



International  
Women's  
Association



DECEMBER 1996

A DECADE OF FRIENDSHIP



PEACE ON EARTH

GOODWILL TO ALL

MERRY XMAS

# IWA NEWSLETTER

Vol XI No 7

Madras

DECEMBER 1996

## MONTH AT A GLANCE

|           |      |          |   |          |
|-----------|------|----------|---|----------|
| Monday    | 2nd  | December | <b>BOARD MEETING</b>  | 10-00 am |
| Monday    | 2nd  | December | <b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING</b>                              | 11-00 am |
| Thursday  | 5th  | December | <b>MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS</b><br>CHATURANGA – A Dance Ballet | 6-30 pm  |
| Friday    | 6th  | December | <b>CURRENT EVENTS</b><br>"SCAMS" – What are they?               | 10-15 am |
| Sunday    | 8th  | December | <b>PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION</b><br>Annual IWA Christmas Party    | 3-30 pm  |
| Tuesday   | 10th | December | <b>BOOK DISCUSSION</b><br>Christmas                             | 10-15 am |
| Wednesday | 11th | December | <b>HEALTH AND ECOLOGY</b><br>EYES - Nature's Greatest Gift      | 10-15 am |
| Tuesday   | 17th | December | <b>HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS</b><br>Christmas Picnic           | 9-00 am  |
| Thursday  | 19th | December | <b>COOKING SWAPSHOP</b><br>Prize – Winning Recipes              | 10-15 am |

## FROM THE PRESIDENTS

CONGRATULATIONS to all the IWA CHEFS - winners of our very first Cooking Competition, which turned out to be a tremendous success, thanks to the enormous efforts put in by our Cooking Swapshop Chairpersons - Usha Chandrakumar and Latha Murugan along with Nilisha Mehta and Sujaya Menon. It was wonderful to see the expertise and culinary talents of our members and more important - the enthusiastic participation.

Our Diwali Mela certainly heralded in the spirit and joy of the festive season. Thank you to Sushila Natraj and her organising committee - Rini Kumar, Irene Das, Stina Vasu, Kamala Prasad, Jayashree Prabhakar and Mariko Ibara - for the splendid morning of fun and fellowship they gave us.

The 'WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD' needs your immediate attention this month - there must be so many deserving candidates in Tamilnadu whom we do not know about. Please do help us by sending in your suggestions as soon as possible.

Christmas is around the corner. An exciting programme is being organised on Sunday 8th December, details of which can be found in the following pages. Do keep the date free, bring your families and celebrate the joy of X'mas with IWA. Christmas all over the world is a time of sharing and caring, remembering family and friends and thinking of those less fortunate than us. In this spirit let us fill IWA's Christmas tree with gifts for the orphan children of Madras, adding a little love and cheer to their lives.

As we bid farewell to 1996, it is with gratitude for a successful year gone by and our hearts are filled with hope as we welcome the New Year.

"MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL".

ALAGU MUTHU  
POONAM LALCHAND

## FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

Some problems of hostessing have recently arisen. For our larger functions it is usually necessary to have a hotel venue with accordingly expensive refreshments. On these occasions Activity Chairpersons find it necessary to approach various 'hostesses' to contribute in the region of Rs.100 to Rs.200 each towards the function.

In the past such hostesses have not been approached on a very regular basis. From this month on, it is proposed that Activity Chairpersons who require help with hostessing should approach members in alphabetic order, for such help. Therefore, please do not be surprised if you are approached on this subject. Of course, care will be taken to avoid asking members who have already hosted meetings this year.

We do hope we can count on your cooperation in this matter, although we do understand if you are unable to contribute.

**SHAKUNTHALA JAGANNATHAN  
MEGAN UTLEY**

### **ATTENTION IWA MEMBERS – AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE !**

Two long-distant calls were made to New York (Phone : (212) 684 2141) at 11-30 am on 24th September 1996 during the Current Events Meeting.

It would be appreciated if the person who made these calls would reimburse the hostess of the meeting.

In future it is requested that, as a matter of courtesy, the hostess' permission be taken before making any personal calls from the hostess' residence.

## BOARD MEETING

Monday 2nd December - 10-00 am

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Monday 2nd December - 11-00 am

Activity Chairpersons -  
Please bring your blurbs.

Both Meetings at :

Shyla Rau's  
21 Pycrofts Garden  
Madras - 600 006

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## MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS.

Thursday 5th December - 6-30 pm

At : The Music Academy Hall  
TTK Road  
Madras - 600 018



## CHATURANGA - A DANCE BALLET

IWA member, Lakshmi Vishwanathan, celebrates 50 years of Independence with a new production which pays rich tribute to the freedom movement and the freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives for the cause. Chaturanga highlights four aspects of freedom - Satyagraha or Peaceful Resistance, Stri Svaamyam or the Empowerment of Woman, Swaya Mariyadha or Self-respect and Swadeshi or Nationalism. "Chaturanga" also implies the intellectual war for achieving freedom. Lakshmi brings together her company of talented dancers and weaves a tale of emotion and idealism. The textual background for her choreography is the simple poetry of Subramanya Bharathi.

IWA and its members are invited for the gala premiere of Chaturanga on 5th December at 6-30 pm at the Music Academy Hall, to celebrate the spirit of freedom.

ALL ARE WELCOME

GAYATRI BEWOOR  
LALINI GAUTAMADASA

## IWA'S COOKERY CONTEST – A REPORT

IWA's first Cookery Contest held at the Madras Club on October 31st was a grand success. There was tremendous response from members with as many as 45 participants and 115 entries. The Judges had a tough time in adjudging the winners. The very fact that they took a very long time is a testimony to the same.

We would like to thank the following Judges for sparing their valuable time to be present on the occasion :

1. Radha Gopalakrishna
2. Kamala Sathyanathan
3. Chef Natraj - Taj Coromandel
4. Chef Rajkumar - Taj Coromandel
5. Chef Sultan - Park Sheraton

The winners of the contest were :

|                        | <u>1st Prize</u>        | <u>2nd Prize</u>   |
|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Hors d'oeuvres         | Suzanne Vandersluis     | Daksha Sheth       |
| Salads                 | Dhun Dalal              | Shobana Thomas     |
| Sea Food               | Dorothy Saldanha        | Meena Muthiah      |
| Vegetables & Lentils   | Shakunthala Jagannathan | Sushila Natraj     |
| Casserole & Stew       | Anita Koshy             | Umayal Chettyappan |
| Pasta, Noodles & Bread | Maureen Hudson Murari   | Irene Dass         |
| Desserts               | Leelamani John          | Marina Mathias     |
| Pickles & Chutney      | Radha Parthasarathy     | Pramila Jacob      |
| Meat & Poultry         | Meyyammai Murugappan    | Darley Mathew      |

We would also like to thank the following persons for donating prizes :

1. Mrs. & Mr. Govindaswamy
2. Mr. Murugan, The Singapore Consulate
3. Shamim Padamsee
4. Lily Madhok - Park Sheraton
5. Sujaya Menon - Taj Coromandel
6. Lalini Gautamadasa
7. Fazeela Nurdeen
8. Mrs. & Mr. Hariraj, Harrison Hotel

Special thanks to Neelisha Mehta and the Madras Club for the excellent arrangements for the function.

Our thanks are also due to the following members who hosted the function:

- |                  |                        |                     |
|------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Susan Abraham | 5. Jayabhai Kakkar     | 9. Bharati Suresh   |
| 2. Kusum Chadda  | 6. Darley Mathew       | 10. Urmila Reddy    |
| 3. Lata Chohan   | 7. Chandra Padmanabhan | 11. Daksha Sheth    |
| 4. Premila Jacob | 8. Aruna Prasad        | 12. Shanti Verghese |

USHA CHANDRAKUMAR  
LATA MURUGAN

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### CURRENT EVENTS

Friday 6th December - 10-15 am

At : Madeleine Leone's  
River View Apartments, Apt. No.5  
9 3rd Avenue, Boat Club Road  
Madras - 600 028



### **"SCAMS" – What are they ?**

Suddenly, India seems to be going through a cleansing process on the Financial Front. Everyday, newspapers carry items on "SCAMS" - 'Hawala' Scams, Stock Market Scams, Bribery Scandals and Bank and Multinational Company Frauds.

Mr. N. Chandrasekaran, Chairman, Mont Blanc Financial Services Ltd., who has years of experience in corporate finance in India and abroad, will speak on the basic nature of the scams involving corporate India, and attempt to put the facts in the right perspective, so that our members understand not only the problems, but also appreciate the economic and political ramifications.

GITA CHANDRASEKARAN  
MADELEINE LEONE



## PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION

Sunday 8th December - 3-30 pm - 6-00 pm

At : British Council  
737 Anna Salai  
Madras



### **THE ANNUAL IWA CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Yes, it's that time of year again. Please join us for a specially clownish party. Dress your children as clowns. They can have their faces painted as clowns, then enjoy watching Rosy the Clown, a professional British performer. The tea will be catered by the Sindoori Hotel.

As usual, we will have a Christmas tree. Please bring a gift for the tree. All gifts will be given to less fortunate children at this festive time of giving.

Tickets will be on sale at all IWA meetings from 15th November at a price of Rs.100-00 per head. To forestall complaints about the cost, let us point out that tea, a gift and good entertainment don't come cheaply any more.

#### **Programme**

- 3-30 pm - Arrival of guests
- 3-45 pm - Face painting for the children
- 4-00 pm - Rosy the Clown
- 5-00 pm - Tea
- 5-40 pm - Carol singing
- 5-55 pm - Presents from Santa Claus

THIS PROGRAMME IS RESTRICTED TO MEMBERS OF IWA, OWC, THEIR CHILDREN AND HOUSE GUESTS.

#### **XMAS PARTY COMMITTEE**

Irene Das  
Bela Khaleeli

Megan Utley  
Anneliese Hazari  
Teresa King  
Shyla Rau

Mariko Ibara  
Jayashree Prabhakar

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#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO**

Hemalatha Santhavadanan on the birth of her grandson, Vivek.

## BOOK DISCUSSION

Tuesday 10th December - 10-15 am

At : Lalini Gautamadasa's  
4/2 Dr Alagappa Road  
Madras - 600 084



## **CHRISTMAS**





Christmas means many things to many people. We invite you to come along and share a favourite Christmas poem or Carol or passage from a book with us. We will read from a selection of authors from different countries, from Ireland, England, Australia and hopefully other countries too. We have selected short stories and passages from writers such as J B Keane, Pat Ingoldsby and Charles Dickens. However, the more contributions we receive the more fun this will be.

We look forward to seeing you there.

ALL ARE WELCOME

SHYLA K RAU  
TERESA KING

**The new format for distributing books is as follows :**

-  When a book is chosen for discussion, IWA will continue to buy 4 copies of that book.
-  Book discussion members may club together in groups to buy the book from IWA at 60% cost and they can then distribute it amongst themselves. The chairpersons will not be involved in this.
-  Books that are chosen will also be available in bookstores and lending libraries (where possible).
-  Unwanted books can be sold back to IWA for resale at the same price paid by you to IWA.

**This system will remain in place until the end of the IWA year.**

## HEALTH AND ECOLOGY

Wednesday 11th December - 10-15 am

At : Bilkis Moosa's  
20 Lamech Avenue, Off Spur Tank Road  
Chetpet, Madras - 600 031



### **EYES - Nature's Greatest Gift**

Dr. Athiya Agarwal, a leading Ophthalmic specialist in Intra Ocular Lens Transplantation and Glaucoma surgeries, will give us a talk and video-explanation on eyes - the best gift of nature to the body. It is only when we have trouble with them that we realise their importance as "the windows to our soul"

**BINA MATHEW  
SEEMA SAIT**

NO GUESTS PLEASE

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### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

MANO BAKTAVATSALAM  
"Bharathi Teerth"  
26-A Venkatakrisna Road  
R.A. Puram, Madras - 600 028

HENNY DE GROOTE - PAAUWE  
18A Archbishop Mathias Avenue  
Madras - 600 028  
Phone : 459670

SUFIA HUSSAIN  
E/3 Velan Apts.  
Rly Colony IV Street  
Madras - 600 029  
Phone : 4838601

INDIRA SATYAMURTI  
Flat No.9 Julie's Apts.  
11 Pycrofts Garden Road  
Madras - 600 006  
Phone : 8235903

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AIKIYA ALAYAM, Inter-Faith Centre, (98, Santhome High Road, Madras - 600 028) which presented a programme recently for our members, is celebrating a Festival of Lights on December, 13th from 5-30 to 7-00 pm.

They have invited our members to participate and would be happy if members of the different faiths would recite a short verse from their scriptures on light, God, enlightenment etc. (Phone : 4938389 for details)

## HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS



Tuesday 17th December - 9-00 am

At : Dakshinachitra  
Muttukadu, East Coast Road  
Chingleput District, Tamil Nadu - 603 118

### **CHRISTMAS PICNIC**

Join us for a fun picnic and a guided tour of 19th century village streets of Tamilnadu and Kerala with exhibitions, and a visit to the historical homes of the craftsmen of the Centre.

Bring your own picnic basket and enjoy the sea breeze under the trees. Do inform Kamala if you can offer your fellow members a lift in your car.

Entrance Fee – Rs.50/- per person. Please warn in by 10th December to Kamala (6262055) or Priya (8275792).

Members will meet at the C P Art Centre at 9-00 am. Kamala and Stina will have the names of participants and will make arrangements to accomodate everyone.

We hope to return by 1-30 pm.

**KAMALA PRASAD  
STINA VASU**

**FAMILY AND GUESTS WELCOME**

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### **ABOUT PRAYER**

Prayer is not an attempt to get what we want but an endeavour to give God an opportunity to do what He wants through us. Prayer is not begging from God but cooperating with Him. The thing to be sought is not how to get our way, but how to accept the will of God. The intent is not to change God's mind, but to change our attitudes. Prayer is really thinking in God's presence. As the level of our conscience is raised toward the level of God's thoughts, the happenings of life are seen in truer perspective. Effective prayer involves a deep yearning to know God, an eagerness to trust God all the way, an ability to relinquish our hold, and a willingness to let go and let God.

Contributed by **Sarah Chanda**

From Moments of Meditation by  
**Paul S. McElroy**

## COOKING SWAPSHOP

Thursday 19th December - 10-15 am

At : Meyyammai Murugappan's  
14/2B Valliammal Achi Road  
Kotturpuram  
Madras - 600 085



### **PRIZE WINNING RECIPES**

Dhun Dalal has always loved cooking and used to run cooking classes. She was also one of the winners at the IWA Cooking Contest held recently.

She will demonstrate her prize-winning recipe for CHEESE CHARLOTTE and also her desert, CHOCO BISCUIT DELIGHT, one of her entries in the contest.

As only 60 persons can be accomodated, an RSVP is necessary. Please Phone Usha (8275341)

**USHA CHANDRAKUMAR  
LATA MURUGAN**

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### **Our thanks to the hostesses who sponsored Michele Sison's talk for Current Events**

|                  |                         |               |
|------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Rani Chadda      | Shakunthala Jagannathan | Ann Potterton |
| Eira Doshi       | Teresa King             | Shyla Rau     |
| Anneliese Hazari | Shirley McGillvray      | Eva Woodruff  |

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### **TOURS TO MYANMAR & SOUTH AFRICA**

To enable air bookings, accomodation and tour arrangements to be finalised, interested members should give in their names by :

DECEMBER 31st FOR THE MYANMAR TOUR  
JANUARY 31st FOR THE SOUTH AFRICA TOUR to

**Kamala Prasad (6262035) or  
Stina Vasu (8275792)**

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### THE BOARD

|                 |   |                         |                       |
|-----------------|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| PRESIDENTS      | : | Alagu Muthu             | (R) 4938683 / 4937050 |
|                 |   | Poonam Lalchand         | (R) 8257157 / 8272947 |
|                 |   |                         | (O) 8559110 / 8559108 |
| VICE-PRESIDENTS | : | Shakunthala Jagannathan | (R) 459199            |
|                 |   | Megan Utley             | (R) 4343348           |
| SECRETARIES     | : | Sujaya Menon            | (R) 4917464/4910044   |
|                 |   | Eira Doshi              | (R) 4911126           |
| TREASURERS      | : | Sushila Natraj          | (R) 4911015 / 4910707 |
|                 |   | Anneliese Hazari        | (R) 4919505           |

### ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

|                               |   |                     |                       |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------------|-----------------------|
| ARTS &<br>HANDICRAFTS         | : | Rini Kumar          | (R) 4349319           |
|                               |   | Irene Pruller Das   | (R) 4990865           |
| BOOK<br>DISCUSSION            | : | Shyla K. Rau        | (R) 8276676 / 8276893 |
|                               |   | Teresa Mary King    | (R) 4341066           |
| CURRENT EVENTS<br>AND CAREERS | : | Gita Chandrasekaran | (R) 412935            |
|                               |   | Madeleine Leone     | (R) 4340824           |
| COOKING<br>SWAPSHOP           | : | Usha Chandrakumar   | (R) 8275341           |
|                               |   | Lata Murugan        | (R) 6428215           |
| HEALTH AND<br>ECOLOGY         | : | Bina Mathew         | (R) 4941874           |
|                               |   | Seema Salt          | (R) 8261018           |
| HISTORY, CULTURE<br>AND TOURS | : | Kamala Prasad       | (R) 6262035           |
|                               |   | Stina Vasu          | (R) 8278900           |
|                               |   |                     | (O) 8275792           |
| MUSIC AND<br>PERFORMING ARTS  | : | Gayatri Bewoor      | (R) 8264035           |
|                               |   | Lalini Gautamadasa  | (R) 6412868           |
| PHILOSOPHY AND<br>RELIGION    | : | Jayashree Prabhakar | (R) 4342147 / 453394  |
|                               |   | Mariko Ibara        | (R) 8275755           |