



**International
Women's
Association**

MARCH 1996

IWA NEWSLETTER

Vol X No 10
Madras

MARCH 1996

MONTH AT A GLANCE

Wednesday	6 March	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING	10-15 am
Thursday	7 March	PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION OF TEMPLES, TREES AND NATURE'S BOUNTY	7-00 am
Tuesday	12 March	CURRENT EVENTS PROPERTY MANAGEMENT	10-15 am
Friday	15 March	HEALTH AND ECOLOGY TRANS HIMALAYAN TRADERS OF KUMAON — A SLIDE-TALK BY Dr. VANITHA HOON	10-15 am
Monday	18 March	COOKING SWAPSHOP "A GREEN A DAY KEEPS HEALTH PROBLEMS AWAY"	10-15 am
Thursday	21 March	HISTORY CULTURE AND TOURS GUIDED TOUR OF St. MARY'S CHURCH AND FORT St. GEORGE	10-15 am
Friday	22 March	MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS "VATAVRIKSHA - BANYAN TREE" - A STORY THEATRE PRODUCTION	10-15 am
Tuesday	26 March	BOOK DISCUSSION I REMEMBER, I REMEMBER	10-15 am
Friday	29 March	ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS SLIDE DEMONSTRATION AND FASHION SHOW PRESENTED BY REHANE DHALA	10-15 am

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENTS

Dear Members,

The IWA year is drawing to a close and preparations for the year-end activities are in full swing. The nomination process for the new Executive Board is in very capable hands and we shall soon hear the results of the cooperative undertaking of the Nominating Committee and the general membership: that is, the Committee's screening of your nominations and their selection of the most suitable slate of office bearers for this crucial year. Please note that your nominations are your expressions of support for certain members and not votes for election.

Meeting the Woman of the Year and other role models have inspired us; tours, discussions, talks and quizzes on various topics and on diverse subjects have enlightened us; and music and dance programmes have entertained and thrilled us. We sincerely hope that the March-April events will round off IWA's annual calendar and leave us eager for the Tenth year celebrations. Each year's calendar culminates with the Annual General Meeting and the installation of the In-Coming Executive Board. Once the new Presidents are in place, they will be recruiting the Activity Co-Chairpersons to form the Executive Committee.

That will be the turn of the members again to show our support and interest in serving IWA. Your Association is calling on all its talented members to come forward and offer your expertise, creativity and skills by expressing your interest in serving as Activity Co-Chairpersons, or in participating in monthly programmes as speakers, discussion leaders, dancers and musicians, and not least as hostesses. IWA offers you so much scope..... Please make full use of it.

ZUBEIDA ASGARALI
KHINTHIDA LWIN

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, 6 March 1996 - 10-15 am

At : Madras Club
Adyar Boat Club Road
Madras - 600 028



Chandrika Chidambaram will host this meeting.

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENTS

We have a wonderful variety of programmes this month and perhaps we should say here what a wonderful job the activity Co-Chairpersons are doing. All the effort that goes into giving us these very worthy programmes is much appreciated.

With the AGM fast approaching now is the time for the multi-talented membership of IWA to consider if they would like to serve in some way on the next committee so please don't feel shy about coming forward to help. There are many ways you can become involved.

It would be nice if members would contribute to the Newsletter although to date very few have taken that opportunity. We're always available to you. So give us a call if there's anything you'd like us to include.

**SHYLA K RAU
TERESA KING**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the TENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION will be held on Monday, 15 April, 1996 at the Welcomgroup Park Sheraton Hotel & Towers, at 10-15 am.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Rani Ananth's daughter, Aruna, who has just got engaged to the world renowned Chess celebrity Viswanath Anand.

The human voice can never reach the distance that is covered by the still small voice of conscience.
- Gandhi, 1922

PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION

Thursday, 7 March 1996 - 7-00 am



OF TEMPLES, TREES AND NATURE'S BOUNTY.....

At the kind invitation of Senior Advocate Mr C RAMAKRISHNA, we have planned for you a full days outing, to enjoy the freshness of his scenic farm and experience the goodness of the village life surrounding it.

Our Programme for the day will be :

- 07.00 am Sharp - **DEPARTURE** - From entrance of Theosophical Society, Adyar. Please be there by 6.45 am, breakfasted and ready to leave.
- 09.30 am Arrival at the 200 year old Family Home - Time to freshen up and coffee.
- 10.00 am We step back in time as we visit the ancient **Agasteeswarar Koil** - a 1500 year old Shiva Temple where Archana will be performed and the beautiful **ALANKARAM** or decoration of the Deity can be admired.
- 10.45 am A peep into the village school where classes are still held under the trees.
- 11.00 am Visit the 100 year old **VISHNU TEMPLE** - the Pride of the Village - Here we will perform Archana and view the ornate and elaborate **ALANKARAM**. The Andal and Navaneeta Krishna Deities need special mention.
- 11.45 am A brief stop at the Village Hospital - run by the Mitra Foundation and founded by an Australian Group.
- 12.00 noon Return to the Farm and in the cool shade of its **ARBORETUM**, we will listen to Mr C Ramakrishna, talk about the hardcore of "**VAISHNAVISM**". We will have time for discussion and exchange of ideas.
- 01.00 pm Lunch followed by free time to rest, relax, wander around and enjoy the peace and tranquility of this serene and beautiful environment.
- 03.30 pm Departure for Madras - arriving at approximately 6 pm.

For those who feel interested in, and up to this wonderful experience and opportunity, please call and let us know by noon on Tuesday, March 5. As the trip can only accommodate 30 people please warn in promptly to avoid disappointment.

NO GUESTS PLEASE

ALAGU MUTHU - 4937050
IRENE PRUELLER DAS - 4990865

CURRENT EVENTS

Tuesday, 12 March 1996 - 10-15 am

At : GRIT, ANZ Grindlays Bank
Grindlays Gardens
1 Haddows Road, Madras - 600 006



PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

Mr N Natarajan, Chief Manager, Property Services - South Asia, ANZ Grindlays Bank will give a talk on Property Management. So come with your questions on the problems that you have about your property. He is also well versed with various aspects of leases and contracts relating to properties.

GUESTS ARE WELCOME

**PADMINI NATARAJAN
CHANDRIKA CHIDAMBARAM**

CONGRATULATIONS TO

- ☼ Shobha Hebbar on the birth of her grand-daughter.
- ☼ Ganesh Acharya who married Vrinda on 22 January 1996.
- ☼ Mano Bakthavatsalam who has been nominated a member of the Planning Board of the Mother Teresa Women's University. Eve's Touch did a feature on her and pictured her on their cover page in their November 25 to December 9 issue.
- ☼ Rani Chada for being awarded Golfer of the Year, Ladies Division, Bronze, 1995 at the Cosmopolitan Golf Course on 13 January 1996. She also won nine trophies in Madras and two at Ooty Golf Club in 1995.

A Nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of its people. - Gandhi, 1939

HEALTH AND ECOLOGY

Friday, 15 March 1996 - 10-15 am

At : Shanti Karunakaran
108 Sterling Road
Nungambakkam
Madras - 600 034



TRANS HIMALAYAN TRADERS OF KUMAON - A SLIDE-TALK BY DR. VANITHA HOON

Dr Vanitha Hoon works as a Project Director at the M S Swaminathan Research Foundation, Madras and has a Ph.D., in Geography.

She has lived in the Kumaon Himalayas for over a year to study the Bhotiyas whose home lies in the highest reaches amongst such celebrated mountains as the Nanda Devi and Pachachuli.

The Bhotiyas have pioneered trade routes to Tibet and trained sheep and goats to be pack animals. The talk along with some very scenic slides will examine their traditional resource strategies, patterns of migration and the problems they are facing by focussing on human ecosystem relationships.

NO GUESTS PLEASE

**BELA MISTRY KHALEELI
PADMA ASHOK**

Though we may know Him by a thousand names, He is one and the same to us all.
- Gandhi, 1926

COOKING SWAPSHOP

Monday, 18 March 1996 - 10-15 am

At : Dr Vathsala Narayanaswami's
26 Sundareswarar Street
Mylapore Madras - 600 004

Directions : Sundareswarar Street is off East Mada Street
(Near Radha Silk Emporium)



"A GREEN A DAY KEEPS HEALTH PROBLEMS AWAY"

India has its own distinctive, colourful, satisfying cuisine. The greenery around us not only generates the slogan "A green a day keeps health problems away" but also offers an inexhaustible challenge to the potential vegetarian gourmet. Greens in cooked form create not only the most delectable but the most nutritious dishes. They give variety and subtlety of different flavours.

Dr (Smt) Vathsala Narayanaswami has kindly opened up her home to us. She will demonstrate and display the different items of greens which compliment and balance the other items in your menu.

NO GUESTS PLEASE

**LALITHA KRISHNAN
HELGA MOMBACH**

There is no principle worth the name if it is not wholly good.

- Gandhi, 1925

HISTORY, CULTURE AND TOURS



Thursday, 21 March 1996 - 10-15 am

At : Officers Mess, Area Headquarters
Island Grounds (Opp : Madras Gymkhana Club)
Madras

GUIDED TOUR OF FORT St. GEORGE AND St. MARY'S CHURCH

We are honoured to be invited to the Officers Mess for refreshments before being escorted by army personnel to Fort St. George. The Fort which was completed on St. George's day on 23rd April, 1640, by the English East India Company, today houses the State Secretariat and Legislative Assembly of the Tamil Nadu Government.

Mrs Shalini Prakash, who now resides in the "Fort House", one of the important buildings in the Fort and the oldest house in Madras (where Lord Warren Hastings lived in 1643) will recreate the historical events of the Fort.

A guided tour of the museum and St. Mary's Church in the Fort will make it an interesting morning.

NO GUESTS PLEASE (Except house guests)

SCANDINAVIAN BONANZA

Stina Vasu, will be leading a 15-day tour to Scandinavia covering Norway's magnificent Fjords, Denmark's fairytale countryside and Sweden's lakes and forests. Also, of course, Oslo, Stockholm and Copenhagen.

The tour will commence on 14 June 1996.

Interested members please contact Stina early.

FAMILIES AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME

**SHAKUNTHALA JAGANNATHAN
POONAM LALCHAND**

MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Friday, 22 March 1996 - 10-15 am

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



"VATAVRIKSHA - BANYAN TREE" - by THE STORY THEATRE

✓ LAKSHMI VISHWANATHAN will present a lecture cum dance performance of her new ballet - "VATAVRIKSHA - BANYAN TREE". Researched and choreographed by Lakshmi, this is a STORY THEATRE production which became the talk of the town during the December festival season. In this unique production Lakshmi, by telling the story of Bharathanatyam, projects the story of the WOMAN AS DANCER.

The long history of dance in South India saw the rise and fall and rise again of the status of woman as a dancer. Social reformists upheld the dignity of women in the 20th century dance history - but dance was saved from extinction by the dynamism and adventurous spirit of a few dedicated pioneers like RUKMINI DEVI, (the founder of Kalakshetra). The panoramic view of the "Woman as a dancer" will be explained, demonstrated and presented by Lakshmi Viswanathan and her troupe.

ALL ARE WELCOME

**NIRMAL SESHADRI
LALINI GAUTAMADASA**

CONDOLENCES

To Padma Ashok and Shobana Reddy on the demise of their father-in-law.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Tuesday, 26 March 1996 - 10-15 am

At : Rupa Sood's
5 Adyar Club Gate Road
Madras - 600 028



"I REMEMBER, I REMEMBER" - A READING OF FAMILIAR PIECES

Our last meeting for the year. So please be there!

This is not the traditional book discussion. There will be readings of poetry and pieces of prose, some familiar to us - echoes from our long-forgotten school rooms. The participants are mostly drawn from our own membership. We hope you will be there to share in this experience.

**SUSHILA NATARAJ
SEEMA SAIT**

P.S. Where have all the books gone? - long time passing.....
Please return any of our books that you may have kept through oversight.

GET WELL SOON TO

Mohini Gill after her recent illness.
Kamala Prasad after her recent surgery.

NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Rini Kumar - 434 9319
Dorothy Saldanha - 641 3802

ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS

Friday, 29 March 1996 - 10-15 am

At : Deviki Muthiah's
"Adayar Villa" Kotturpuram
Madras - 600 085



SLIDE DEMONSTRATION AND FASHION SHOW - PRESENTED BY REHANE DHALA

Rehane Dhala won the best designer award at the recently held Femina Miss India Show. The award winning fashion garment had been inspired by the fifteenth century Mughal craftsmen. The accent was on the Peshwaz - a light muslin worn by the court ladies and later by the courtesans of that period.

A slide demonstration will be followed by a fashion show previewing Rehane's Spring / Summer Collection.

ALL ARE WELCOME

**NANDITA CHAUDHURI
SANGEETHA THAPA**

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Megan Utley on her **Hole-in-One** (on the 17th hole) at the Ladies All India Open held in Delhi from 8-15 February.

Imitation is the sincerest flattery.

- Gandhi, 1925

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE BOARD

Presidents	:	Zubeida Asgarali Khinthida Lwin	8271614 4347961
Vice Presidents	:	Shyla K Rau Teresa Mary King	8276893 4341066
Secretaries	:	Sujaya Menon Ellen Sorensen	4917464/4910044 4919291
Treasurers	:	Rupa Kadhiresan Angelika Mandaikar	4992847 611265

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

Arts & Handicrafts	:	Nandita Chaudhuri Sangeetha Thapa	452720/4347871 4913078
Book Discussion	:	Sushila Nataraj Seema Sait	4911015 8261018
Current Events & Careers	:	Padmini Natarajan Chandrika Chidambaram	8282305 4917609
Cooking Swapshop	:	Lalitha Krishnan Helga Hombach	4991853/4992341 4938874
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Philosophy & Religion	:	Alagu Muthu Irene Pruller Dass	4937050 4990865