WCI
Welcome Clubs International

Sister Club News

Keeping in Touch . . . Sharing Activities Spring 2018 Issue

Editor

Rihab Ouri
Women's League of Beirut

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

Dear Ladies,

What a pleasure to welcome you to yet another edition of Sister Club News.
Albert Camus says; *Do not walk behind me; I may not lead. Do not walk in front of me; I may not follow. Just walk beside me and be my friend.*
Sister Club News celebrates friendship. WCI friends are all over the world. Through this worthwhile vehicle, we can get to know about the activities our Clubs involve in and enjoy lovely photos of the various countries

May we share Sister Club News with our friends and relatives and may we feel motivated to write to each other to find more about the events we read about. May Sister Club News motivate us to strengthen our bond of mutual friendship and understanding.
I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Rihab Ouri, Sister Club News Editor, for the task done with loving responsibility and devotion.

Kindest Regards,
Maria Fernanda Arduino
WCI President

Dear Honorable Ladies,
To be with you again and being very willingly to get the SCN prepared like it has always been is a tangible proof of my happiness being one of you … and I am sure you could not escape my love in having the SCN done to your satisfaction.
Further, the yearly conferences are really amazing and indispensable … a great factor for bonding among us and for exchanging ideas and culture in our serene gatherings.
However, I am going to miss you this year for I cannot make it to DC due to many reasons … I hope I would be able to meet you next year!

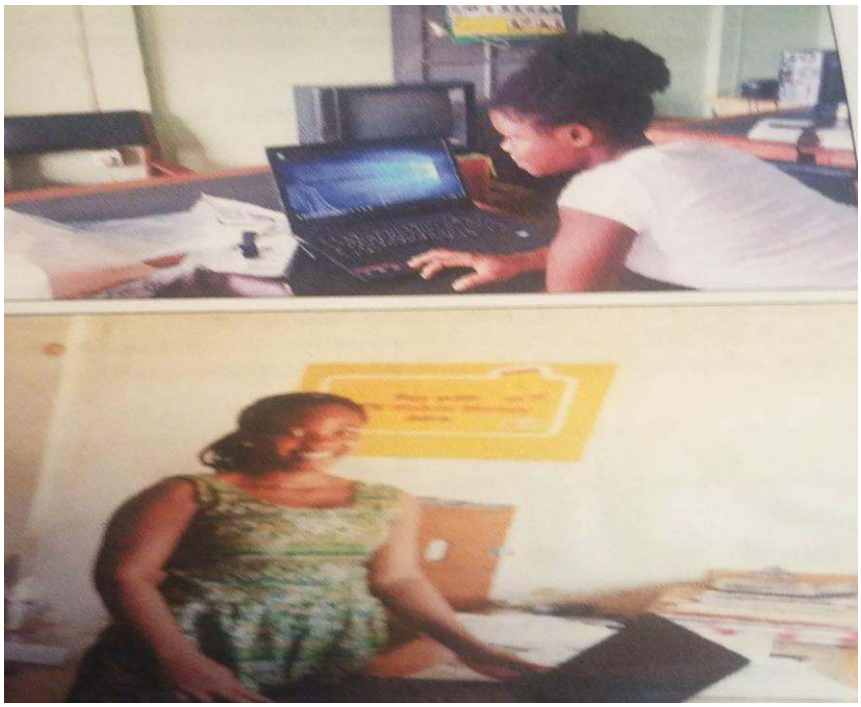


Warm Regards
Rihab Ouri SCN Editor

Fundraising for a scholarship for education beyond the 9th grade.



Women attending a program on International Women's Day in York, Maine.



Pictured are Delati and Pricilla receiving their laptops from our organization. Delay is studying hospitality at Home Polytechnic University and Pricilla is studying nursing.

At our January meeting our club was proud to present checks to our three 2017 charity recipients. Awards were given to Footprints Food Pantry, Amenyo Corporation in Kpenoe, Ghana, and Lydia's House of Hope. We work throughout the year to raise funds for charities that benefit women and children. Our two major fundraisers are our Fashion Show and Holiday Fair.

In March we celebrated International Women's Day. We invited members and women from the community to share fellowship, conversation, and refreshments with us to mark the day. Sarah Newick, a member of our group, shared stories of her world travels and how she makes a difference. Our celebration is a wonderful opportunity to share our club's mission and enhance our visibiity in the region.

We look forward to a busy year with fund raising, monthly luncheons, special events, potlucks, Francophone, Les Chanteuses, Book Club, World Cinema, and Gallery Goers. We are a very active group!

EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVE

Our group chose Amenyo Corporation in Kpenoe, Ghana as one of our charity recipients. The emphasis is on education and empowering the residents to help themselves with financial assistance. Our donation will provide a scholarship for education beyond the 9th grade.

Marion McAuliffe
Liaison

Welcome to New Members Tea

Welcome to Florida International Club is winding down its season now. Soon our snow birds will fly away north to return next fall. It has been a great year. We have had some fascinating programs this year, among them: An Introduction to the Arab World and Japan, The Symbolism and Origin of the Christmas Creche, and How to Avoid Identity Theft. Our Interest Groups have been running full steam ahead including three new ones this year: International Poetry, The Arab World, and Travelers. We just had our New Members Tea and were happy to welcome twenty-one new members from eleven different countries. We are all looking forward to the conference in May in Washington D.C.



1-Welcome to Southwest Florida International Club new members.

2- New Members Tea Committee for Welcome to Southwest Florida with Maria Winkler, our President





3- Board of Welcome to Southwest Florida International Club



4- International Poetry Group Sign-up at Welcome to Sothwest Florida Interest Group



5-Far East Interest Group Calligraphy class at Welcome To Southwest Florida International Club

ElizabethG. Cottingham-Liaison













Sunny Shin, Liaison

An End of the Year Party with a Special Lecture Adieu 2017~

On December 13th, 2017 WKIC had an End of the Year Party with a Special Lecture at the Grand of Sejong hall. It started at 11 a.m. and the members who signed up greeted each other holding a beautiful jar of fresh roasted buckwheat tea which was given as a gift.

An opening speech with lots of thankful message was given by the President Jungsook Kim, who made a tremendous effort to keep the organization going. It was followed by the congratulatory speech of Ms. Yeonsook Lee, the former 2nd State Minister for Political affairs. She mentioned several social pathological phenomena like YOLO (You Only Live Once), FOMO (Fear of Missing Out), and JOMO (Joy of Missing Out), which would lead the existence and activities of WKIC more vital. Ms. Geumsook Choi, the President of Korea Women's Council, also put an importance of using women's sensitivity and delicacy to take the advantageous position and delivered the wish WKIC doing the very job for the empowerment of women. Members also had a chance to widen their knowledge by attending the special lecture on 'Flamenco: Call, Name, Divide, Segregate', which was given by Dr. Joongcheon Lee who covered the general history, characteristics, and the genre on the Spanish dance.

Ms. Doyoon Byun, a former Minister of Gender Equality and Family made a toast before lunch for the prosperity of WKIC and Sunny Shin, Secretary General, briefly introduced the Hanji painting class which is an ongoing program and can offer a tremendous joy of creating.

The 2nd part was fun, fun, fun with the games and puzzles led by the entertainer Ms. Oksoon Whang and Ms. Mikyung Noe, who are also members of WKIC. Everyone went home with lots of smile and surprising gift thanks to the Board Members who donated hefty and heartfelt items for the activity.



Picturesque Hamburg Photos during Historical Walks around the city



Art Group Exhibition by Tabet



Christmas Charity Luncheon the local Charity (Women Helping Women)



Chinese Prof. Author Kuan talked about His experiences living in Hambrg



Visited Benecke Coffee Roasting House learned all about coffee tastes and types



Enjoyed one of Hamburg's traditional Christmas Markets



Movie Group



Cultural Presentation about BRAZIL



Cooking Group baked German Cookies



Music and Cultural Group



Members celebrating New Lunar Year & learned about the Year of the Dog

Hamburg in 2016 and 2017 is ranked 10th inthe most liveable cities in Christmas **Charity Luncheon**. This year we donated to the local-charity „ Frauen helfen Frauen"(Women helping Women.The World! We, the Members of the IWC Hamburg take pride and joy in the city we all call „home". Hamburg has a rich historical background and it offers a variety of diverse cultural and social events. For these reasons, we try to focus our Club's activities to give our Members the opportunities to LEARN not only about each other but also about our new home by experiencing first hand the local things taking place in and around Hamburg. 2018 has just started. But as you can see in the few examples shown here, we have been actively busy gaining new knowledge by continuously discovering new and exciting things, at the same time enjoying ourselves!

In Friendship
Vena Velarde Iversen
Liaison

IWCP CELEBRATES FRIEDA LEFEVER'S 103RD BIRTHDAY

Members of the Philadelphia International Women's Club gathered on Friday, March 23rd to celebrate the 103rd birthday of member Frieda Lefeber. Frieda was born Frieda Graumann on March 21, 1915 in Wissek, Germany on the same day her father was wounded in the First World War. She grew up and was a nurse in the Jewish hospital in Berlin on Kristallnacht, November 9, 1938, when she and her family were forced to flee Germany.

Frieda ended up on the East Coast of the US, married a fellow German and eventually started her own business in the New York City area. On November 24,1948, she married Hans Lefaber in New York City. On July 19, 1954 they had a child, a daughter they named Hope. Frieda's husband died in December of 1975 and she remained in the New York area until she retired and moved to the Philadelphia area to be closer to Hope.

At the request of her son in law, Howard, she moved in with her daughter and her two grandchildren, Rachel and Dana. She subsequently attended the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art where studied painting and earned a fine arts degree at the age of eighty three. In 2003 Frieda wrote and published her autobiography, FRIEDA's JOURNEY.

Frieda still drives, shops daily, prepares meals for Howard and Hope. She attends Pilate classes and paints. She is an inspiration to everyone in the IWCP, as well as all others who know her.









Jacqueline Yates
Liaison

Special Events Summer & Fall 2017

Degustation

September 16, 2017
At the home of Laura & Bruce Dumouchel



Clockwise from top left: **Edna Ilano, Irmgard Arruda , Ellen Croibier, Laura** and **Bruce Dumouchel, Agnes Steven-Hubbard, Maeve Nebesar Mancebo, Patti Grimshaw** playing croquet, foreground: **Dale Grimshaw, Karin Beebe, Nicole Desrosiers, Ellen C., Anna Zaffanella, Regine Aiyer,** left bottom: **Lucy Ferriss, Henri Dam, Kathryn Yudkin**, in background: **Agnes S-H., Jennifer Howlett, Ginny Fletcher, Robert Henriquez**



Vera Lecocq, Liaison

Welcome to Colorado International Club celebrates International Women's Day! Over 100 members enjoyed "Women Arists in 19th Century Paris"
Presened by Angelica Daneo, Curator Painting and Sculpture, Denver Art Museum





Curator Angelica Daneo and WTC President- alect Jeanette Malek Ecuador



WTC President Le Ann Nelson (USA) Celebtes with Club members.



Enjoying the day, members Ann Cucchi (Ethiopia) Christal Webb (Germany) and new member from Italy Maria Teresa Faounti.

Julia Bank
Liaison & WCI Management Consultant

Art & Culture interest group of WTIC, Journey into the infinities of Zao Wu-Ki & Lai's







Wonderland on january16, 2018 January 23, 2018 activity had an opportunity to socialize together and meet women from the AIT community who are interested in WTIC. Spouse of AIT Director Kathy Chen has graciously







offered a potluck lunch to celebrate New Year together.

The WTIC Annual Registration Luncheon has held on February 26th, 2018 at the Regent Taipei. The occasion was a perfect opportunity to gather members to renew their membership and celebrate the Chinese New Year of the







Dog. More than 110 members andguests attended.

The Investigation Bureau, Ministry of Justice (MJIB) is a law enforcement agency in the Republic of China. The MJIB has offered WTIC Exploration Group to learn how major crime is investigated and prevented by the officers at the Bureau. (March 21, 2018)







Olivia Shen Deputy *Executive Secretary*







On Saturday, December 9, 2017 we held a Fundraising Tea for Ozev, an institution for the education and rehabilitation of children with special needs. This institution was founded in 1999 and is providing services to over 75 children with different needs. We had stalls set up where crafts, paintings, homemade cakes and delicacies, silver ornaments and bric a brac were sold. Following the tea service children performed folk dances. All proceeds went to Ozev hoping that the children will benefit from our contributions. Pictures were taken from the event.









The following month we hosted two representatives, Nevhiz Ozer President and Ovgu Ince Coordinator of the Kemal Saracoglu Children with Leukemia and Cancer Foundation founded in 2001, they work with the community to raise awareness about cancer and give moral and financial support to children and families who struggle with this disease. They informed us about the various activities that they carry out. We presented them a check of 5000 TL.







In March, taking the International Women's Day into consideration, a larger scale meeting was organized. The President of the Association of Business Women Senay Ekingen gave a presentation about the traditional embroideries called Lefkara, in reference to the town where it originated from. She also displayed old examples of Lefkara and Lapta embroidery which is almost becoming very rare.

Zeynep Akgunay, Liaison

Women's International Border Club



Dear Friends,

Women's International Border Club is truly an incredible group of international women dedicated to a friendly cultural exchange of music, food and other activities. We educate each other by meeting together to learn and understand our individual ways of life.

The organization of the WIBC is composed of volunteers who wholeheartedly dedicate their time and their knowledge to improving our monthly gatherings. The meetings serve to implement new ideas or enhance our operational system.

Educational Programs

Women's Heart Health. The History of International Women's Day, La Jolla Garden Club Scholarship Fundraiser, San Diego History Garden











We look forward to continue planning the programs for the upcoming quarter.
Hope to see many of you in Washington DC this com

Vilma G. Boettcher, Liaison

68th WIC Anniversary,

Our 68th WIC Anniversary, an especially poignant one for our EC as the last event under our management, was a well-rounded revelry at the Ritz Carlton Hotel. A surprise guest was our esteemed national patron, Ibu Mufidah Jusuf Kalla, and once again her presence added a marked nuance to our event. Ibu Yasmin Fachir, our ever gracious honorary



member also attended, as did our guests from YKW, KOPWANI, KOWANI and PERWOSI. The cake cutting ceremony with special honour by Ibu Mufidah Yusuf Kalla, Ibu Yasmin Fachir, past presidents and vice presidents lent a touch of sanctity, and a proud moment was the handing over of special bonuses to our staff Pak Slamet, Pak Rivai, and Ms Leila for reaching the relevant years of dedicated and loyal work.







We welcomed our new Honorary members, Madam Sylvia Fisher from South Africa, Madam Fawzeya Ayoob Ahmed Hameed from The Kingdom of Bahrain, Her Excellency Madam Mona El Tannir from The Republic of Lebanon, Madam Kim Hyun Mee from The Republic of Korea, and Madam Dhani Padmo Sarwono from Indonesia to ASEAN. We wish them all







happy days at the WIC

Our dinner soiree was a new beginning to what will hopefully become an annual fixture at WIC. It was enormously successful and relished by both members and their husbands and family who attended, in the elegant atmosphere and convivial setting of the Ristorante Valentino

Pooja Assomull, President



Mrs. Aida Armaly who is a member of the WCI Executive Committee [Regional Membership Chairs for the Middle East] for years and she introduced the Women's league of Beirut to be Sister Club of WCI and lives in DC. She is visiting Beirut accompanied by her daughter Dr. Raya to attend the Mansour Armely lecture. The attendees of the Lebanese Ophthalmologic Society Conference had the pleasure to listen to The Named-Lecture established by Aida and her family to honor the pioneering research in the field of Glaucoma of her late husband, Dr. Mansour F. Armely. Aida was really glad to attend the monthly General Meeting of the Women's League and the Speaker Mrs. Hayat Arslan who started her lecture about the role of women in the 2018 elections in Lebanon to be held in forthcoming May. While 111 women running for parliament is an achievement in itself, they would make amazing representatives for us in the parliament. As for those who still think women belong to the kitchen and should stay at home, they would be stunned at their performance in the forthcoming parliament. Last but not least, New Zealand's Prime Minister, who's a woman, has announced her pregnancy today leading her country and having a baby at the same time … is it not that amazing!







Aida with Salwa Damiani WL President

A lunch was hosted in honor of Aida Armaly during her visit April 2018 to Beirut at the Lebanese restaurant Bourj al Hamam by Leila Ghantous. Vice President of Alumni Lebanese American University also previous President of Women's League of Beirut staring left, Hala Jabre president of LAU Alumni, Raya Armaly, Rihab Ouri, Aida Armaly, Suad Hoss previous President of WL.

Rihab Ouri /SCN Editor

Welcome to London Internationa Club

Welcome to London Int. Women's Club has organised over the last few months. This also includes some of our forthcoming events.

Since we celebrated our Christmas lunch at the Institute of Directors in London, we have also celebrated Valentines Day. The International Women's Day, being a member, has been very kindly hosted in her family run Palestinian Restaurant where all the ladies were presented with a red rose. Knowing Arabic cooking, the food was excellent as was the ambience and company. What more can we do for our members. Having eaten so much our next event was a cultural one with a behind the scene tour of the Royal National Theatre which was fascinating to see all the activities. This was followed by a light lunch in their coffee shop .

This month our weather has been so very dismal we are looking forward to our next event on the 24th which is our annual Fish and Chips Spring Lunch which would take place during our forthcoming events hopefully when the weather gets warmed. We have planned a BBQ in the grounds of one of our members club. Another event is a visit to the Government Art Collection held at a very prestigious London Club and is always very popular with the ladies.

In the meantime, WTL wishes our sister members all good wishes and I am looking forward to seeing you in Washington.



Dee Phillips Medawar
Liaison

A peek at some of the events in the Anglo-German International Women's Association (AGIWA) going on in for the Spring season:

The Round Table: An Intercultural Exchange of Ideas, Experiences and Opinions

The Anglo-German International Women's Association e.V. (AGIWA) has an interesting event every month called the **Round Table Discussion** hosted by our Chairwoman, Susan Lau**.** Over cups of tea and coffee, interesting and deep discussions are tackled. This month's discussion was music, which Shakespeare called "the food of love". We will look at what music means to us and its role in other cultures and discuss what music can achieve.

Last month's Round Table discussion Handled the subject of Life Balance and asked questions like "What is Life Balance and why is it important?", "How can you keep your life in balance?" and "What can we learn from other cultures?





GUIDED WALKING TOUR - 'HAMBURG'S HISTORIC STAIRCASES'

We will follow our guide Karin Karsten-Licht on her two-hour English-language walking tour around the historic office buildings in the Hamburg city centre, featuring the most amazing and elaborate staircases, which, unless you go inside these buildings, you never think they would exist.

Around 1900, lots of office buildings, the so-called Kontorhäuser, were constructed. Their entrance calls were supposed to put visitors/clients into the right, positive, mood for doing business, which may explain why they were designed in such an extraordinarily elaborate way. Facades with Art-Nouveau elements and staircases with interesting wall tiles still amaze us to this day. The painted ceiling of the Mellin-Passage was only discovered following a fire in the former Vegetarian restaurant. The ABC-Bogen on the other hand is an example for a Kontorhaus built in modern times. We will end our tour at a café, where those of you who have time, can stop for a coffee and cake or a glass of wine.

Kim Riedel, Liaison



IWC Baku was formed in 1994 to foster friendship and mutual understanding between women of different nationalities and to do humanitarian work in Azerbaijan.
We meet in many different groups, so our members can take part in whichever groups they like. Membership is **open to all** interested women.





Our regular activities Monthly Coffee mingles
Each month we meet and learn about new issues in Azerbaijan from our guest speakers. Coffee mingles Provide a wonderful opportunity to meet old and new friends and also to welcome our new members.





The Christmas and Novruz Bazaars
These two bazaars are our biggest fundraisers. From the Bazaars' proceeds we are able to fund each year more than 10 different charities reaching out to more than 1,000 of its users. Our Charity group is very **active and committed.**







The charities we support:
Shuvelan Boarding School, Romani Orphanage, Down Syndrome Center, Sisters of Charity, Ganjlik Orphanage, ShaganiOrphanage, Mardakyan Boarding School, Saray Orphanage, Bouzona Old People Home, Mashagi Orphanage, Special Board School for Bad Hearing, Mobile Dental Centre, Caspian Compassion Project (surgeries)



New flare to our *Book Club*
We have recently taken the concept of book club to a new level by running it as a Literary Show and Tell. We meet once a month and eachperson present reads out a poem or short extract, which is then befollowed by a brief discussion from a current book we are reading. It is a way to get exposure to different books/poems and tastes of different members.



Cultural *Tours and Lessons*
Periodically we organize guided historical and museum tours, as well as lessons on history of Azerbaijan during specific times. These tours are very popular and attract lot of attention.

Alison Best, president
BAKU,

"BIWC is a very vibrant and active club where we keep our members involved with monthly activities. We have monthly luncheons as well as ongoing events throughout the year. All University.



We started 2018 with a Membership meeting in January where the members were informed about our fundraising efforts going to scholarships for international female students to continue their education at Nova Southeastern cultural customs of members from Guyana, Pakistan and Zimbabwe.

Valentines-Day-Brunch:

In February we celebrated Valentine's Day with a brunch. This is an annual event which is enjoyed by members, spouses and guests.

International-Women's-Day:

In March, the celebration continued. BIWC celebrated Women's month by honoring 4 fabulous members who are community leaders and have worked tirelessly to promote and grow the Club.

These are the honorees:

Janet Brady, Past President of BIWC, and served as President for three terms, which is a total of 6 years. Membership grew and donations increased under her leadership.

Nina Britton, our Social Secretary is dedicated to bringing creative events to the membership.



Left to right: Janet Brady, Maggie Rogers, Irene Schy Berger Nina Britton



Board Members and Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Willie Riddle (center) at International Women's Day Celebration.

Members stay engaged through activities and educational events.

Irene Shyberger and Maggie Rogers, co-chaired the Night of all Nations, our biggest annual fundraiser. These ladies raised the largest amount of funds at a fundraiser to date to fulfill the mission of Broward International- Women's Club."

Dr. Winnifred Mc Pherson, President

















Welcome to Washington



We got into the holiday spirit as we listened to a rehearsal performance of the National Symphony Orchestra Pops concert at the beautiful Kennedy Center. And, that was just the beginning of a festive month full of food and friendship



At the American Suffrage Museum, a docent led us through the history of obtaining the women's right to vote in the U.S. It was a fitting event in honor of International Women's Day. Also, in celebration of women we visited the National Portrait Gallery where we viewed a collection of women in paintings and discovered the varied ways women have been portrayed by artists.







The Embassy of Nepal provided a wonderful presentation of their country and culture featuring Nepalese food and folk dance. At a Japanese Tea Ceremony, we learned the "Way of Tea", its origin, meaning and serving. And, two of our Turkish members presented a program on the history of the Ottoman caftan, showed us how to make decorative caftans, and treated us to a Turkish feast.



As our thoughts turned to Spring, we explored the history of one of the oldest traditions in the President's White House – the Easter Egg Roll. Our speaker has been involved in the White House Easter Egg Roll over 35 years, working with six First Ladies and organizing activities for 35,000 guests.

Valerie Dunn, President

Social gatherings of IWCPOA members

.



Works of Art Exhibition

Maria Helena Pilla's husband IWCPOA members for his exhibition (Maria Vice President)
Edgar do Valle is a very recognized architect in the city and his hobby is watercolors and sculptures.

Memorable night!





March Solidarity Action

IWCPOA members donated school supplies to The Franciscan Center Pedro Chaves Barcellos. This entity was built by the Franciscan Nuns from Holland.
The Franciscan Center works with one hundred children from underprivileged communities from the First Grade to High School.





They learn English, computer, dance, music, crafts, sewing, photography, robotics and video making.
These children receive breakfast, lunch or early dinner. For some students this is the only meal of the day.

Zulmira Sommer Liaison