



International
Women's
Association


JUNE 1992

IWA NEWS LETTER

Vol. VII No. : 1
Madras

JUNE 1992

MONTH AT A GLANCE

- | | | |
|--|---|------------|
| Tuesday, 9th June | EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING | 10-00 a.m. |
| Thursday, 18th June
✓ | ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS
Suzy Kurien demonstrates and discusses the revived art of patchwork quilting. | 10-15 a.m. |
| Thursday, 25th June
✓ | HEALTH AND ECOLOGY
Swami Paramarthananda enlightens us on health and ecology in the Vedas. | 10-15 a.m. |
| Friday, 26th June
 | HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS
Mr. I. Mahadevan, IAS (retd.) examines and discusses the continuing challenges to deciphering the Indus Valley Script. | 10-15 a.m. |
| Tuesday, 30th June
✓ | BOOK DISCUSSION
Alison Lurie's Only Children is this month's focus. | 10-15 a.m. |

FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Dear Members,

Welcome to our sixth IWA year. The exciting growth of the last six years has raised your expectations and now we have been entrusted with the task of maintaining this standard. We are proud and confident that this year's cultural interactions will continue to satisfy and enhance the reputation of IWA. We have a wonderful team of Activity Chairpersons who have prepared a feast of activities, and the appetiser for our first tour program is outlined in this newsletter.

Our policy of fellowship and participation is the continuing theme. To ensure full membership participation, however, we are offering each and every one of you the chance to host a meeting in the form of 'group hostesses.' A book will be passed around at the June meetings for you to give in your names. We estimate that if five members host a meeting, this will reduce the burden on our diminishing number of homes capable of accommodating the increasing numbers at our meetings. For more expensive and larger venues, the number of hostesses can be increased.

July will herald the full-fledged program of monthly activities, added to which will be another Membership Get-together to elicit your further contributions, ideas and mutual frictions. This will be followed by our 'Founder's Day' program later in the month when we celebrate the oneness of our IWA humanity.

**MAUREEN HUDSON-MURARI
MALINI VIJAYARAGHAVAN**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, 9th June, 1992 — 10-00 a.m.

At : Zubeida Asgarali
"Elqamar"
19, Sivaganga Road, Madras-600 034
Tel. : 471614



FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Dear Friends,

At the start of a new IWA year, may we take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to our new members. This note will serve as a guideline to those who have just joined, and a reminder to the old members as to what the International Women's Association expects of you.

- * An active IWA member must attend a minimum of ten meetings in an IWA year (1st June to 30th April). If you will be away from Madras for any period over one month, please let us know. We will make note of your absence. However, do try and make up your attendance when you return. Any member failing to reach the ten meeting requirement will be dropped from the rolls at year end, except in cases of extenuating circumstances **and** notification of the membership treasurer.
- * Membership fees must be paid latest by June 30th.
- * This year by majority vote, our morning meetings will commence with fellowship at 10.15 a.m. The Guest Speaker or programme will begin at 10.45 a.m. The duration of the programme or lecture will be approximately one hour. You are expected to remain through the duration, as walking out during the meeting seems rather impolite and disrespectful to our guest speaker who has taken much effort and valuable time off to be with us. If you are unable to commit to this time period, please do not attend. Our activity Chairpersons have put in a tremendous amount of time and energy to give you very good meetings - so it would be nice if you would come out of interest and not out of compulsion.
- * To encourage fellowship and to make new members feel at home, please wear your name badges at all meetings.
- * At every meeting, please remember to enter your name in BLOCK letters with your signature beside it in the register.
- * The newsletter should reach you by the end of each month, but should you not receive it, please contact the secretaries Mrs. Vijaya Balu or Mrs. Padma Ashok for another copy.

And lastly, ladies, the IWA programme-packed year has been planned for us all. Let's enjoy it together !!

ALAGU MUTHU
Membership Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1992-1993

The following members will form the membership committee for the current year.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| — Mrs. STINA VASU | } | Immediate Past Presidents |
| — Mrs. NIRMAL MIRZA | | |
| — Mrs. NIRMAL SESHADRI | | Founder President |
| — Mrs. ARUNA VIJAYAKUMAR | | |
| — Mrs. VANITHA MUDALIAR | | |
| — Mrs. JANET DE PENNING | | |
| — Mrs. CHRISTINA ENGVALL | | Treasurer |
| — Mrs. ALAGU MUTHU | | Membership Treasurer |

ALAGU MUTHU
Membership Treasurer

IWA ANNOUNCEMENTS

- * A very fond farewell to Lee Lawrence, who returns to the U.S. this month. For those interested in staying in touch, her address will be :

Mrs. Lee Lawrence
311 E Street, N.E.
Washington, D. C. 20002

- * FAREWELL to Susan Heflin, who will be leaving Madras at the end of May. She and her husband, Don, and her daughter, Sara, will be moving to the U.S. Consulate in Hermosillo, Mexico. We wish them the very best in their new home.

Telephone Number Changes :

Jaya Naidu — 6425555

Lalitha Naidu — 6425555

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

"There is something that is much more scarce, something finer by far, something rare than ability. It is the ability to recognize ability".

ELBERT HUBBARD

ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS

Thursday, 18th June, 1992 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Kausalya Jaganmohan
"Sri Vaishnavi"
18, Kasturi Ranga Road
Madras-600 018
Tel. : 454201



THE ART OF PATCHWORK QUILTING

Demonstration by **SUZY KURIEN**

The technique of quilting originated in prehistoric times. In the United States Patchwork quilting began during colonial days in the mid nineteenth century when immigrants began practicing the quilting skills they learned in Europe. Quilters frequently made quilts together at Social gatherings called BEES.

Today quilting styles have been revived by needlework artistes who often gather to exchange ideas and practice their craft. Quilters still use traditional patterns and techniques, but with a fresh approach that produces unusual designs.

The effect of quilting is accentuated mainly by the colour combinations used.

Some of the types of quilting on display will be Ninepatch, Sunshine & Shadow, Wedding Ring, Irish Chain, Basketquilt.

**MARINA AROUTHIUNIAN
KAUSALYA JAGANMOHAN**

HEALTH AND ECOLOGY

Thursday, 25th June, 1992 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Max Mueller Bhavan
13, Khader Nawaz Khan Road
Nungambakkam
Madras-600 006
Tel. : 861314, 862343



HEALTH IN THE VEDAS

All of us are familiar with the aphorism, "Health is Wealth" or "Arogyam Aiswaryam". Certainly good health enables people to enjoy the other good things in life. Numerous health problems created by the stress and strain of modern living can be avoided by following the clear guidelines laid down for us in the Vedas and Upanishads.

Swami Paramarthananda has a wonderful knack for converting complex ideas and statements regarding this subject into simple language which can be applied to daily life by all of us.

We hope many of you will attend, enjoy, and benefit from this rewarding exposition by Swami Paramarthananda.

**PAULINE HAHN
URMILA REDDY**

HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS



Friday, June 26th, 1992 — 10-15 a.m.

At : The C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar Foundation
1-A, Eidams Road
Alwarpet
Madras-600 018

THE CHALLENGE OF THE INDUS VALLEY SCRIPT

The pictographic script of the Indus Valley Civilisation was discovered over 70 years ago but in spite of scholars from all over the world working on it, it has defied decipherment.

Our guest speaker of the day, Mr. I. MAHADEVAN, IAS (retd.) is a former editor of the Dinamani paper and a scholar of Indian epigraphy, especially of the Indus Valley and Brahmi scripts.

He will give us a talk, illustrated with slides and photographs, on some of the interesting aspects of this topic.

SEEMA SAIT
SHAKUNTHALA JAGANNATHAN

BOOK DISCUSSION

Tuesday, 30th June, 1992 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Bilquis Chida
4, Jagannathan Road
Nungembakkam
Madras-600 034



Alison Lurie's 'Only Children', is our selection for the June book discussion. Those of us who attended the meeting in March would have met Alison Lurie. Her 'Only Children' is a delightful story about the make-believe games children play featuring both adults and other children.

MARIE WILLIAMS
JAYANTHI PRABHAKARAN

IWA TOUR TO SEE SNAKE BOAT RACES OF KERALA

Alleppey, called the Venice of the East, is the centre for backwater cruises and is also known for its spectacular snake boat races. Each boat manned by over 100 oarsmen, literally flies through the waters.

IWA is planning a trip to Kerala so that we may witness the famous Nehru Boat Race on August 8th.

The tentative programme is as follows :

August 5th	— Night	— Tour group meets at Central Station Depart by train for Cochin.
August 6th & 7th	—	— At Cochin (Take sightseeing tours of Cochin by boat and by road visiting Mattancherry Dutch Palace, Gundu Island, Jewish Synagogue, St. Francis Church, Museums. See Chinese fishing nets en route). Visit Trichur to see Kerala style Vadakkunathan Temple if time permits.
August 8th & 9th	—	— At Alleppey
August 8th	— Morning	— Visit Ambalapuzha Krishna Temple
	— Afternoon	— Witness Nehru Boat Race
August 9th	— Morning	— Cruise through the backwaters which form the lifeline connecting the villages. This is an out-of-the-world experience.
	— Afternoon	— Board train for Madras
August 10th	— Morning	— Arrive at Madras

Travel will be by 2nd class A/C train both ways. Accommodation will be in A/C double rooms in 2 to 3 Star hotels.

As the Railways require names of passengers before issuing tickets, please give in your names between May 25th & June 10th to Shakunthala or Seema (Please call between 8 and 10 a.m.) and **full payment** by June 20th latest. We have made arrangements for 26 persons, so it will be on a

FIRST COME FIRST SERVED basis.

Husbands are welcome. Guests permitted **only** if space is available. Total cost : Rs. 3,300/- including rail tickets (Rs. 1,200/-), hotel rooms with full board, tours by coach and by boat, and guide services (Personal expenses like laundry, drinks etc. **not** covered. **Also** meals during rail journeys both ways).

SEEMA SAIT
SHAKUNTHALA JAGANNATHAN

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE BOARD

PRESIDENTS	:	Malini Vijayaraghavan	865798
		Maureen Hudson-Murari	6413027
VICE-PRESIDENTS	:	Surekha Kothari	472690/471262
		Angela Aggeler	476727
SECRETARIES	:	Vijaya Balasubramaniam	72589
		Padma Ashok	867801/476591
TREASURERS	:	Alagu Muthu	838683/450800
		Christina Engvall	454419

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

ARTS & HANDICRAFTS	:	Kausalya Jaganmohan	454201
		Marina Arouthiunian	454050
BOOK DISCUSSION	:	Javanthi Prabhakaran	6411659
		Marie Williams	471700
CURRENT EVENTS & CAREERS	:	Zubelda Asgarali	471614
		Poonam Lalchand	471624/472947
COOKING SWAPSHOP	:	Lily Madhok	454661/452525
		Kyoko Ishizaki	453855
HEALTH & ECOLOGY	:	Urmila Reddy	476421
		Pauline Hahn	8253102/8250738
HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS	:	Shakunthala Jagannathan	459199
		Seema Sait	612800
MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS	:	Gayatri Bewoor	864035
		Sabine Salam	830126/832670
PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION	:	Devaki Muthiah	414364/414944
		Rathi Nilakantan	865250