



**International
Women's
Association**

AUGUST 1997

IWA NEWSLETTER

Vol. XII No. 3
CHENNAI

AUGUST 1997

MONTH AT A GLANCE

Tuesday	5th August	BOARD MEETING	10.15 am
Tuesday	5th August	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING	10.45 am
Friday	8th August	HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS SOS Children's Village	10.30 am
Tuesday	12th August	COOKING SWAPSHOP Mexican Food	10.15 am
Tuesday	19th August	MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS Jugalbandhi	10.15 am
Wednesday	20th August	HEALTH & ECOLOGY Ocular Emergences	10.15 am
Friday	22nd August	PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION Katha Kalakshepam	10.15 am
Tuesday	26th August	BOOK DISCUSSION Ruskin Bond	10.15 am
Thursday	28th August	ARTS & CRAFTS Photography	10.15 am
Friday	29th August	CURRENT EVENTS Child Labour	10.15 am

FROM THE PRESIDENTS

It was fitting that so many of us gathered to celebrate Founders' Day - to remember Nirmal Seshadri and her efforts to start IWA; to hear Nancy's message sent from Houston where she now lives. Our thanks to Lakshmi, Anneliese, Saroj and Sunita for being with us and sharing their memories with us; their hopes too. IWA is their precious gift to us; it is now for all of us to nurture it year after year and let the warp and weft of friendship and fellowship knit us closer together.

The pantomime was moving and beautiful. Our special thanks to Lily Ratnam, Nalini Acharya, Nandini Srikanth, Beena Ram Mohan and the four youngsters who made this possible.

MEETINGS: At every meeting, it has been observed that one or two members are leaving barely 15 minutes after the start of the meeting. The meetings you attend are the meetings you are interested in; so, we appeal to you to remember how much time and effort go into planning quality programmes and to please stay till the end. Let us show the Activity Chairpersons how much we appreciate their efforts.

**RUPA KADHIRESAN
ANNELIESE HAZARI**

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday August 5th - 10.15 am.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday August. 5th - 10.45 am
Activity Chairpersons -
Please bring your blurbs

Both meetings at:

Lalitha Krishnan's
38-A, Oliver Road
(the road to Isabel Hospital)
Chennai - 4

FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

Quite often members ask us why we have "forgotten" to insert news of the wedding of a son, daughter or grandchild, or the birth of children or grandchildren to IWA members, in the Newsletter. Similarly in the case of condolences, receipt of awards etc.

Some time back it seems one of our members took objection to an insertion without her consent, after which it was decided by the Board of that year that members or their friends would have to send messages **in writing** before we insert news items in the Newsletters. This includes changes in telephone numbers and home addresses also.

So do drop a line to either of us. We eagerly look forward to receiving news items about members for inclusion in the Newsletter.

Our thanks to RUTH LOCKWOOD for sending us beautifully moving poems written by children of SOS Villages which we have published in this Newsletter, coinciding with our visit to the SOS Children's Village in Tambaram.

**SHAKUNTHALA JAGANNATHAN
MEGAN UTLEY**

CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBERS

THERESA LYMBERY	-	4420689
MINA MALHOTRA	-	6265232
MEYYAMMAI MURUGAPPAN	-	4420520/419680
KANIKA PAREKH	-	8225574
MRIDULA SRINIVASAN	-	4321028

The trouble with this country is that there are too many people going about saying, "The trouble with this country is"

SINCLAIR LEWIS

I DIDN'T GIVE THEM MY SMILE

They killed my father.
I don't know where his grave is,
I have nothing now.
I'm scared and I cry,
I cry because
I want to understand
my mother's face.

They took our house.
My yard is gone.
They broke my toys
They took everything.

But I didn't give them my smile,
I didn't daddy, because of you.

You know, daddy,
I'm ashamed
because I was ashamed when,
daddy, they made us go
with two bags in our hands.

We were ashamed,
and they were killing
with no shame.

But, daddy,
I will be back.
I will build an even
bigger house for mummy
and me.
In the yard I will build
a playground,
and all the children will
play.

For you, daddy,
I will laugh again,
as I know you will be
happy.

No, daddy,
I didn't give them my smile

Stjepan Buljan, 3rd grade
SOS Children's Village
Lekenik, Croati

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

POONAM LALCHAND on becoming a grandmother

SUSHILA NATRAJ on becoming the President of the Innerwheel Club of Madras for 1997-98

LALITHA KRISHNAN on her son RAMESH KRISHNAN winning the Wimbledon Over-35 Invitation Doubles title

GIRL CHILD OF THE YEAR AWARD

At the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 16th April 1997 our member PRITHIKA CHARI announced her wish to institute a "GIRL CHILD OF THE YEAR" Award for the most deserving girl in the age group of 12 to 18 years for achievement in a chosen field. Her gesture was appreciated by the members.

Prithika and the members of the Board met on 10th June to work out the details which are as follows:-

1. This award is being given in recognition of achievement and to encourage the recipient to reach greater heights.
2. A cheque for an amount ranging between Rs. 5,000/- to Rs. 10,000/- according to the need of the recipient will be presented along with a citation.
3. Presentation of this award will be held at the same time as that of the "Woman of the year" award.
4. The field chosen will be from among IWA's various activities. E.g. Arts, Handicrafts, Music, Performing Arts, Literary Achievement, Ecology, Health etc.
5. Children and grand-children of IWA members are not eligible.
6. Recommendations will be invited from the members. The awardee will be selected by a committee consisting of Prithika Chari and the members of the Board.
7. The field chosen for this year's award is ECOLOGY.

**RUPA KADHIRESAN
ANNELIESE HAZARI**

SOME THOUGHTS

O little stars!
You are shining like a light
I cannot reach your height
God is mighty to create you in the night
O God! you have made everything for me
You have made the birds, animals, the sky
the sea, the whole earth and even me
I thank you for all this, O God!

Vignesh, Std. IV
SOS Children's Village
Tambaram

PURCHASE OF BOOKS

IWA Members interested in purchasing books which were the subject of Book Discussion meetings, please contact:

KAMALA PRASAD (6262035)

Books will be sold at half-price on a first-come first-served basis.

OUR THANKS TO OUR HOSTS of the Stress Therapy Meeting:-

MADELEINE LEONE

SHARADA RAJAMANI

MEENA NARU

INDIRA SATYAMURTI

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

MINA MALHOTRA

Block F, 154 B,
Annanagar East,
Chennai - 600 102

HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO:

RATHI NILAKANTAN on the demise of her father-in-law

HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS



Friday, 8th August - 10.30 am

At: SOS Children's Village of India
Chatnath Homes
13, 1st Main Road, Professor's Colony,
Tambaram East, Chennai - 39

VISIT TO THE SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

The concept of the SOS Children's Village was born out of the devastation of the Second World War. Dr. Hermann Gmeiner, an Austrian doctor, was deeply moved by the plight of hundreds of refugee children wandering without home or parents over the ruins of Europe. He took some of the children into his home and started an international phenomenon. Today there are over 316 SOS Children's Villages spread over the world.

The SOS Village in Tambaram was started by UMA NARAYANAN, a recipient of IWA's "Woman of the Year" Award for 1990.

We will meet at the SOS Village at 10.30 am and return by 1.00 pm. Those who wish to proceed directly may do so; others will meet at the C.P. Art Centre by 9.00 am and leave by 9.15 am.

Our thanks to RUTH LOCKWOOD for hosting this meeting.

RSVP by August 5th to KAMALA (6262035) or RITA (4929408)

**KAMALA PRASAD
RITA NORDENGREN**

HOW TO GET THERE

Drive on the main Trunk Road (GST Road) towards the airport. Drive further on the same road up to Tambaram Railway Station. Take the first left turning after the Railway Station on to Velachery Road. Drive past the Madras Christian College Campus. Take the first right turning on to the Air Force Station Road. Follow SOS Sign Boards till you reach the SOS Village.

COOKING SWAPSHOP

Tuesday 12th August - 10.15 am

At: Senor Pepe's
73, Cathedral Road,
Chennai - 86



MEXICAN FOOD OLÉ !

Mexican cuisine evokes the taste and colours of Mexico - a fascinating country that has a rich and diverse culinary history.

Come join us as Chef Grubert gives us a true taste of Mexico. Mouth watering toppings for Tortillas, Enchiladas, Tacos, Buritos, Salsas.....

Our thanks to our hosts PATTU BHARGAVA, LATHA CHOCHAN, KASHMIRA DARUWALA, MOHINI GILL, MEERA JAYAKAR, ZAINAB KACHWALA, SUSHILA NATRAJ, JAVANTHI PRABHAKAR, DOLLY PRASAD, LAKSHMY VARADARAJAN,

RSVP - Phone MEYYAMMAI at 4420520/419680 before 9 and after 5. **Number limited to 50.**

**NILISHA MEHTA
MEYYAMMAI MURUGAPPAN**

Without tradition, art is a flock of sheep without a shepherd. Without innovation, it is a corpse.

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

Compromise is the art of dividing a cake in such a way that everyone believes he has the biggest piece.

DR. LUDWIG ERHARD

MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Tuesday 19th August - 10.15 a.m.

At: CPRA Foundation,
1 Eldams Road, Alwarpet,
Chennai - 18



SITAR AND VEENA DUET or JUGALBANDHI

North Indian and South Indian (Carnatic) Music are like two children born of the same mother. They have their distinct characteristics and yet they have similarities.

Vasant Kumar on the Veena and Sivaram on the Sitar will play similar Ragas and lead on to Kirtanas or songs. They will then join in the finale.

The first item, Bhajans by JAYANTHI, will be a dedication to the memory of Nirmal Seshadri.

**SUJAYA MENON
SABINE SALAM**

HEALTH & ECOLOGY

Wednesday 20th August - 10.15 am

At: British Council
737, Anna Salai,
Chennai - 2



COMMON OCCULAR EMERGENCIES

The eye, our most important sensory organ, is often taken for granted. It is only when an unforeseen emergency strikes that we run to the ophthalmologist.

Dr. Mary Abraham, a specialist in cataract surgery, will discuss, with the help of visual aids, common ailments of the eye and how these should be treated. She will also elaborate on new concepts in cataract surgery and on medical development in this field.

**RINI KUMAR
JANIK BAKSHI**

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

Friday 22nd August 1997 - 10.15 am

At: Leela Ratnam's
"SriRaj"
20 Cenotaph 2nd Lane
Chennai - 18



KATHA KALAKSHEPAM by REVATHY SANKARAN

Katha Kalakshepam is the ancient tradition of story-telling where time-honoured myths and legends are transported through time and many communities to our ears.

Revathy Sankaran, a renowned bard and story teller, who has regaled international audiences with her wit and humour, brings our beloved legends into the 20th century. Using popular film tunes and modern connotations, you will be entertained with the story of Sri Krishna in a unique way. A truly unusual morning of religion, philosophy and life-truths!

**LEELA RATNAM
SHEELA K. SARATH**

BOOK DISCUSSION

Tuesday 26th August - 10.15 am

At: Bilquis Chida's
4, Jagannathan Road,
Nungambakkam,
Chennai - 34



OUR TREES STILL GROW IN DEHRA - RUSKIN BOND

Winner of the prestigious Sahitya Academy award for English writing in India, in 1992, Ruskin Bond is one of India's most noted children's authors.

This book is an anthology of 14 stories, mostly autobiographical in nature, spanning the period from the author's childhood to the present.

AYSHA RAU, Managing Trustee, The Children's Theatre, who is currently writing a book for children, will lead the discussion.

Readers interested in borrowing the book may contact LAKSHMI PADMANABHAN or KAMALA PRASAD between 8 and 9 am.

**MALATHI RAMACHANDRAN
PAMELA FABIAN**

ARTS & CRAFTS

Thursday 28th August - 10.15 am

At: Radha Parthasarathy's
17, Sathyanarayana Avenue
Chennai - 28



PAINTING WITH LIGHT - PHOTOGRAPHY

Today we take a comprehensive look at photography and also receive tips on how to take good holiday photographs.

USHA KRIS is a photographer with international experience. She has set up studios in Madras, Bangalore and San Francisco. Her works on asvattha, the banyan tree, and her pictures of exquisite Indian jewellery will be on display.

Bring your cameras. Usha will be happy to give you tips on how to take memorable photographs.

**RADHA PARTHASARATHY
MARTINA KLUTH**

CURRENT EVENTS

Friday 29th August 1997 - 10.15 am

At: Kalpana Sonthalia's
20, Harrington Road
Chetpet
Chennai - 31



CHILD LABOUR IN INDIA

India has about 70 million child labourers under the age of 14 years. The literacy rate in India is also one of the lowest in the world.

The role of education in breaking the cycle of poverty will be our topic for the morning.

Our speaker Ms. ELKE KRAUSE-HANNAK is from Germany and has been working in the field of Development. She has been with the UNICEF in Madras and is now a free-lance consultant.

**GITA CHANDRASEKARAN
MADELEINE LEONE**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE BOARD

PRESIDENTS	:	Rupa Kadhiresan	(R) 4992847
		Anneliese Hazari	(R) 4919505
VICE-PRESIDENTS	:	Shakunthala Jagannathan	(R) 459199/4323337
		Megan Utley	(R) 4343348
SECRETARIES	:	Javanthi Prabhakaran	(R) 6411579
		Seema Sait	(R) 8242244
			(O) 8264112
TREASURERS	:	Lalitha Krishnan	(R) 4991853/4992341
		Angelika Mandaiker	(R) 611265

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS	:	Radha Parthasarathy	(R) 4340448
		Martina Kluth	(R) 4917772
BOOK DISCUSSION	:	Malathi Ramachandran	(R) 8524725/8276995
		Pamela Fabian	(R) 4937684
			(O) 8273040 Ext. 277
CURRENT EVENTS	:	Gita Chandrasekharan	(R) 4420235/4421035
		Madeleine Leone	(R) 4340824
COOKING SWAPSHOP	:	Nilisha Mehta	(R) 4990151
		Meyyammai Murugappan	(R) 4420520/419680
HEALTH AND ECOLOGY	:	Rini Kumar	(R) 4349319
		Janik Bakshi	(R) 8526699/8553302
HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS	:	Kamala Prasad	(R) 6262035
		Rita Nordengren	(R) 4929408
MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS	:	Sujaya Menon	(R) 4917464/4910044
		Sabine Erlich Salam	(R) 832670
PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION	:	Leela Ratnam	(R) 452123
		Sheela K. Sarath	(R) 4938524
			(O) 4938411