



International
Women's
Association

NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2001

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	10:15 a.m. Music & Performing Arts	2	3	10:15 a.m. Cooking Swapshop	9:45 a.m. Board Meeting 11:00 a.m. Executive Committee	6
7	8 10:15 a.m. Career Events	9	10	10:15 a.m. Health & Ecology Philosophy & Yoga	12	13
14	15	16	17	10:15 a.m. History Culture & Travel	19	20
21	22 10:15 a.m. Arts & Handicrafts	23	24	25	26	27 11:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. Diwali Darshan
28	29 10:15 a.m. Book Discussion	30	31			

IWA NEWSLETTER

Volume XVI No. 5

Chennai

OCTOBER, 2001

MONTH AT A GLANCE

Monday	1 st Oct.	M&PA - International Music Day	10.15am
Thursday	4 th Oct.	CS - French Cuisine	10.15am
Friday	5 th Oct.	Board Meeting Executive Committee	9.45am 11 am
Tuesday	9 th Oct.	CE - Rainwater Harvest	10.15am
Thursday	11 th Oct.	H&E & P&R - Erwadi	10.15am
Thursday	18 th Oct.	H,C&T - Chikankari	10.15am
Tuesday	23 rd Oct.	A&H - Mehak	10.15am
Saturday	27 th Oct.	DIWALI DARSHAN	11am-6pm
Monday	29 th Oct.	Book Discussion	10.15am

FROM THE PRESIDENTS

We are now entering the Festive Season and IWA is all geared up to make each event a great success.

We start off with a major festival event DIWALI that is scheduled for Saturday 27th October at the Park Sheraton Hotel. We are looking forward to making this a huge success and on a grand scale. The Diwali Darshan will have various stalls as in the past; we have also planned a Cultural Tableau followed by a Mega Fashion Show. As always, we hope our Khazana stall will be a big attraction. A Diya painting competition is being organised for children.

International Music Day, October 1st will be dedicated to the memory of our Founder President, Nirmal Seshadri.

The Khana Khazana meeting was extraordinarily successful. It is always wonderful to witness a Master Chef at work, especially Sanjeev Kapoor.

The recent day trip to Thirukazhikundram attracted a number of ladies, who thoroughly enjoyed the brief halt at Princess Naik's farm. The climb to the temple required walking up 560 steps, a major feat for some of us. On the way back we stopped at Vidya Singh's beach home for a delicious lunch and a much-needed rest. Thanks to Vidya Singh and Pat Alter for their meticulous planning.

A Self-awareness Workshop, organised recently by Surekha Kothari was a huge success, so much so that IWA is planning to have a similar event every 3 months.

Thanks to all our Activity Chairpersons for making each and every meeting successful.

Ladies, we must not forget that because we hold approximately 8 meetings per month, there is always a requirement for a venue and therefore friends please assist in this regard.

We wish all our members and their families a very happy festive season.

RANI CHADA

SEEMA SAIT

FROM THE DESK OF THE TREASURERS

Accounts as on 31st August 2001

B/F FROM A/C OF 2000/2001

F.D. A/C No.28037847	Rs. 3,213.36
F.D. A/C No.28037836	Rs. 16,384.00
C.A/C No.28037825 (cookbk)	Rs. 2,16,964.00

B/F C.A/C No.28037814 (General)	Rs. 81,358.75
B/F Cash	Rs. 27,306.25
Total	Rs. 1,08,665.00

Income April-August 2001

Membership	Rs. 1,97,300.00
New Membership	Rs. 23,350.00
Guest charges	Rs. 7,500.00
Total as of August 31st	Rs. 2,28,150.00

Expenses

Gifts for guests	Rs. 10,260.00
Printer	Rs. 13,220.00
Meeting x2 (membership + registration)	Rs. 2,602.00
A.G.M.	Rs. 26,905.00
Fellowship	Rs. 10,380.00
Founders' Day	Rs. 25,621.50
A/c Books	Rs. 50.00
Flowers	Rs. 400.00
Activity expenses	Rs. 2,650.00
Postage	Rs. 4,161.00
Floppie for address data	Rs. 500.00
Photocopies	Rs. 372.75
Badges	Rs. 750.00

Total Expenses as of August 31st Rs. 97,872.25

Balance in Bank A/c 28037814 as of 31st August Rs. 2,07,128.75

Balance Cash in hand as of 31st August Rs. 314.00

Advances + Rs. 31,500.00

KUSUM CHADDA

PADMA ASHOK

BOARD MEETING

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Friday, 5th October, 9.45 am

Friday, 5th October, 11am

Both meetings at:
Madras Cricket Club,
Wallajah Road, Chennai.

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

Monday, 1st October, 2001 - 10.15 am

At: **Narada Gana Sabha Mini Hall**
TTK Road
Chennai 600 018



INTERNATIONAL MUSIC DAY

We take pride in presenting Kum. A. Kanyakumari, the famous violin player. Kanya has been associated with the violin for 32 years and has made a very successful career for herself. The violin has taken her all over the world for concerts, both solo and for performances with the saxophone maestro Kadri Gopalnath.

She will present her concert with an ensemble of violin, mandolins, mridangam and tabla. We will surely have a memorable, melodious morning.

NAINA SHAH

KANOKWAN SANDHU

Thanks to our hostesses for the day - Nisha Sood, Padmini Subramaniam, Nandini Srikanth, Shobhana Thomas, Lakshmy Varadarajan, Shirley Verghese and Geetha Vasudevan.

Thanks also to Mridula Srinivasan who was a hostess for our meeting on July 6th.

IWA DIRECTORY

It is time to bring out a new Telephone Directory of our members. If your address or telephone number has changed in the recent months, please send in the corrected information in writing to Gita Chandrasekaran before 5th October, 2001.

COOKING SWAPSHOP

Thursday, 4th October, 2001 - 10.15 am

At: **Alliance Française**
College Road
Nungambakkam
Chennai 600 034



FRENCH CUISINE

In France, cookery is a tradition, cooking an art. French cuisine saw its renaissance through the centuries with great Kings and Queens, Churches and the humble baker too.

Our Chef of the day, J. K. Madan, is experienced in continental food and currently involved in Sunday buffet lunches, serving authentic French food, at the Alliance Française. Our own member, Françoise Drown, will also demonstrate for us.

Look forward to seeing you all there!

BEENA RAM MOHAN

CHERRY VENKATESAN

Our sincere thanks to Hell Freezes Over (HFO), Quality Inn Aruna, and Mr. M. C. Manoj for hosting our programme on baking in September.

Thanks also to Shonali Kurien who gave us an excellent insight into bread making with confidence, self assurance and a wealth of knowledge.

CURRENT EVENTS

Tuesday, 9th October, 2001 – 10.15 am

At: **Beena Ram Mohan's**
'Ragam'
Y-216, 2nd Avenue
Anna Nagar
Chennai 600 040



RAIN WATER HARVESTING

"Water, water everywhere, but not a drop to drink!" has become a true saying for Chennaiites.

It is crucial for us to learn to collect rain water this season, for there is great danger of our ground water turning more and more saline and the predictions of a hotter summer next year loom large for all of us.

Mr. M. C. Sriram, son of our member Beena Ram Mohan, has graciously agreed to explain the technicalities and also have a practical demonstration of conserving rain water by showing us the rain water harvesting system in their house.

Ladies, take this opportunity to make your homes and Chennai a better place to live in.

PRINCESS NAIK

BILQIS MOOSA

Thank you, Alagu Muthu, for opening your beautiful home and hosting our meeting on 11th September.

PRITHIKA CHARY

MEENA NARU

HEALTH & ECOLOGY PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

Thursday, 11th October, 2001 – 10.15 am

At: **Meyammai Murugappan's**
'The Laurels'
New no. 9, Old no. 4
Chittaranjan Road, Teynampet
Chennai 600 018



WHEN FAITH LETS YOU DOWN!

The recent tragedy at Erwadi has focussed our attention on the realities and myths surrounding mental illness. What is the role of Faith Healing and what is the reason Religious Healing Centres like those in Erwadi are flourishing even when they go to the extent of chaining patients? How did this happen in the 21st century? Is this just the tip of the iceberg?

Our member, Dr. Shanthi Karunakaran, a Consultant Psychiatrist with over 30 years of experience with the Institute of Mental Health will throw light on the prevailing situation and steps to prevent such incidents in the future.

PRITHIKA CHARY
SEEMA BHARGAVA

MEENA NARU
EILEEN THOMSON

Thank you to members Neena Sanghavi, Hemalatha Santhavadanan, Rajni Sabherwal and Dorothy Saldanha for hosting the meeting on 'The Shakthi Factor' on September 3rd.

SEEMA BHARGAVA

EILEEN THOMSON

HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS

Thursday, 18th October, 2001 - 10.15 am

At: **Pat Alter's**
'River House'
Turnbulls Road
Chennai 600 028



CHIKANKARI & THE MOGHUL INFLUENCE

Greatly admired as the place in the Indian subcontinent where indigenous etiquette and manners were sculpted in baroque, Lucknow is a place that is still renowned for its gentility, refined manners, unassuming sophistication, love of poetry, wit and literature. It was this spirit that earned the city its nickname: 'The Shiraz of the East'.

Uma Bhargava will trace the history of Chikankari from the Courts of Avadh through to the gradual removal of patronage due to the dwindling power of the Nawabs in the 19th century, to the end of the feudal Zamindari system, and to the current revival in recent times of the dying art of Chikankari.

While growing up in Lucknow as a member of a prominent and influential family, Uma Bhargava was constantly exposed to the *savoir faire* - the spirit that makes Lucknow.

We have a limit of 75 persons, so please warn in to Vidya Singh. (Call Gayathri 433 8782, 435 9035, between 10am and 5pm.) No guests please.

VIDYA SINGH

PAT ALTER

ARTS & HANDICRAFTS

Tuesday, 23rd October, 2001 - 10.15 am

At: **Gayathri Bewoor's**
20, Gilchrist Avenue
Off Harrington Road
Chennai 600 031



MEHAK

As the name suggests, it is 'Fragrance' by Priti Nagpal and Panna Chugh - two sisters with the help of Manoj Barik who will show flower arrangements with eco-friendly material.

SHALINI BISWAJIT

SUSHI GOKLANEY

HISTORY CULTURE & TOURS



IWA DAY TRIP

We have been invited by Hyundai Motors India Limited to visit their state of the art factory in Sriperumbudur. We have accepted their invitation for a day in the month of November.

Hyundai will provide an air-conditioned bus for the journey back and forth. We will visit their entire complex. They will provide us with lunch before bringing us back to town.

There will be a limit of 35 persons. Those interested please warn in to Vidya Singh (433 8782, 435 9035, 10 am - 5 pm)

VIDYA SINGH

PAT ALTER

Diwali Darshan



Saturday, 27th October, 2001
Mowbrays Hall
Park Sheraton Hotel and Towers
.11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

This year too members, their families and friends can look forward to the Diwali Darshan – a major festive event. There will be shopping, entertainment and a mega fashion show.

Tickets: Rs. 250 Adults & Rs. 200 children (under 12)
Tickets will be available from October 1st at all meetings.

Stalls: Rs. 500 each.

Attractions: A Cultural Tableau based on Indian festivals, *Jashn e bahar* by *Rehane* – a mega fashion show, *kili josi*am, palm reading, mehndi and stalls selling a variety of crafts and trinkets.

A Diya painting competition for children. We will provide the Diyas. However the children are required to bring their own paint, brushes and any decorative items they may require.

Lunch : 1pm to 3pm

Please Contact: Sushi Natraj - booking stalls (last date October 20th)
Activity Chairpersons for tickets at meetings from October 1st

Rathi Nilakantan, Kusum Chadda, Gita Chandrasekaran - handing over gifts for Khazana Stall

Gita Chandrasekaran or Seema Bhargava for entertainment, if you would like to participate.

Members, their relatives and friends are welcome to rent stalls.
Ladies, please donate new and unused items for the Khazana Stall.
Come and relax and have fun with your family and friends.

THE BOARD

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

BOOK DISCUSSION

Monday, 29th October, 2001 – 10.15 am

At: **The British Council**
737, Anna Salai
Chennai 600 002



WOMEN MATTERS: For Better or Verse (a Creative Poetry Reading)

In celebration of the making and the makers of contemporary women's poetry, this performance aims to reveal the fascinating range and variety of recent women's poetry. Diverse, witty, poignant and profound, these brave new voices strike the keynote of the reading – the universal sensibility of womanhood, attempting to set in motion a cross-cultural dialogue through poetry.

The performance is directed by Renuka Rajaratnam, a lecturer cum freelance literary journalist, published both in India and the United Kingdom. Renuka is a poetry programmer at the British Council, Chennai.

Come and enjoy this unusual morning.

Guests are welcome.

GAYATRI KRISHNASWAMI

AMULYA RAO

CHANGE OF ADDRESS :

Sandra W. Haymon
Flat 2D, 2nd Floor
Ramaniyam Towers
12, Greenways Road,
R.A. Puram, Chennai - 600 028.

493 5338

TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA

Our heartfelt condolences go to the families of those people who have lost their loved ones in the recent tragedy in the US. We share the sorrow of the people of America and of the whole Nation. There are no words that can appropriately convey our deepest sympathies to the people of the United States of America.

We stare in total disbelief,
heart torn with instant grief.

Plumes of black smoke fill the air,
marking a building no longer there.

We close our eyes, we want to pray,
but our mind doesn't know what to say.

Much like war, so many years ago,
so many gone with one fatal blow.

There are no words to explain,
there are no words to ease the pain.

To those who gave their lives,
Mothers, Fathers, Husbands and Wives,
to all who's lives today did cease,
may your soul find instant peace.

We will honor you and the life you gave,
as a Patriot of "The Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave"

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2001 - 2002

THE BOARD

PRESIDENTS

Rani Chada 234 4233, 232 4972
Seema Sait 820 6065, 824 2244

VICE PRESIDENTS

Sushi Natraj 497 1581, 467 1796
Rathi Nilakantan 826 5250 (O) 811 3691

SECRETARIES

Gita Chandrasekaran 442 1035, 442 0235
Françoise Drown 823 0412

TREASURERS

Kusum Chadda 825 4217, 823 3751
Padma Ashok 826 7801, 827 6591

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

ARTS & HANDICRAFTS

Shafini Biswajit 433 8216, 434 0315
Sushi Goklancy 435 3714

BOOK DISCUSSION

Gayathri Krishnaswami 827 1789 (O)826 4428
Anmulya Mandava Rao 499 5434, 499 1272

COOKING SWAPSHOP

Beena Ram Mohan 6214278, 621 3923
Cherry Venkatesan 829 3436

CURRENT EVENTS

Princess Naik 441 8448, 445 3830
Bilqis Moosa 434 9934, 434 9932

HEALTH & ECOLOGY

Prithika Chary 499 7878 (O) 436 3551text 1510
Meena Naru 825 2499

HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS

Vidya Singh 433 8782, 435 9035
Pat Alter 811 2000

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

Seema Bhargava 434 3129, 435 6707
Eileen Thomson 98400-30114

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

Naina Shah 432 0706
Kanokwan Sandhu 496 5556, 496 1061