



International
Women's
Association

FEBRUARY 1999

IWA NEWSLETTER

Vol. XIII No. 9
CHENNAI

FEBRUARY 1999

MONTH AT A GLANCE

Friday	5th February	BOARD MEETING EXECUTIVE MEETING	9.30 am 11.00 am
Tuesday	9th February	HEALTH & ECOLOGY Talk-'Crystal Healing'	10.15 am
Thursday	11th February	ARTS & HANDICRAFTS Talk-'Restoration of Angkor Wat'	10.15 am
Friday	12th February	CURRENT EVENTS Talk - 'Genetic Farming'	10.15 am
Monday	15th February	COOKING SWAPSHOP Demonstration-Valentine's Sweet Secret	10.15 am
Wednesday	17th February	PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION Eid Milan Lunch	11.00 am
Monday	22nd February	MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS Talk-'Music-Comparative Theories'	10.15 am
Tuesday	23rd February	BOOK DISCUSSION Quiz Programme	10.15 am

PRESIDENTS' PAGE

Dear Friends,

It is very heartening to see that all our Activity Programmes have been well received. This has certainly encouraged our Activity Chairpersons to come out with super programmes for the coming months.

March brings us to yet another important event in IWA. The presentation of Awards for the - "Woman of the Year" and the "Girl Child of the Year". We would like to see all of you that morning.

Nominations are invited for the selection of the Board for the year 1999 - 2000. While the final selection lies with the Nominating Committee, the Nominating Committee looks upon you members to help them select the right people. We therefore request you to positively fill in your forms and send them to the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee within the stipulated time.

Come and enjoy IWA's Programmes and Fellowship.

SHYLA K. RAU
MEGAN UTLEY

BOARD MEETING

Friday, 5th February - 9.30 am

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Friday, 5th February - 11.00 am

Both Meetings at:

Surekha Kothari's
'Kothari House',
28, Kothari Road (Off Sterling Road)
Chennai - 34.

FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

The IWA year is slowly drawing to a close. If there are any of you who have wanted to, but not had an opportunity to host one of our many monthly meetings, there is still time for you to do so. All you need is to provide seating in your home for around 35 - 50 members and a biscuit and tea or coffee as refreshment - nothing fancy, just plain and simple - so please do not hesitate to volunteer to be a hostess - we need you.

**GAYATRI BEWOOR
LALINI GAUTAMADASA**

GUIDELINES FOR THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Board, Past Presidents and the Advisory Board met during January and produced an agreed set of Guidelines for operation of the Nominating Committee.

**SHYLA K. RAU
MEGAN UTLEY**

ANNOUNCEMENT

NAINA SHAH has volunteered to be IWA's photographer, many thanks to her. Please contact her for copies of IWA photos.

ERRATA

Please note that the word 'Constitution' on the last line of para 2 in the note titled 'THE IWA ADVISORY COMMITTEE' of the January Newsletter, should read 'Committee'. We apologise for the printing error.

**GAYATRI BEWOOR
LALINI GAUTAMADASA**

THE 1999 IWA AWARDS

WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD 1999

Once again the Board has had the difficult task of deciding on a winner for the IWA Woman of the Year Award, 1999.

The category the award donor, Nirmal Mirza chose this year, was one to inspire us. She chose to honor not those women involved in social work, nor those involved in voluntary work, nor yet in the arts, but those women at the cutting edge of science and technology. She aimed to dispel any notion that women can't do science. And the selection as winner of this year's award is an industrialist, which also dispels the notion of science as only pure research.

Kiran (Mazumdar) Shaw, this year's winner, pursues her science within industry where science is applied and put to work for the good of mankind. She was an outstanding candidate, nominated for the award by our member in Bangalore, Rini Kumar. We offer her our heartiest congratulations and know you will come to the ceremony on 12th March at the Taj Hotel, to support her.

It was thought a good thing to widen the net of our award to South India rather than to only Tamil Nadu to encompass a greater variety of potential winners.

GIRL CHILD OF THE YEAR AWARD 1999

This award is always going to be rather heart rending since, by definition, it rewards and honours children who are succeeding in spite of severe medical handicaps.

This year is no exception. We received four nominations of girls suffering from acute renal failure and all were deserving candidates. It was tough for the Board to choose a winner, but finally, Miss Sindhuja was selected.

I hope you will all come to the award ceremony on 12th March at the Taj Hotel to learn about her condition and congratulate her. She is a very brave girl and an inspiration to us all.

SHYLA K. RAU
MEGAN UTLEY
Presidents

HEALTH AND ECOLOGY

Tuesday, 9th Feb., - 10.15 am

At: Vidhya Singh's,
10, Satyanarayana Avenue,
Boat Club Road,
Chennai - 28.



Crystal Healing

Crystals are symbols and mirrors of our souls which create powerful & healing energies in any area. They can be used for healing oneself as well as others. Crystals bring immense health, wealth, prosperity and overall abundance. They are both receptors and transmitters of energies activating & balancing the chakras of one's body. They can be used effectively against diseases of the body, mind and emotions.

This ancient art of healing, right from the time of the Egyptians, is brought to you by Shrimathi Acharya, who is an expert in this field of Alternative Medicine.

**SHARMILA RAMJI
CATHERINE BRUNET**

ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS

Thursday, 11th Feb., - 10.15 am

At: Usha Chandrakumar's,
"Aiswarya"
62, Sterling Road,
Nungambakkam,
Chennai - 34.

RESTORATION OF ANGKOR WAT

Dr. B. NARASIMHAIAH, Head of the Restoration team of the Archaeological Survey of India at Angkor Wat, will speak, with a slide presentation, on the restoration of Angkor Wat, probably the most imposing religious structure in the world.

**VISALAKSHI RAMASWAMY
EIRA DOSHI**

CURRENT EVENTS

Friday, 12th February, 10-15 am

At: Sharada Khemka's
4, Rutland Gate, 6th Street,
Chennai - 6.



GENETIC FARMING - A STEP FORWARD OR BACKWARD?

Propagators of Genetic Farming often describe this method of agricultural production as the panacea for the problem of feeding the growing population of India. Our speaker, Dr **Daisy Dharmaraj** who is affiliated to the Pesticide Action Network Asia, will present us with a very different interpretation of Genetic Farming. For her, Genetic Farming is preventing traditional methods of food production which ultimately will result in a complete loss of independence for the farmers. Without getting the consent of Central or State Governments, Multinationals use India as a playground to experiment with genetically engineered seeds. How can India prevent this and at the same time ensure an adequate food production?

**KANTA GUPTA
ANJANA DAS-HASPER**

COOKING SWAPSHOP

Monday, 15th February, 10.15 am

At: "Wallajah Room"
The Connemera Hotel, Binny Road,
Chennai - 2.



VALENTINE'S SWEET SECRET

Valentine's Day is observed on Feb. 14. Valentine's Day has gained acceptance around the world. In celebration of the event, dances and parties are held, red roses and heart-shaped boxes of candy are delivered, cards made of satin and lace mysteriously appear on door steps.

The master chef at the Connemera Hotel has a special demo in store for us in keeping with Valentine's Day — "a sweet treat". So IWA members with a penchant for "all the good things in life", sign up early.

WARN-IN ESSENTIAL. FIRST 60 MEMBERS ONLY

Call Rani at 2344233 and Sheela at 4938524

**RANI CHADA
SHEELA K. SARATH**

PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION

Wednesday, 17th February - 11.00 am

At: YWCA International Guest House,
1086, Poonamallee High Road,
Chennai - 600 084.



FELLOWSHIP MORNING-EID MILAN LUNCH

This is a Fellowship Morning for members, old and new, to get to know one another. This will be followed by an Eid-Milan lunch marking the end of the holy month of Ramzan. It is a get-together for rejoicing and expressing goodwill towards our friends. So dear IWA members, do attend this happy get-together.

This lunch is hosted by the Muslim members of IWA.

**MRIDULA NARASIMHAN
HENNY DE GROOTE - PAAUWE**

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

Monday, 22nd February - 10.15 am

At: Surekha Kothari's,
28, Kothari Road, Off Sterling Road,
Chennai - 34.



MUSIC - COMPARATIVE THEORIES AND WOMEN COMPOSERS

Music is an endless, timeless ocean that binds people all over the world in silken bonds of aesthetics. The deeper we dive, the more there is to know.

Dr. **SAKUNTALA NARASIMHAN**, a musicologist, vocalist, journalist, author of several books and Research papers, the recipient of gold medals and the titles of "SANGITA RATNA" in Carnatic Music and "SUR-MANI" in Hindustani Music, will speak to us on the lesser known facts of the similarities and differences between Hindustani, Carnatic and Western music, highlighting features like the TIME THEORY in music. She will also speak on Women Composers of India. The entire presentation will be interspersed with illustrations and vocal demonstrations.

**SUREKHA KOTHARI
REGINA SCHROEDER**

BOOK DISCUSSION

Tuesday, 23rd February - 10.15 am

At: Brunhilde Farrell's,
32-2, Landons Road
Tower Block Side,
Tailors Road,
Kilpauk, Chennai - 10.



"QUIZ PROGRAMME"

Our member **Sharanya Jayakumar**, is giving us a quiz program, based largely on books, authors & films & music, based on these books. It will not be too 'bookish' but will be a fun event, and all members - not only the usual Book Discussion group - will enjoy the morning.

The members will form groups, and since we come from different countries and background, each member of every group would be able to contribute some answers. The quiz will be starting at 10.30 am, after coffee & cookies at 10.15 am, so please be on time. It will for 45-50 minutes.

**KAMALA MUTHIAH
GALE MADSEN**

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

NANCY DEAN, our Founder President, on the birth of her grand daughter Olivia in September, to her daughter Amy and Brian (son-in-law): Also, Nancy is making waves in Houston as the TV hostess of the weekly **Houston International**, besides being a regular columnist for the '**Houston Chronicle**', reporting on the International Scene. More power to your elbow Nancy-keep up the good work!

LAKSHMI PADMANABHAN

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Princess Naik who came first in the AVT Women's Car Rally conducted by the Madras Motor Sports Club. (Expert Category)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

CHANDRIKA CHIDAMBARAM

'Bedford Villa'

9, Leith Castle North Street,

Santhome,

Chennai 600 028.

CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER

PREM BATRA	-	435 0057
CHANDRIKA CHIDAMBARAM	-	461 1253
HENNY DE GROOTE-PAAUWE	-	4970884
PADMINI SUBRAMANIAM	-	466 1794

We welcome the following new member :

PAM TURNER

British

37, Karpagam Avenue,

1st Street

R.A.Puram

Chennai 600 028

Tel. No.493 8276

HISTORY CULTURE & TOURS

1st March - 8th March, 1999



A trip to Ahmedabad and Bhuj, the capital of Kutch.

A trip is planned to visit Ahmedabad, capital of Gujarat, noted for its beautiful Temples like Akshara Dham, crafts and cultural centres. We will go by train to Ahmedabad and do all the sights for 2 days. After that we will visit Bhuj - a fascinating place in the heart of Kutch - home of the famous mirror work, embroidery, local crafts and traditions.

Day trips can be made to nearby temples such as Morvi, Badreshwar & Shrujan and village centres to experience the lifestyle of Gujaratis.

While we are negotiating the hotel rates in Ahmedabad and Kutch, those interested may please phone the undersigned and leave your name, phone nos before 14th Feb'99, so we can revert with details. In Kutch, a local family will guide us to the places of interest. Join us in the "Discovery of Gujarat".

This trip will be for 8/9 days including the train journey by II AC.

**SUJAYA MENON
RITA NORDENGREN**

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

We thank the following members who hosted the 21st January meeting at the Y.W.C.A. International Guest House :

DHUN DALAL

KASMIRA DURUWALA

ELEANOR DARUWALA-NITZCHE

SHERNA IRANI

KATY MADAN

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Board at their meeting held on January 8th, 1999 at 9:30 am have appointed the following members to serve on the Nominating Committee for this year.

NANDITHA KRISHNA - **CHAIRPERSON**
DOLLY SIMON
FRANCA GEORGE
JAYA MENON
IRENE PRULLER DASS

We invite recommendations from the members for the various posts on the Board. As you are aware, according to the New Constitution it is now not necessary to obtain the consent of the concerned member while recommending her to a post on the Board. The Nominating Committee will obtain her consent before selecting her. Your recommendations are valuable as it will help the Nominating Committee in the selection of a Board consisting of members who are efficient and have a sense of commitment.

GUIDELINES FOR YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

Presidents should have served on at least one earlier Board. This may be relaxed in the case of Non-Indians.

Other members on the Board, should have served as Activity Chairpersons for at least two years. This may be relaxed in the case of Non-Indians.

The last page in this Newsletter carries the tear-off Nomination Form. Please fill up the form and send it to **Nanditha Krishna**, the Chairperson, so as to reach her by the 25th February 1999.

SHYLA K RAU
MEGAN UTLEY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE BOARD

1998-99

PRESIDENTS	:	Shyla K. Rau	(R) 8594578
	:	Megan Ulley	(R) 4343348
VICE - PRESIDENTS	:	Gayatri Bewoor	(R) 8264035
	:	Lalini Gautamadasa	(R) 6412868
SECRETARIES	:	Javanthi Prabhakaran	(R) 6411579
	:	Meyyammai Murugappan	(R) 4420520
TREASURERS	:	Lalitha Krishnan	(R) 4991853
	:	Chandrika Chidambaram	(R) 4611253

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS	:	Visalakshi Ramaswamy	(R) 4939829
	:	Eira Doshi	(R) 4911126
BOOK DISCUSSION	:	Kamala Muthiah	(R) 6411142
	:	Gale Madsen	(R) 4901613
COOKING SWAPSHOP	:	Rani Chada	(R) 2344233
	:	Sheela K. Sarath	(R) 4938524
CURRENT EVENTS	:	Kanta Gupta	(R) 4926273
	:	Anjana Das-Hasper	(R) 4320737
HEALTH AND ECOLOGY	:	Sharmila Ramji	(R) 4422414/4918135
	:	Catherine Brunet	(R) 4992273
HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS	:	Sujaya Menon	(R) 4917464/4910044
	:	Rita Nordengren	(R) 8241312
MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS	:	Surekha Kothari	(R) 8257145/8257198
	:	Regina Schroeder	(R) 4346599
PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION	:	Mridula Narasimhan	(R) 8269630
	:	Henny de Groote Paauwe	(R) 4970884