



IWA
Chennai

Newsletter
April 2005

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	10.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. Election Day	10.15 a.m. Philosophy & Religion	Managing & Executive Com. Lunch Meeting 11 a.m. Meeting	10.15 a.m. Arts and Handicrafts	9
10	11	10.15 a.m. Health & Ecology	13	5.00 p.m. Music & Performing Arts	15	16
17	10.15 a.m. Arts & Handicrafts	18	20	21	10.15 a.m. Annual IWA Quiz	23
24	25	10.45 a.m. Annual General Meeting	27	28	29	30

IWA NEWSLETTER

Volume XIX No.11

Chennai

APRIL 2005

MONTH AT A GLANCE

- Tuesday 5th Apr Election Day 10.30 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.
- Wednesday 6th Apr Philosophy & Religion 10.15 a.m.
spirituality and Religion
- Thursday 7th Apr Managing & Executive Comm. Lunch Meeting 11.00 a.m.
- Tuesday 12th Apr Health and Ecology 10.15 a.m.
Autism - Normal appearance, but disturbing behavior
- Friday 15th Apr Music & Performing Arts 5.00 p.m.
International Women Directors Film Festival
- Monday 18th Apr Arts & Handicrafts 10.15 a.m.
Investing in Art
- Friday 22nd Apr Annual IWA Quiz 10.15 a.m.
- Tuesday 26th Apr Annual General Meeting 10.45 a.m.

From the Presidents

The end of the year! Does it seem possible that it is over? where has it gone? Padma and I would like to express our immense satisfaction for a year that has been full of challenges, excitement and always that wonderful sense of camaraderie that we have shared, not just with our committee but also with all the members of IWA, who have shown us so much support and words of praise and appreciation all through this year.

We would in turn like to express our sincere and heartfelt thanks to our committee members and chairpersons who have all worked so hard to give us an incredible variety of programmes. We could not have done any of this without them. A special thank you goes out to the members of the Advisory Board, Music Committee, Membership Committee and Election Committee for the wonderful support that we have received from them throughout the year.

A thank you to all IWA members who have helped us in so many programmes, whenever they have been called upon. Also to all our members, who attended so many of our programs through this year, we do appreciate your having been with us.

Vidya Singh

Padma Ashok

Thankyou

A big thankyou to our Managing Committee and Activity Chairpersons who made our Grand Finale "Supper Theatre" a success and many thanks to all who were there to make it such a memorable evening.

MANAGING & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LUNCH MEETING

Thursday, 7th April

Madras Cricket Club

11.00 a.m. Meeting

Hosted by

Vidya Singh & Padma Ashok

From the Vice-Presidents

It's been a stimulating year for us. We've enjoyed working together thoroughly. The newsletters, we hope have served the purpose and have been informative and geared to IWA member's needs. Thank you for all your cooperation in hosting meetings and for your warm and generous hospitality; that makes IWA so special!

Princess Naik

Sheela K Sharath

From the Secretaries

It was indeed a great pleasure to serve on IWA's board this year. We appreciate the opportunity you have given us. The year has been entirely enjoyable and fruitful for both of us. Thank you for all the help and cooperation from your side especially in updating us on changed addresses and telephone numbers. Hope that you have also enjoyed the year.

Fazeela Nurdeen

Amulya Rao

From the Treasurers

The year has gone by and we would like to thank all of you for being wonderful home hostesses, cohostesses & sponsors. Many meetings were made possible by your generosity. The meetings have been well attended and it is very encouraging for the Chairpersons and the Committee. It has been a pleasure being Treasurers for IWA. Thank you for all your support.

Seema Bhargava Cherry Venkatesan

From the Membership Treasurer

You will receive two forms, renewal and a participation form. For those members who have not submitted the photograph for the file a reminder. Forms must be filled up as this will help the Committee members in the future, to use the talents and abilities of all our members. We all have special talents that are just waiting to be engaged in a worthy pursuit. This form will go into our file. This is a one-time request only.

Please bring the forms with you to the AGM or post them.

Non-Indians who are leaving the country this summer permanently, please inform the Membership Treasurer.

Cherry Venkatesan

Change of Telephone Number

Indira Satyamurthy Tel : 2432 0993

From the Election Committee

The Election Committee met and the nominations received by the 10th of March, 2005 were opened.

Subsequently the consent of the candidates nominated was sought and the list was finalized by the Election Committee.

The Election Committee is pleased to present the following slate of Nominees for Election to the Managing Committee of IWA for 2005-2006 in alphabetical order:

POST	INDIAN	NON-INDIAN
President	Princess Naik Kamala Prasad	Rathi Nilakantan
Vice President	Seema Bhargava Kausalya Jaganmohan	Bernadette Mcewan Amulya Mandava Rao
Secretary	Prithika Chary Rekha Rangaraj	Prabha Nair Nalini Panday
Treasurer	Urmilla Agarwal Nina Kothari	Uma Ganesan Vijaya Bharathi Rangarajan

*Kamala Muthiah (Chairperson)
Meyyammai Murugappan
Gayatri Bewoor
Vijaya Balu
Anneliese Hazari*

Election Day

Tuesday, 5th April, 2005 - 10.30 am to 3.00 pm

At: The IWA Registered Office
857, Poonamallee High Road
(Immediately after Breeze Hotel,
enter NIIT gate)
Kilpauk
Chennai 600 010

Voting for election of Office Bearers on the Managing Committee for 2005-2006 will take place on Tuesday, 5th April, 2005 from 10.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. ONLY.

Counting of votes thereafter.

This will be followed by the announcement of the new slate of Office Bearers on the Managing Committee 2005-2006.

Be an active member - come and cast your vote.

Vidya Singh

Padma Ashok

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

at 10.15 a.m.
on Wednesday, 6th April
at 15, Bishop's Garden,
Off Greenway's Road, Chennai 600 028

Spirituality and Religion.... their role in an increasingly materialistic world

Is it possible to be spiritual without being involved in organized religion? Will individual faith take the place of organized religion by the end of the 21st century?

In this, our final meeting of the year, we invite you to participate in an open debate. We have six special guests to give opening remarks... Phil Crook, C.V.K. Maitreya, Roshelle Shah, Sonya Stockklauser, Bernadette Mcewen and Ranjini Manian. Come along with a receptive mind and share your views... the questions and answers are important enough to make difference to the world around us.

Phil Crook has kindly offered his home and hospitality. The meeting starts at 10.15. The discussion will begin at 10.45 sharp.

Shalini Biswajit

Radha Gopalakrishnan

Congratulations to :

- Shrikanta Jhaver on the birth of her grandson
- Leelamani John on the birth of her great grandson
- Chandra Shankar on the birth of her grandson.



Health and Ecology

at 10.15 a.m.
on Tuesday, 12th April

at Madras Cricket Club, Babu Jagjivan Ram Road,
Chepauk, Chennai.

Autism - Normal appearance, but disturbing behavior

For many years the brain disorder autism occurred in about 5 children per 10,000 live births. However, since the early 1990's, the rate has increased up to 60 per 10,000.

What are the causes and conditions? How can it be treated? And what are the strategies to handle and live with autism?

To help us to understand and promote acceptance of this handicap, Sadiya Saleh will talk about all these issues. There will be a 10-minute video, followed by an opportunity to ask Mrs. Saleh questions about the subject.

Sadiya Saleh has been working with Vidya Sagar (formerly, "The Spastic Society of India, Chennai) for 12 years. She has a Post Graduate Diploma in special education for people with neurological impairment. As Co-ordinator Human Resource Development she is in charge of all types of training for teachers, parents and students at Vidya Sagar. Sadiya Saleh is also member of the Senior Management Group of the Institution.

We thank Mansha Bhatia for hosting this meeting

Anjana Sunil

Jorun Hatsmo



Music &
Performing Arts

at 5.00 p.m.
on Friday, 15th April

at South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce
(Chamber Theatre), Anna Salai, Chennai - 600 006.

International Women Directors Film Festival

IWA would like to present in association with Indo-Cine Appreciation Foundation, the International Film Festival of Women Directors at the Chamber Theatre.

Programme :

5.00 - 5.30 p.m. Tea & Fellowship
5.30 - 6.00 p.m. Inauguration
6.00 p.m. Film Show

- i) Harlequin - 19 min.
Dir. Lotte Reigner (Germany)
- ii) My Body - 26 min.
Dir. Margreth Olin (Norway)
- iii) The underground Orchestra - 65 min.
Heddy Honigman (Netherlands)
- iv) The day I became a woman - 78 min.
Dir. Marziyeh Meshkini (Iran)

Thank you to Zubeida Asgarali, Rani Chandani & Mridula Srinivasan for sponsoring this meeting.

The film festival will run for 5 days 15th - 19th April.

The films are open to all our members free of cost.

Urmilla Agarwal

Anita Kapoor



at 10.15 a.m.
on Monday, 18th April

at Apparao Gallery, 7 Wallace Garden,
3rd Street, Off Khader Nawaz Khan Road,
Chennai 600 006.

Investing in Art

Traditionally Art has been an alternative form of investment the other two being real estate and stock.

From time immemorial battles have been waged on the riches of a country and art has always featured prominently. Today, in India, contemporary Art is being discussed very seriously in investment circles. Over the last five years the works of 30 odd artists has paid the highest dividend for investors. This field has been explored by very few. Auction houses like Sotheby's and Christie's have played an important role in this growth over the last ten years.

Sharan Apparao of Apparao Galleries has set up the art advisory cell for Citibank's high networth individuals. She has worked in the field of contemporary art for the last 20 years. Now working between Delhi, Bombay and Madras. She will share her knowledge and experience of investing in Art with us. This will be an interactive slide presentation.

This is a joint meeting in association with the FICCI Ladies Organisation.

Nina Kothari

Peggy Dwyer

ANNUAL IWA QUIZ

Friday, 22nd April, 10:15 a.m.

At: **Indira Dutt's**
KCP Limited
'Ramakrishna Buildings'
2, Dr. P.V. Cheriaan Crescent
(Adjoining Ethiraj College)
Egmore
Chennai 600 008

To wrap up a year of exciting meetings, and to recall some of the highlights in a way that would provide a stimulating and image provoking morning for all of us, Saranya Jayakumar will be conducting the IWA Quiz.

The questions will be drawn mainly from the wide range of topics covered by our meetings through the year.

**LOTS OF ATTRACTIVE PRIZES TO BE WON!!!
PRIZES FOR EVERYONE!!!**

Look forward to seeing you all
For members only

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, 26th April, 2005 - 10:45 a.m.

At: The Park Sheraton
Chamiers Road
Chennai 600 028

Registration & Tea : 10.00 a.m.
Meeting begins : 10.45 a.m.

The Annual General Meeting of IWA will be held at 10.45 a.m. on Tuesday, 26th April, 2005, at the Park Sheraton, Chamiers Road, Chennai.

The Agenda for the meeting will be as follows :

- ◆ Welcome Address : Padma Ashok
- ◆ Secretary's Report : Fazeela Nurdeen
- ◆ Treasurer's Report : Seema Bhargava
- ◆ Membership Treasurer's Report : Cherry Venkatesan
- ◆ Appointment of Auditors for 2005-2006
- ◆ Adoption of the audited accounts for the year 2004 - 2005
- ◆ Remarks by Outgoing President : Vidya Singh
- ◆ Any other business
- ◆ Introduction of the Election Committee
- ◆ Presentation of the Incoming Managing Committee
- ◆ Introduction of the Incoming Executive Committee
- ◆ Address by the new President
- ◆ Vote of Thanks : Dorothy Saldanha

Copies of the Annual Accounts and Reports will be available for members to view.

Vidya Singh

Padma Ashok

The Cambodian and Thai Trip



Early morning of February 23rd, 2005 saw a wide awake group of 25 at the Meenambakkam airport guiding their baggage trolleys to check-in.

The first three days of site-seeing were perhaps the most memorable, spent in exploring the ruins and relics of the vanished Khmer civilization at Angkor Thom, Ta Prohm, The Bayon temple, Angkor Wat and other sites. Lesser marvels of architecture were the terraces of The Elephant and Leper-king and The Banteay Kdai, but only in comparison to the glory of the main structures at the Angkor Thom and Angkor Wat's for the latter. Will anyone forget the artistry & magnificence of the neglected friezes and fallen stones of the Angkor temples, and will everyone not remember the beauty of a golden red sun, rising over the still dark temples of Angkor Wat throwing its symmetrical reflection on the twin lily-ponds, and framing the lotus spires with mathematical precision? A group spell-bound and awestruck by an unforgettable experience!

Equally overwhelming were the towering banyans of Ta Prohm rising majestically [100ft & more] from their stone base, their roots overrunning abandoned temples, stradling the loveliest of friezes.

Sunrise and Banyan trees are two abiding memories of our brief excursion to Cambodia. Other images we carry of this country pertain to everyone's favourite diversion viz. shopping. Quite different and distinctive were the widely sold grass bags and embroidered pouches, the puppets and other wooden carvings- all beautiful hand crafted items, and reasonably priced. Disturbing though was the sight of the little children selling their wares in the most soulful manner and begging for money to pay for their education. What was the artifice and what was the reality?

From Cambodia and its tourism showcasing the past, the tour proceeded to Thailand, a kingdom that venerates its king and its monks, and is a flag-bearer of Buddhism. Thailand was a fascinating mixture of temples and modernity: of Buddha's and floating markets. A natural courtesy and dignity does not prevent the Thais from being energetic in the pursuit of modern trades and professions. Indeed, a highlight of the group's tour of Thailand was a variety of shopping besides the Buddha's temples.

But perhaps the most memorable place we visited in Thailand, besides obvious Bangkok and the northern hill station Chiang-Mai, was Chiang-Rai. This is the site of the famed Golden Triangle, the point in Thailand from which one glimpses Burma and Cambodia. Though the border is technically closed, Burmese traders cross a bridge into Chiang-Rai, sell their wares from day-shops, and hastily close down and return to Burma at 6pm daily, the curfew time. The opium museum was also visited, making its startling allegation that this destructive drug was introduced into Asia by the soldiers of Alexander the Great.

Bangkok is notable for its canals, as well as the Bangpa-In palace, or summer palace. It is a sight to behold immaculately-kept,

manicured lawns and topiary gardens, which we toured on self-driven, motorized cars, and had great fun doing so. The cruise of the Menam Chaophraya by night was memorable. The singing and dancing, while navigating the river by moonlight, was the most enjoyable evening of the trip. It was beautiful to view the lights of Bangkok as we cruised the river.

The famous Buddha temples of Bangkok : The Golden Buddha [which weighs five and a half tons of solid gold], The Emerald Buddha [small in size but beautifully crafted], the reclining Buddha [45mts in length & covered with gold leaf], all of them very well kept, were worth visiting and will remain in our memory for a long time.

The reclining Buddha, in the open, in Ayuthya was soothing in its gentle visage and the imposing stupas bring back images of Sarnath in India. Jim Thompson's museum is a great achievement by an individual, who was not a Thai in origin. His collection of ancient Thai artcrafts is housed in two century old Thai houses, carefully dismantled and reconstructed in the heart of Bangkok. The gardens of the houses seem to flow into the interiors- beautiful pink lotuses, ornamental orchids and the rarest of plants.

We cannot end without mentioning the night market, which sold almost everything one could imagine at a discounted price. It was exciting to shop at midnight and make a clever bargain.

Meyyammai Murugappan Ramani Reddy

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2004 - 2005

MANAGING COMMITTEE

PRESIDENTS

Vidya Singh 5204 8782
98410 30737
Padma Ashok 2833 0235 / 2833 2801

VICE PRESIDENTS

Princess Naik 2441 8448
Sheela K Sharath 2493 8524 / 2461 6280

SECRETARIES

Fazeela Nurdeen 2626 0674
Amulya Mandava Rao 24995434 / 98410 25434

TREASURERS

Seema Bhargava 2435 6707 / 2434 7062
Cherry Venkatesan 2829 3436

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

ARTS & HANDICRAFTS

Nina Kothari 2827 5859 / 2827 8888
Peggy Dwyer 98400 19015

BOOK DISCUSSION

Bharathi Suresh 5204 8090 / 5203 1997
Bharati Nair Gopinath 2442 0026

COOKING SWAPSHOP

Sharmila Ramji 2447 1200
Malini Krishna 2447 4830

CURRENT EVENTS

Rekha R Rangaraj 2499 4756 / 5211 0761
Nalini Panday 2461 0944 / 98410 48629

HEALTH & ECOLOGY

Anjana Sunil 2660 0262
Jorun Hafsmo 2431 4251 / 98407 11198

HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS

Kausalya Jaganmohan 2499 0201
Sandra Le Coz 5210 2017

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

Urmilla Agarwal 2820 5327 / 2821 4586
Anita Kapoor 2825 6484

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

Shalini Biswajit 2433 8216 / 2434 0315
Radha Gopalakrishnan 2491 8186