



wic

MARCH 2012

news

GENERAL MEETING

"Don't Drink the Water, A Play in One Act"

Date: Wednesday, 14th March Time: 3:00 p.m.

Residence of: Alexandra Tomasikova

Address: Slovak Embassy, 50-M, Niti Marg

Tel: 24101015



Sinia Dugal is a well known theatre and TV artist with more than 30 years of acting experience. She has also worked in occasional movies.

She and her company are proud and happy to present to the members of WIC: "Don't Drink the Water, A Play in One Act."

A diplomatic mission comes under fire when the high commissioner is called away by his government on urgent matters. All would be well except for a high-level goodwill visit has been planned during his absence that can not be cancelled. Out of necessity, and with a very heavy heart, the high commissioner leaves the visit preparations to his able aide.

Fate intervenes and one comic situation runs into another as the aide falls sick and the visit planning falls to his son. Then a father, mother and daughter trio are mistaken for spies, are chased by the secret police and seek asylum in the high commission.

Each scene leads to a rip-roaring climax.....

Welcome new Members !

We would like to welcome the following ladies joining our Club this month:

- Priya Irani (U.S.A.)
- Marcela Paulina Strub (Switzerland)
- Kimberly Kravis Schulhof (U.S.A.)
- Mohini Suneja (India)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Ladies,

Once again it is a beautiful Spring in Delhi. The time of year that I enjoy the most. We put away the woollens, open our windows, and enjoy a bit of sunshine. The trees, flowers, and greenery are on full display renewing our energy after the cold winter. Take the time to enjoy a walk, make a new friend, and renew old friendships.

As always, introduce yourself to a new member and make her feel the warmth of being part of WIC. It only takes a quick smile and hello to make someone feel like they belong.

March is a very busy month for our WIC members. The month will begin with our annual "Gala Programme". Read more about what the Gala Committee has planned for you in the following pages. We have five interesting and fun circle meetings planned, as well as a Special Programme – please take advantage of one or all!

Calling all WIC members. We need you for the 2012-13 Executive Committee!

Fondly,

Kelly Jarvis



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

WIC Executive Committee 2011-12

President

Kelly Jarvis Tel: 9958870714
kellyjarvis@me.com

First Vice President

Sheila Ghatate Tel: 9868125252
sghatate@gmail.com

Second Vice President

Patty Dhar Tel: 9818992747
pattydhar@yahoo.com

Secretary

Rosie Sahni Tel: 9899117527
roseleenvsnl@gmail.com

Treasurer

Veena Dass Tel: 9811292020
veenadass1@gmail.com

Hospitality

Veena Hora Tel: 9811035648
veenahora1979@yahoo.com

Membership

Shawn Runacres Tel: 9811300610
srunacres@hotmail.com

Newsletter

Kiran Jhangiani Tel: 9717700133
jhangianikiran@yahoo.com

Ever thought about becoming a more integral part of the WIC? Know someone who would be an excellent candidate for the Executive Committee? The Nominating Committee is now accepting applications for the following eight positions:

- President
- Second Vice President
- Treasurer
- Membership
- First Vice President
- Secretary
- Hospitality
- Newsletter

This year's nominating committee is comprised of: Brenda Beck; Frenny Billimoria; Valerie Brandt; Lakshmi Chandra; Nandita Lahiri; Maeve O'Connor and Jyoti Wazir. They welcome your written nominations!

All nominations should be sent to the chair of the Nominating Committee, Brenda Beck, after obtaining prior permission of the candidate.

The WIC Constitution requires the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, Brenda Beck, to receive in writing or by email, your candidates' names, as possible nominees, with their prior consent.

According to the Constitution all nominations need to be submitted to the Chairperson by February 28th, 2012.

Brenda's contacts are bdbranin@gmail.com; Canada House, 4 Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi 110011.

GALA NIGHT

Date: Friday, 2nd March Time: 8:00 p.m.
Venue: The Metropolitan Hotel
RSVP: Patty Dhar by email pattydhar@yahoo.com
or SMS 9818992747.

Enjoy a rockin' evening with WIC friends!

The Women's International Club invites all members and their spouses (or ONE guest only) to an all-expense paid evening of fun and frolic at the Metropolitan Hotel. The evening will offer cocktails, hors d' oeuvres, and a full buffet dinner. We will have dancing to the live band "Plastic Covers," starring our very own member, Maxine Williams along with her husband Nigel on drums and Zach and Caroline on guitar.

To make the evening even more festive we would request that you wear Black and White. We will provide a party costume mask for you. Of course, if you have your own that you would like to wear, please do!

Because we are offering you this marvelous gala night as a completely complimentary event we hope that you will be gracious enough to help with the logistics of attendance. We will not be "selling" tickets so it will be difficult to keep track of the number of members expected. Our Executive Committee will need to know the exact number of people attending for planning purposes.

We look forward to a wonderful evening with you celebrating our friendship under the stars.

Sincerely,

Your Executive Committee

WIC Circle Leaders 2011-12

The Arts

Devika Anand Puri 9810010547
Frenny Billimoria 9811286353

Book Circle

Gita Abhyankar 9958629912
Nandita Lahiri 9811988366
Marina Marangos 9717620707

Cultural Kaleidoscope

Shakuntala Daweswar 9811440101
Theresa Herzog 9717388220
Manya Kostova 9910999573
Louanne McCurdy 8800324448

Gourmessa

Mona Aggarwal 9810238810
Azzah Almaani 9873889700
Niti Judge 9810564346
Bindu Talwar 9818077882

Let's Learn

Salonika Aggarwal 9811064701
Tracy Flannery 8800523131
Kyu Na Kim 8860372549
Hong Li 9811097350
Atsuko Watanabe 9871780190

Meet My Country

Silvia Jakhar 9971090987
Rita Gharekhan 01124339740

Museum Tours

Bina Deogun 9810136589

Tours – Explore India and the World

Leena Singh 9810032426
Bubbles Suneja 9810003354
Zakia Zaheer 9810067090

Yoga and Health

Anita Dua 9810989433
Dr. Divya Malhotra 9871727402

CULTURAL KALEIDOSCOPE

Date: Tuesday, 6th March Time: 11:00 a.m.
Residence of: Valerie Brandt
Address: 16B, Amrita Shergill Marg
Tel: 43597293 Limited to: 25 participants

AGING GRACEFULLY

This month's Kaleidoscope meeting celebrates the aging phenomenal woman, that is you. We look at "senior years" and "senior moments" of our womanhood and explore our changing roles as women once we cross the telltale milestones in our lives – menopause, retirement, constant mobility, empty nests, just to name a few. Being a phenomenal woman means being able to age gracefully and adapt to the changes in our lives, bodies, hobbies, interests, and family. How different are you now compared to 25 years ago? How have your dreams and aspirations changed? How have all the changes and events in your life shaped the phenomenal woman in you, that is aging gracefully?

BOOK CIRCLE

Date: Monday, 12th March Time: 11:00 a.m.
Residence of: Sunandini Kapur Address: B-34, Malcha Marg
Tel: 32940436 Limited to: 25 participants

Bunny Suraiya will speak about her book, her first novel, "Calcutta Exile." She writes about Calcutta at a time when the city's social and cultural mosaic included Indians, the British and Anglo Indians. Through their stories set against the richly textured backdrop of Calcutta, Calcutta Exile evokes a bygone era of one of the most vibrant and cosmopolitan cities in the world. It also raises questions about individual and collective identities, the foremost among which is, where is home?

GOURMESSA

Date: Thursday, 15th March Time: 11:30 a.m.
Address: F-21/22, Hauz Khaz Enclave
Mobile: 9868181069 Limited to: 25 participants

Parsi Lunch

Our gourmet cook Bapsi Nariman will demonstrate Parsi specialities in the microwave oven, followed by lunch.

Meet My **C**ountry *Papua New Guinea*

Date: Wednesday, 21st March Time: 3:00 p.m.
Residence of: High Commissioner of Papua New Guinea
Address: 17, Green Avenue, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi
Mobile: 9810074136 Limited to: 30 participants

Papua New Guinea-PNG- is situated just south of the equator, 160 Kms north of Australia. A land of amazing geographical and cultural diversity, PNG is where natural wilderness, breathtaking landscapes, vibrant and colourful traditional cultures, tropical jungles, high mountains and exotic flora and fauna exist in abundance. The 6 million PNGeans still maintain their traditional culture and simple ways of life. Like any society, PNG is changing too, as the impact of global developments is bringing both challenges and opportunities to PNG.

Agnes Eri, the wife of the High Commissioner of PNG, has graciously offered to host our programme.

Date: Friday, 23rd March Time: 2:30 p.m.
Address: Embassy of Switzerland, Nyaya Marg
Tel: 4995 950

**SPECIAL
PROGRAMME**

An Enriching Afternoon, filled with Swissness....not to be missed for anything in the world!

If there is a heaven on earth, it is here, here, here...' These lines, from a famous quote, hold also so true for Switzerland – a country, rightfully called the 'heart, and soul of Europe'. Switzerland is the abode of 1484 lakes, 16 natural parks, 5 UNESCO World Heritage sites, over 50,000 species of flora and fauna and speaks 4 national languages, besides the English language being widely spoken. This country is an intriguing mix of cultures and traditions, offering a whole gamut of 'waiting to be explored' options for a kaleidoscopic clientele. So, let us embark on this breath-taking journey: the discovery of Switzerland, through the medium of film, presentation and quizzes, where you even have the chance to win some exciting give-aways, brought in, especially, for you, all the way from Switzerland!

THE ARTS

Date: Tuesday, 27th March Time: 11:00 a.m.
Address: 145, DLF South Court Mall, Saket
Tel: 49160000

Frenny Billimoria and Devika Anand invite you to view the private collection of Kiran Nadar Museum of Art. Passionately collected by Kiran Nadar over the last two decades, the collection displays iconic artworks and significant Indian art from the post-Independence and the subcontinent. The collection highlights a magnificent generation of Indian painters such as F.N.Souza, M.F.Husain, S.H. Raza, V.S. Gaitonde, Tyeb Mehta, Ram Kumar and Akbar Padamsee followed by A. Ramachandran, Rameshwar Broota, Gulammohammed Sheikh, J.Swaminathan, Bhupen Khakhar, Arpana Singh, Jogin Chowdhury, Navjot Altaf and many others.

Happy Birthday to the following members in March :

1st Annie Howard
2nd Nayana Goradia
2nd Kiran Jhangiani
9th Maya Caroli
9th Lakshmi Chandra
21st Gita Devi Kapurthala
23rd Vibhuti Sharma
24th Serita Kakar
28th Marie-Eve Celio
30th Radhika Sethi

NOTICES

- We apologize to anyone whose birthday we have missed. Please help the Club by ensuring that we have your latest details, including the date of your special day. Attn: Shawn Runacres, Chairperson of Membership.
- Ladies, in the spirit of the Club, we would appreciate volunteers to sign-up with Veena Hora, Hospitality Chair, to provide snacks when required.

**JAIPUR
LITERARY FESTIVAL**

The Jaipur Literary Festival 2012 January 20 - 23

An insight to the trip by : Nayana Goradia

Our WIC group boarded the Shatabdi on a fiercely cold Friday morning with two husbands gallantry loading us and our luggage on to the train. Thank you Baldeep, thank you Vivek.

We chugged into Jaipur by lunch time. The festival was everything it promised to be and much more. A carnival, a celebration of books and intellectual discourse. What an unusual and a heady mix!

The setting could not have been more spectacular. The fascinating old Diggi Palace, gaily festooned with flags and buntings. There, on its sprawling lawns and under colorful shamianas, was played out one of the largest and most prestigious international literary festivals. There were simultaneous happenings at four different venues making choices tantalizingly difficult for us.

An animated discussion on The Arab Spring compared by Burkha Dutt was succeeded by Girish Karnad engaging British playwright David Hare on the Front Lawns. Tiger Mom Amy Chua put up a brave defense for her Chinese parenting designed to raise "Successful Kids". Not wholly different from how Indian parents raised their kids a generation ago! Best-selling Indian novelist Chetan Bhagat was utterly frank and delightfully wicked as he shared his down-to-earth philosophy with John Elliot.

Philosopher Steven Pinker showed new hope by explaining the overall decline of violence in history. Lovely Fatima Bhutto and Ayesha Jalal captivated audiences with their scintillating dialogue. New Yorker Editor David Remnick talked about writing his biographies on Stalin while Jamaica Kincaid read out a short story which was exactly 300 words long!

All this and much more made the festival. But the star for most was Oprah Winfrey who charmed the audience with her "I have immense admiration and respect for the women of India who were in arranged marriages, which later turned into love marriages." Clad in a yellow and green salwar kameez, Oprah added, "There is much more to India than poverty – its glorious traditions, culture and history are very impressive." Our member Jyoti Wazir shot to international fame as the TV cameras picked her up from among the audience at the event!

I would like to add here that the crowds had been humongous everywhere but, amazingly, there was no hustling or jostling at the venues. Good manners were the order of the day – displayed by even the security officials. What a refreshing change. Neither was there any VIP seating. First come, first served was the order. But woe betide you if you wished to go to the loo. There being no reservation, your seat was in danger of being taken!

Sunday evening was rounded off with an enchanting evening at the period piece of a haveli belonging to Jyoti's nephew by marriage. The gentleman and his gorgeous wife had graciously invited our whole group to their home for an evening of Rajasthani music and dance and dinner. We were transported to a bygone era of courtly chivalry and charm. What more could we ask? Thank you Jyoti.

Kudos to Leena, Zakia and Bubbles, the organizers of this fest. We thank them for finding us accommodation at such throw away prices in these crowded times. It was a Herculean task and only possible because our circle leaders had started working on this programme as far back as May last year! Leena was always there for all of us. We hope you got to see some of the programmes too.

Thank you WIC for making this lovely trip possible.

The WIC Ladies in Jaipur !



MARCH 2012

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