



**International
Women's
Association**

SEPTEMBER 1994

IWA NEWS LETTER

Vol. IX No. : 4
Madras

SEPTEMBER 1994

MONTH AT A GLANCE

Friday, 2nd September	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING	10-15 a.m.
Saturday, 3rd September	CURRENT EVENTS Mr. P. Chidambaram M. P. on 'The Indian Economic Scene'	5-00 p.m.
Monday, 5th September	MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS 'Devarattam' — A tribal dance form	10-15 a.m.
Thursday, 8th September	HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS MADRAS — Its Heritage-Talk by Mr. S. Muthiah	10-00 a.m.
Monday, 12th September	ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS Visit to Mahabalipuram College of Architecture and Sculpture	8-45 a.m.
Tuesday, 13th September	COOKING SWAPSHOP French Cooking — Chef Mathur of Park Sheraton demonstrates	10-15 a.m.
Monday, 19th September	PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION Film, 'Fried Green Tomatoes'	2-00 p.m.
Tuesday, 20th September	HEALTH AND ECOLOGY Water Conservation - Talk by Rtn. K. N. Gopinath	10-15 a.m.
Monday, 26th September	MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS Film, 'The Story of the Symphony' Andre Previn on Haydn and Mozart	2-00 p.m.
Wednesday, 28th September	BOOK DISCUSSION 'The Joy Luck Club' by Amy Tan	10-15 a.m.

FORTHCOMING EVENT

Saturday, 1st October	MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS International Music Day — Lecture demonstration by Anayampatti S. Ganesan on Jalatharangam	10-15 a.m.
-----------------------	--	------------

FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Dear Members,

We are now looking forward to the 'cooler' season in Madras and in our September Newsletter we shall have a glimpse of some of our future programmes in the year to help us arrange our diaries appropriately.

If you are leaving town for more than one month please inform our Secretaries, in writing, well in advance of your departure, as this helps our Chairpersons to estimate and so arrange suitable accommodation for their meetings.

We have been asked by the Executive Committee Members to give a definition of the word 'guest'. Chambers Twentieth Century Dictionary defines 'guest' as 'not a regular member of a company'. We in IWA consider a 'guest' **anyone** who attends one of our meetings and is not a member of IWA.

LILY MADHOK
MARGARET SEKHRAN

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday, 2nd September, 1994 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Sujaya Menon's
52-A, Beach Road
Madras-600 090



Activity Chairpersons please give in your blurbs at this meeting—typed, if possible.

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

FAKHIRA AYER 'The Palms' 2/103, Injambakkam Village Madras-600 041	India	Phone : 4925145
JANIK BAKSHI 53/21, Sri Rangam Avenue Off Pantheon Road Egmore Madras-600 008	Canada	Phone : 8252399
MAHEMA DEVADOSS 1, Kangayarpuram Papanasam Sivan Salai Santhome, Madras-600 004	India	Phone : 846484
HELGA HOMBACH 34, Bishops Garden Off Greenways Road Madras-600 028	Germany	Phone : 4938874
GITA JAIN 24, G. N. Chetty Road T. Nagar, Madras-600 017	India	
RITA LAL 9, 'Ashirwad', 5th Avenue Besant Nagar Madras-600 090	India	Phone : 4910138
SANGEETA THAPA 4/1, 111rd Cross Street Dr. Radhakrishna Nagar Thiruvanmiyur Madras-600 041	Nepal	Phone : 4913078

Farewell to :

Purnima Dhawan, who leaves for Jaipur

Condolences to :

Leila Diraviam on the loss of her mother

CURRENT EVENTS

Saturday, 3rd September, 1994 – 5-00 p.m.

At : The Duplex Room
The Taj Coromandel
17, Nungambakkam High Road
Madras-600 034



Mr. P. CHIDAMBARAM ON THE INDIAN ECONOMIC SCENE

✓ Mr. P. CHIDAMBARAM (Member of Parliament) is an outstanding lawyer and an M.B.A. from Harvard University who has made a mark in Indian Politics, which he joined in 1971. As Minister of Commerce he made a substantial contribution to the Indian economy and ushered in an era of change. As an M.P. he is a regular columnist for a business journal and has addressed Economic and Trade forums in India, the US, Spain, Geneva, Japan etc.

Please bring your husbands along to hear our eminent speaker and kindly be on time.

SUJAYA MENON

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Leela or Sheela, Irene or Maureen? Is this an identity crisis? Play no guessing games. Just remember to wear your name badges to all meetings and get to know each other better.

MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Monday, 5th September, 1994 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Sheela Sarath's
'Sharan'
29, Bishops Garden
Madras-600 028



DEVARATTAM — a tribal dance form

Devarattam is a ritualistic tribal dance form performed by the male members of the community of Kambala Nayakars of Tamil Nadu. There are no lyrics. Movements are abstracted from the actions of hunting which was the traditional vocation of this community. They believe that Devarattam was danced by the celestial beings — hence the name Devarattam!

The percussion instrument used is called the "Devadundubhi", which is played by the Malavar Nayakars. They control the rhythm of dance as well as the movements. As the tempo picks up, this vibrant, vigorous dance is fascinating to watch.

✓ V. R. DEVIKA, Director, Cultural Outreach, Madras Craft Foundation and Cultural co-ordinator of INTACH will present and compere this programme.

All are welcome.

NIRMAL SESHADRI
ISSY SANDERSON

We thank our member Vani Ganapathy for sponsoring this programme. It is nice to note that even inactive members come forward to help — when the occasion arises.

HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS

Thursday, 8th September, 1994 — 10-00 a.m.

At : Sunita Shahaney's
'Ashley House'
6, Second Avenue
Boat Club Road
Madras-600 028



MADRAS — ITS HERITAGE

✓ Mr. S. Muthiah, an authority on the history of buildings and monuments in Madras, will give us a whole new look at buildings in Madras, which we have taken so much for granted. The preamble will include a brief history of Madras itself. His slides of the buildings in Madras and his knowledge of each of them are indeed unique.

His talk and presentation are expected to last for 90 minutes. Members are requested to note the change in time of the meeting and to make time to be present for the entire duration of this very informative meeting.

**SUSHILA NATRAJ
SABINE SALAM**

In a Lifetime

A man drinks 66,000 litres of water ; his eyelids flutter 4 crore times ; his heart pumps 4½ lakh tonnes of blood ; he eats 35,000 kgs. of food.

ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS

Monday, 12th September, 1994 — 8-45 a.m.



VISIT TO MAHABALIPURAM COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND SCULPTURE

Indian iconography and temple architecture are based on canons developed through centuries of experimentation. The stance of a deity, even measurements and ornamentation, all follow rules laid down in the ancient Shastras. The method of making icons has not changed over millennia — granite is still carved with hammer and chisel ; wood still shaped with hand tools.

To understand this ancient art, we will be visiting the Mahabalipuram College of Architecture and Sculpture, the only one of its kind in India. Explanations will be given by a Sthapati, a traditional sculptor, followed by visits to workers sculpting on wood, stone and plaster (many for export to temples in the U.S.A. and U.K.).

SUNITA SHAHANEY will host our transportation. Our thanks to her.

The visit will be followed by lunch at ITDC's Temple Bay Resort at the Beachcomber Seashore Restaurant. There will be a charge of Rs. 70/- per head (for lunch and tips).

GUESTS ARE WELCOME

Programme: Departure from C.P.R.A. Foundation, 1, Eldams Road — 8-45 a.m. sharp — Return — 3-00 p.m.

Interested members may give in their names and full payment by **September 7th.**

Limit : 33 persons

**SHAKUNTHALA JAGANNATHAN
SANDRA ROWLAND**

FOUNDERS' DAY

Our Founders' Day celebration on July 25th, 1994 was a resounding success, according to the unanimous acclaim and approbation of those who attended the function. The IWA spirit of camaraderie was very much in evidence. Split-second punctuality and no glitches made it a morning to remember. All this was possible due to excellent teamwork by the committee members and the zealous contribution of all others who participated in the event.

Our very SPECIAL THANKS to :

Mr. Suresh Madhok, Vice-President, Welcomgroup,

Mr. S. Dhawan, Area Manager and G.M., Chola Sheraton and

Mr. Narendra Malhotra, Banquet Manager, Chola Sheraton

who ensured that the catering, decor, stage setting, lighting and seating arrangements were perfect and left nothing to be desired. They spared no effort to make us feel at home and were ready to provide whatever we required, even during rehearsals.

A very BIG THANK you to those who put together 'The Woman of Today':

Nanditha Krishna, for allowing us to use C. P. Art Centre for rehearsals ;

Mr. Ramesh Lulla, for providing the slide projector and video screen ;

Mr. Sanjay Chabria, for taping the Music for the show ;

Lily Madhok, for her meticulous attention to organisational details—it seems to be her forte !

Purnima Dhawan, for overall supervision ;

Joanne Grady Huskey, who gave unstintingly of her time, talent and energy to give shape and form to the theme, 'Woman of Today'. It was her concept, choreography, script and direction that won 'wows' from the audience ;

Nirmal Seshadri, whose powerful voice and enunciation enhanced the visual cameos ;

Rupa Sood, Sherein Ryan and Malini Sood who gave their valuable time to all rehearsals ;

Sulochana Alexander and Shyla Rau who helped backstage ;

Sushi Nataraj for the props.

THE WOMAN OF TODAY

Co-ordinators	:	Rupa Sood, Joanne Grady Huskey
Script Writer & Director	:	Joanne Grady Huskey
Stage Manager	:	Sushi Natraj
Slide Show	:	Malini Sood
Sound	:	Sherein Ryan & Malini Sood
Narration	:	Nirmal Seshadri
Make up & Hair	:	Shringaram, Park Sheraton Beauty Salon
Dresser	:	Purnima Dhawan, Rupa Sood

MODELS IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Nandini Srikanth	Aruna Vijaykumar	Martha Keaveny
Joanne Grady Huskey	Yoko Nishibashi	Meenakshi Meyyappan
Sonia Woodware Carter	Anneliese Hazari	Ajagu Muthu
Nirmal Mirza	Sabina Erlich Salam	Valli Muthiah
Nanditha Krishna	Barbara Cortez-Greig	Baby Caroline
Mr. Srinivasan	Sushila Natraj	Purnima Dhawan
Lakshmi Padmanabhan	Gayatri Bewoor	Chandra Lulla
Rini Kumar	Shobana Thomas	

Lastly, thank you members, for your enthusiastic response to come in black and white. What an impressive array of sarees, dresses and salwar outfits our eyes feasted upon! The bottom line is that it was your spontaneous appreciation and co-operation that made it so worthwhile for all of us.

COOKING SWAPSHOP

Tuesday, 13th September, 1994 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Park Sheraton Hotel
132, T. T. K. Road
Madras-600 018



French cooking is appreciated the world over for its superb taste and style. The Executive Chef of Park Sheraton Hotel and Towers, Chef Mathur will demonstrate such French delicacies as French onion soup, Chicken Blanquette accompanied by vegetables and potatoes, Saffron Rice and Pomegranate Sorbet.

All are welcome.

**USHA BAIL
IRENE PRULLER DASS**

We thank the following hostesses for this programme.

Usha Bail
Gita Banker
Irene Dass
Pramila Jacob

Poonam Lalchand
Marina Mathias
Jayashree Prabhakar

Javanthi Prabhakaran
Hemalatha Santhavadanan
Vimal Shivdasani

Congratulations to :

Hemalatha Santhavadanan, whose son Dr. Sundaravadanan wed Dr. S. Nirupa
and

Shobha Mahtani, whose son Uday wed Sonu

PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION

Monday, 19th September, 1994 — 2-00 p.m.

At : U.S.I.S Auditorium
220, Anna Salai
Madras-600 006



✓ Film : **FRIED GREEN TOMATOES**

Come join us for the viewing of an Academy Award winning American film in which a chance encounter in a nursing home between a dowdy housewife and a spry octogenarian (played by Academy Award winner Jessica Tandy) leads to an unexpected friendship. The older woman tells the younger an absorbing story of two women who lived half a century ago. The story of these two women, who lived with courage and conviction and challenged the stereotypes of women of the time, inspires the housewife to take a look at her own life. As she learns more, she decides to make drastic changes in her dull life, often with hilarious results. Little does she know that the nameless woman in the nursing home is really the courageous woman of old.

Come and view the film and join us for a follow up discussion on aging and identity, courage and power, and how a woman achieves control over her own life.

**RANJINI MANIAN
JOANNE GRADY HUSKEY**

HEALTH AND ECOLOGY

Tuesday, 20th September, 1994 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Padma Ashok's
4, 4th Street, Rutland Gate
Madras-600 006



WATER CONSERVATION

Water, water everywhere — but not a drop to drink. . . It's a sad fact of life, but after every long, hot summer, Madrasis go through this ritual of queuing up with empty buckets in front of those marauding water tankers. The infuriating paradox is that this scene is often replayed even after the monsoon lashes the city and the streets are awash with knee-deep water ! Poverty in the midst of plenty ! Is there any way out of this "Water cycle" ?

Rtn. K. R. Gopinath, Past-President of the Rotary Club of Anna Nagar, will talk to us of some unique & innovative projects that have been implemented to meet the challenges of acute water scarcity.

**RUPA KADHIRESAN
VIJAYA RANGARAJAN**

MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Monday, 26th September, 1994 — 2-00 p.m.

At : Sunita Shahaney's
'Ashley House'
6, Second Avenue, Boat Club Road
Madras-600 028



THE STORY OF THE SYMPHONY : ANDRE PREVIN ON HAYDN AND MOZART

The symphonies of Haydn and Mozart represent a landmark in the history of Western music. Living at a time when the composer was fast making the transition from being a servant in a grand household to being an individual with a personal and committed voice, Haydn and Mozart laid firm foundations for a rich form of musical expression in that strange phenomenon called the 'Symphony'. They wrote over one hundred and fifty symphonies between them and their influence has had a lasting effect on later symphonic forms and styles and on the development of the symphony orchestra.

In this film — ANDRE PREVIN conducts the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in some of the most popular works from the concert repertoire of Haydn and Mozart. Andre Previn will introduce the programme and discuss the piece to be performed and the lives of Haydn and Mozart, who created these masterpieces, by giving illustrations of aspects of their music with a variety of Orchestral excerpts.

Limit : 40 only

R.S.V.P. call Nirmal (8-00 a.m. to 9-00 a.m.)

**NIRMAL SESHADRI
ISSY SANDERSON**

(Viewing time — 90 minutes. Film will commence at 2-15 p.m. Guests will be accommodated only if there is space)

BOOK DISCUSSION

Wednesday, 28th September, 1994—10-15 a.m.

At : Kanika Parekh's
26, Anderson Road
Madras-600 006



THE JOY LUCK CLUB — by AMY TAN

Poetic, imaginative and moving, this remarkable book will speak to many women — mothers and grown daughters. Amy Tan's first novel is now a major motion picture.

JANAKI SRINIVASAN, who has been in the area of Human Resource Development for over 15 years, specialising in behavioural science, will review the book for us. She is also involved with the theatre.

**SULOCHANA ALEXANDER
ROSA MARIA SRIDHARAN**

Change in Telephone Numbers :

Sonia Carter	—	434 59 95
Sarah Chanda	—	434 42 78
Barbara Cortez-Greig	—	434 48 84
Joanne Grady Huskey	—	434 78 88
Sandra Rowland	—	434 18 88
Seema Salt	—	826 10 18
Issy Sanderson	—	434 33 48

MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Saturday, 1st October, 1994 — 10-15 a.m.

At : The Park Sheraton Hotel
132, T. T. K. Road
Madras-600 018



INTERNATIONAL MUSIC DAY : JALATHARANGAM

Throughout the World, the first of October is always celebrated as the International Music Day. Commemorating this event, we present a special programme of an unusual instrument — the JALATHARANGAM — rarely heard these days. Jalatharangam literally means 'Waterwaves'. This consists of a set of 18 porcelain cups of varying sizes. The cups are arranged in a semi-circle before the artist, in decreasing order of size starting with the largest cup to the performer's left and ending with the smallest cup to his right. Water is poured into the cups and the pitch is changed by adjusting the volume of water in the cups. The bigger cups produce a deep bass sound and the smaller cups produce high pitched tones. The cups are arranged in an increasing order of pitch from the left to right. The cups are struck with two thin bamboo sticks. Any music of medium and fast tempo can be played effectively on this melodic instrument.

VIDWAN ANAYAMPATTI S. GANESAN will present a lecture demonstration on the Jalatharangam. Musicologist B. M. SUNDARAM will explain the basic details of this old instrument — which is referred to in ancient literature.

All are welcome. (Please remember the programme is on a Saturday).

**NIRMAL SESHADRI
ISSY SANDERSON**

Our Special thanks to the two sponsors, ARUNA PRASAD & SHANTHA PRASAD.

HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS

TRIP TO COORG AND KABINI ✓

IWA members will have an opportunity to avail of a package trip planned to Coorg and Kabini in the latter half of December, 1994. The itinerary of 4 days and 3 nights is as under :

DAY 1 : Leave for Mysore by Shatabdi Express, a newly introduced luxury train. Reach Mysore by 1330 hrs. A coach will take you to Coorg which is 120 kms. from Mysore. Coorg (1170 mts.) is one of the best hill stations in South India. There you check into Hotel Cauvery. In the evening, you will drive to the Abbey falls which is a pretty, though small waterfall. Try to be at Raja's seat by late evening. Overnight stay in Hotel Cauvery.

DAY 2 : Drive to Bhagamandala. The 30 km. road from Madikeri to Bhagamandala is flanked by a variety of trees and bamboo bushes. The shrine is built in the multi-roofed Kerala style and resembles the temples of distant Nepal. Drive further to Thala Cauvery which is the birth place of the river Cauvery, on the slopes of the Brahmagiri hills, about 40 kms. from Madikeri. The region around is associated with the Pandavas, the heroes of the epic, the Mahabharata. Stay overnight at Hotel Cauvery.

DAY 3 : Drive to Karapur and check into the colonial — styled lodges overlooking the Kabini river. Kabini is situated on the Eastern fringes of the Nagarhole wild life sanctuary on the banks of the river Kabini, a tributary of the holy Cauvery. The lodge is a dream come true for nature lovers. Here nature is left to grow at her own pace. The best times to spot wildlife are late evenings and early mornings. Spend the night at Kabini River Lodge.

DAY 4 : Drive to Mysore (80 kms.) to catch the Shatabdi Express at 1400 hrs. Arrival at Madras at 2130 hrs.

QUOTE : The package cost is Rs. 4350 per head.

The quote includes accommodation on a twin sharing basis, transportation by non-A.C. 12 seater coach, and rail tickets. Accommodation at Kabini River Lodge is inclusive of meals.

NOTE : While every effort will be made to make the travel and stay comfortable, the very nature of the locations involved might prove a little strenuous for those who have difficulty with climbing, walking on uneven terrain, etc. Members should keep this in mind while responding to this trip.

PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN THIS TOUR, BY 15th SEPTEMBER, 1994 AT THE VERY LATEST. OPTIMUM GROUP — 12.

Call Sushila Natraj — 4911015

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE BOARD

PRESIDENTS	:	Lily Madhok	4993125(R) 4994101(O)
		Margaret Sekhran	6213692(R)
VICE-PRESIDENTS	:	Lakshmi Padmanabhan	8264334(R)
		Barbara Cortez-Greig	4344884(R) 8273040/208(O)
SECRETARIES	:	Shyla K. Rau	8276676(R) 8276893(O)
		Seema Sait	8261018(R) 8264112(O)
TREASURERS	:	Zubeida Asgarali	8271614
		Angelika Mandaiker	611265

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

ARTS & HANDICRAFTS	:	Shakunthala Jagannathan	459199(R)
		Sandra Rowland	4341888(R)
BOOK DISCUSSION	:	Sulochana Alexander	8262410(R)
		Rosa Maria Sridharan	417289(R)
CURRENT EVENTS & CAREERS :		Sujaya Menon	4910044(R)
COOKING SWAPSHOP :		Usha Bail	6412621(R)
		Irene Pruller Dass	4990865(R) 417233(O)
HEALTH & ECOLOGY :		Rupa Kadhiresan	4992847(R)
		Vijaya Rangarajan	8284334(R) 4992653(O)
HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS :		Sushila Natraj	4911015(R)
		Sabine Salam	832670(R)
MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS :		Nirmal Seshadri	413820(R)
		Issy Sanderson	4343348(R)
PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION :		Ranjini Manian	453085/452476(R)
		Joanne Grady Huskey	4347888(R)