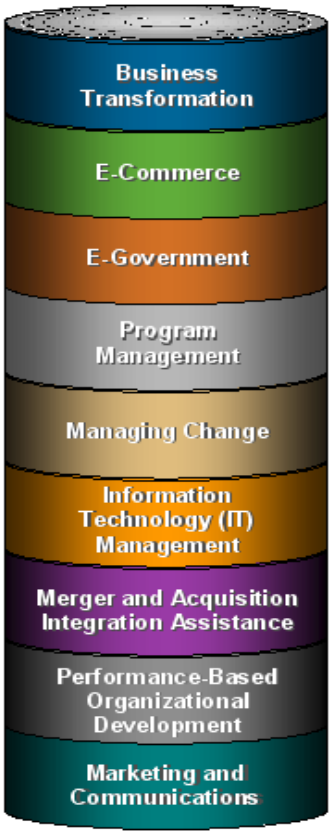
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