Going Dutch

2017 November

In this issue
A Repat Returns
Handbag Auction
Prinsjesdag: A Royal Affair

American Women’s Club of The Hague
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2514 CH The Hague
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www.lifestylesalonthehague.nl

Going Dutch
November 2017

The bags, the bids, the money raised for FAWCO!

It was a full house watching the royal procession on Prinsjesdag

What it’s like to return to your expat home after more than a year away

NOVEMBER 2017  3
2017-2018 AWC Officers

Honorary President  Sabine Crowley
President  Mary Ann Nation-Greenwall  awcthehague.president@gmail.com
Vice President  Dena Haggerty  awcthe Hague.firstvp@gmail.com
Treasurer  Melissa White  awcthehague.treasurer@gmail.com
Secretary  Mallery van der Horst  awcthehague.secretary@gmail.com

Club and Community Development  Laurie Brooks  awcthehague.community@gmail.com

Clubhouse Administrator  Dominique Duysens  awcthehague.clubhousemgr@gmail.com

Communications  Teresa Mahoney  awcthehague.communications@gmail.com

Front Office

Siska Datema-Kool, Dominique Duysens, Becky FaiIor, Amber Gatewood, Paula Looijmans, Sue Merrick, Shirley Newlin, Melissa Rider, Holly Savoie, Pamela Schellekens, Chelsea Wald

AWC Mission Statement

The AWC is an association formed to provide social and educational activities for American women living in the Netherlands and to promote amicable relations among people of all nations, as well as acquiring funds for general public interest. Membership in the club is open to women of all nations who are friendly and welcoming to American culture. The association does not endeavor to make a profit. The AWC is a 100% volunteer organization.
Prinsjesdag Luncheon
Message from the President
by Mary Ann Nation-Greenwall

My letters to Members in each of the fall 2017 Going Dutch magazines have highlighted what your Board and sub-committees are doing to achieve the goals set forth this year. This month, the focus is on Recruitment and why it is important. Membership development within the AWC The Hague secures its existence (legacy). This article will highlight current and future recruitment initiatives and how each of you can assist in this effort. Your help is needed to implement the direct and passive recruitment plans.

Passive Recruitment

Passive recruiting means courting potential Members who are not actively considering joining the Club. This may sound like a waste of time, but it is actually a great way to introduce friends and for others to get to know about our Club and what it offers.

Most of our Members joined because a friend or acquaintance invited them to attend an event, so take a look at upcoming events and invite a friend!

Another fun and easy way to introduce a friend to the AWC is Thirsty Thursday, held on the third Thursday of each month. It’s casual, fun, and ideal for Members who are unable to join us during the day, Members who just want to have a drink with a friend, and potential Members who want to get to know us a little better. Thirsty Thursday is held in a different location each month (ie., wine bars, restaurants). All Members are welcome to attend this event.

Other passive recruitment activities take place throughout the Club year, such as ongoing activities, one-of-a-kind activities, and even the events headed by the Club and Community Team. A new Member signed up at the Social Security Administration presentation recently, and we’re glad she is now part of our AWC/FAWCO family.

Direct Recruitment

Fall Kick-Off was a huge success. Many thanks to Vice President Dena Haggerty, the Board and volunteers for a job well done. The club gained 15 new Members, but we’re not stopping there. We plan to hold several recruitment events over the next few months to increase our membership because we are proud of our Club, our philanthropic initiatives and community outreach, what we offer to members socially, and the friendships we make.

If you’d like to assist in the recruitment efforts, our Membership Coordinator, Shirley Newlin welcomes your help and input. Please contact Shirley at awcthehague.membership@gmail.com to learn more about community-wide recruitment efforts.

Annual General Meeting
by Mary Ann Nation-Greenwall

Our Annual General Meeting is an important session for all Members. The Board will review the Club’s financial standing and general business issues. In addition, representatives of The Center for Personalized Cancer Treatment, SPOSA Child, and Stahili, the beneficiaries of the 2017 Red, White & Blue Gala, will join us and receive their checks. When the meeting ends, Thanksgiving celebrations begin with a potluck luncheon.

Reports at the meeting will include:

• Melissa White, Treasurer, will present the proposed budget for the 2017-2018 Club year. Copies of the budget will be available as of November 2 in the front office.
• Finance report detailing the 2016-2017 Club year.
• Activities report from the previous Club year.
• A presentation from the Audit Committee

If you are unable to attend the November General Meeting, please submit a proxy ballot. If you need a proxy ballot, please stop by the front office Tuesdays or Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or call 070 350 6007, when the Clubhouse is open.

November is also when the Club celebrates Thanksgiving with a potluck luncheon. Everyone is invited to join us for a traditional Thanksgiving meal after the meeting, which includes a roast turkey (provided by the AWC) and all the trimmings. Please RSVP no later than Thursday, November 2 on GroupSpaces and mention in the comments which dish you will bring. We request that your dish serve six to eight people.

Thursday, November 9
Coffee: 10 a.m.  
General meeting: 10:30 a.m. 
Potluck: Noon  
FREE  
http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1131503
In my spare time, I make mosaics. I set up a small atelier in one of our bedrooms and it’s filled with everything I need to create my new found art. As I look back at the path that led me to mosaics, it was paved. When I first started traveling in Europe, I was fascinated with the stone and brick streets in all the cities in all the countries we visited. Something about the detail and the carefully laid out designs made me stop to take pictures every time I saw a new style. I wasn’t sure why.

When I first arrived in the Netherlands, I didn’t know anyone or much of anything about life abroad and hadn’t yet learned of the AWC. I thought taking classes through the adult education department at the American School would be a starting point, so I signed up for cooking classes. They were fun, and I did meet people, but that’s about it. About a year later I saw a post on the adult education site for a Delft Blue mosaics class. It seemed like a good way to spend an afternoon and I called a friend and we both took the class. I was hooked. I got it. I loved it. And I finally understood my fascination with European streets. They are mosaics.

I started attending a weekly workshop hosted by the woman who led the Delft Blue class. But I needed more and decided it was time to up my game. I went to Ulbeek, Belgium for a five-day class to work with two maestros, both graduates of Scuola Mosaicisti del Friuli, or the Great Mosaic School, in Spilimbergo, Italy. I was in way over my head! The maestros were kind and patient, especially since I was the only one in the class who had never worked with the tools we were using, hammer and hardie, and because I had never worked with marble. It was trial by fire, and a bit embarrassing, but I made it through with many cuts on my fingers from banging them with the hammer!

I worked in my atelier, and practiced, and took more classes. In the last few years I’ve also gone to Cologne, Germany, and Vught, near ’s Hertogenbosch for classes with other graduates of the school in Spilimbergo. This summer I returned to Mireille Swinnen’s Mozaiekstudio in Ulbeek. She is an amazing woman, an incredibly talented artist, friend, and host. (see her work on page 20) This class, an animal portrait class, was taught by the first maestro I worked with several years ago. I was pleased that he not only remembered me and my pitiful beginnings, but he also commented about how much I’ve progressed. And, I was thrilled I only hit my fingers with the hammer once in five days.

As a younger adult, I didn’t have time for a hobby. I had kids to raise, work responsibilities, and everyday life that ate up my time. Even though I now have a lighter schedule, I still have responsibilities and sometimes I don’t get to play in my atelier for a long stretch. But sometimes at night I’ll sit at my workbench, fiddle with a work-in-progress, think about my next steps, and, of course, my next project. So many mosaics to make, so little time!

If you have hobbies now, what are they? What were your hobbies before becoming an expat? Did you take classes after coming to the Netherlands? Let’s have a “Letters to the Editor” discussion about what occupies your down time, whether it’s art, a sport, cooking, or other activity. Send your thoughts to goingdutchmag@gmail.com with the subject line, “hobbies”.

Tot ziens,

Suzanne
Membership
by Shirley Newlin

Our membership needs to grow! Help recruit new members by inviting friends to our activities and events throughout the year. If you are interested in being on the Membership team, please send an email to awcthehague.membership@gmail.com.

Welcome New Members!
Barbara Colassin
Pandora Hardtman
Laura Koenig
Shannon Stewart

Support Fellow AWC Members
Find links to a large variety of businesses owned by AWC Members at www.awcthehague.org/site/newcomers/business-links

November Birthdays
Elaine Pimm 3
Lana Heidar 4
Carol van Dijk 12
Ellen Koup 12
Linda Chen 14
Anja Knoop 15
Paula Looijmans 16
Marianne Lemstra 17
Laurie Martecchini 20
Lynne Roukema 21
Teresa Mahoney 29

ONE YEAR FREE Membership
Dues for the FIRST FIVE members who each recruit THREE additional members.
New AWC Members can be a new or former member not from 2016-2017 year.
Reimbursements donated by Becky Failor

Welcome Back BBQ
Fall Activities
Out to Lunch Bunch
Volendam Tour
Route of the Golden Coach
Ongoing Activities

Book Clubs
The AWC Book Clubs are open to all readers, and new Members are especially welcome! There’s no requirement that you must attend every meeting or lead a discussion. Snacks are provided by a different member each month. There are two Book Clubs hosted by AWC Members—one in the daytime and one in the evening. Questions? Teresa Mahoney organizes the daytime group, and Rebecca Fry handles the evening meetings. For more information, please contact awcthehague.bookclub@gmail.com. Happy reading!

Daytime Book Club
The Nix by Nathan Hill is the November choice for the Daytime Book Club, and introduces readers to Captain Jefferson Kyle Kidd who travels in the aftermath of the Civil War, giving live readings from newspapers to paying audiences hungry for news of the world. During his travels, he’s offered a $50 gold piece to take a young orphaned girl to her relatives in San Antonio. The book follows their 400-mile journey to return the girl to her family, a reunion that is not welcome. A respectable man, Captain Kidd is faced with a terrible choice: abandon the girl to her fate or become—in the eyes of the law—a kidnapper himself.

Thursday, November 16
10 a.m.
AWC Clubhouse
FREE
http://groupsites.com/AWCTheHague/item/1069670

Daytime Book Club Reading List:
Wednesday, December 13 (Christmas party): Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout
Thursday, January 25: The Essex Serpent by Sarah Perry
Thursday, February 22: The Heart Goes Last by Margaret Atwood
Thursday, March 22: The Wasted Vigil by Nadeen Aslam
Thursday April 26: My Absolute Darling by Gabriel Tallent
Thursday May 24: Notes on a Foreign Country: An American Abroad in a Post-American World by Suzy Hansen

Evening Book Club
The November Evening Book Club selection, News of the World by Paulette Jiles is a debut novel about a son, the mother who left him as a child, and how his search to uncover the secrets of her life leads him to reclaim his own. Samuel Andresen-Anderson is a stalled writer, bored teacher at a local college, and obsessive player of an online video game. His mother walked out when he was a child but he spots her one day on television news. Samuel will unexpectedly find that he has to rethink everything he ever knew about his mother—a woman with an epic story of her own, a story she kept hidden from the world.

Wednesday, November 15
7:30 p.m.
AWC Clubhouse
FREE
http://groupsites.com/AWCTheHague/item/1069670

Evening Book Club September Recap
Commonwealth: We really enjoyed this book, unmistakably Ann Patchett in tone, style, and prose. Do we own our own life stories? Whose narrative is it, and since the stories of our lives always involve others, be they family, friends, colleagues, or foes, who gets to decide what is private? Whose version of history prevails? Curl up with Commonwealth, and decide for yourself who are the heroes and villains in this drama of adults and children thrust together by divorce and remarriage.

Evening Book Club Reading List:
Wednesday, December 13: The Year of the Runaways by Sunjeev Sahota
Wednesday, January 17: My Absolute Darling by Gabriel Tallent
Wednesday, February 28: Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life by William Finnegan
Wednesday, March 21: Forest Dark by Chigozie Obioma
Wednesday, May 16 The Fisherman by Charmaine Craig

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www.aspadirect.nl info@aspadirect.nl
Chat, Crafts & Cake
Are you a crafter? The AWC has space large enough to spread out a king-sized quilt, a spot to organize a scrapbook or photo album, or just to sit and chat while you work on a project. Chat, Crafts & Cake members welcome you to join the group, maybe pick up a few tips, and get ideas and suggestions about your project from a fresh set of eyes. Each week a different Member will bring a cake made from a never-before-tried recipe for tasting and critiques. Babysitting is not available so we can’t accommodate children. Questions? Please contact Suzanne Dundas at awcthehague.crafts@gmail.com.

Tuesdays
10 a.m. – noon
AWC Clubhouse
FREE
http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1129152

Dinner Club
There’s nothing better than enjoying an evening with friends over a meal. Check Facebook and eNews for an announcement about the next Dinner Club location.

Heart Pillow Project
This Club year marks the 10th year that Members work together at the Clubhouse to make heart-shaped pillows designed to help support the arms of recent mastectomy patients. Each pillow is made with TLC, wrapped, and comes with a note signed by an AWC volunteer. No sewing skills are needed and you can cut, stuff, or wrap the heart pillows. We are proud to provide women with something both practical and comforting, and we know our work helps because we often receive thank-you notes and emails from patients who received a heart pillow. For more information, please contact Jan de Vries at awcthehague.heartpillow@gmail.com.

Tuesday, November 14
Noon – 2 p.m.
AWC Clubhouse
FREE

Visitors Welcome
www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1022908

Ladies’ Night at the Movies
Who doesn’t like going to the movies with friends and a bucket of popcorn! The first Monday of the month marks Ladies’ Night at the Movies and the film is chosen based on what’s playing at area theatres. Rebecca Fry coordinates each month’s outing. For more information, please contact her at fry.rebecca@hotmail.com or (070) 213 9222.

Monday, November 6
Location TBD
Tickets at own cost

Cancellation Policy
Members may reserve a spot for an AWC tour, activity or event in advance. Payment is required within five business days of the reservation or before the deadline date (whichever is sooner) otherwise your name will be moved to a waitlist. It is the responsibility of the Member to notify the Club at awcthehague.finance@gmail.com to cancel a reservation prior to the cancellation deadline. Please note that there will be NO REFUNDS (no exceptions) after the cancellation deadline. Members may find a substitute in lieu of cancellation provided that arrangements are made with the tour, activity or event organizer. Members shall be held responsible for their guest reservations in accordance with this policy.

AWC Guest Policy
Guests are welcome to participate in AWC activities and tours on a limited basis. As a nonmember, a guest is limited to attend two functions per calendar year and will be charged an additional nonmember fee. Only Members are entitled to use babysitting services.

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NOVEMBER 2017  1716  GOING DUTCH
Out to Lunch Bunch
Join us for lunch in Leiden after the Thanksgiving service at the Pieterskerk. Restaurant Koetshuis de Burcht sits at the base of the ruins of an 11th century castle and the restaurant was a coach house from 1657 until its transformation in 1981. For more information, please contact Greetje Engelsman at greetje.engelsman@gmail.com.
Thursday, November 23
12:15 p.m.
Koetshuis de Burcht
Burgsteeg 13, Leiden
Deadline to sign up is November 21
www.koetshuisdeburcht.nl (sorry, not in English)
http://groups.spaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1126131

Tennis League
The AWC Tennis Group plays doubles every Tuesday in Warmond. Ladies move up and down the courts according to a ladder tennis system. The emphasis is on having fun! The league is available for all levels except true beginners. If you are interested in being placed on the waiting list to become a regular player, or would like to be on the sub list, contact Molly Boed at mollyboed@yahoo.com.
Tuesdays (except specific holidays TBD)
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Dekker Tennis Courts
Veerpolder 14, Warmond
€ 275 Members / € 325 nonmembers

Thirsty Thursdays NEW!
Want to sip cocktails with friends? Thirsty Thursdays, a new AWC monthly event, is a casual no-stress evening with AWC friends. We meet on the third or fourth Thursday of each month and there’s no need to RSVP.
Thursday, November 16
6 p.m.
Ich bin ein Hamburger
Prins Hendrikkstraat 53, 2518 HJ The Hague
Everyone pays for their own drink and/or food.

Walkie Talkies
Whether you count your steps or just want to walk with friends, the Monday morning Walkie Talkies is a fun and healthy way to start the week. The group meets in front of the Clubhouse before heading out to walk to various destinations in the area, usually racking up 10,000 steps along the way. On occasion, there is a longer walk which will be posted on Facebook. Sign up on GroupSpaces to receive email updates or contact Emily van Eerten at vaneerten@gmail.com or Greetje Engelsman at greetje.engelsman@gmail.com.
Mondays
9:30 a.m.
FREE
AWC Clubhouse
**Wassenaar Coffee & Conversation**
If you live in or around Wassenaar, join your neighbors for a once-a-month morning gathering without going to the Clubhouse. One Member living north of The Hague will host a casual coffee at her home on the first Thursday of the month for Members and prospective Members. **Suzanne Dundas** coordinates the meeting place with each hostess and will send directions once you sign up on GroupSpaces.  
**Thursday, November 2**  
9 a.m.–11 a.m.  
FREE  
http://groupsites.com/AWCTheHague/item/1129134

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**One-of-a-Kind Activities**

by Dena Haggerty

**Medieval Dinner at the Stadsherberg de Mol**
Step back in time at the Stadsherberg de Mol, in the heart of Delft, for a medieval dinner. The dinner takes place in a building dating back to 1563. Come dressed in medieval garb to get into the spirit of the dinner. There will be a jester, magician, witch, rune-oracle, and minstrels for entertainment while we enjoy dinner and genuine “Delft Kuyte Beer”. The dinner menu is traditional medieval fare, including bread with herbal sauce, sausages, mushroom soup, seafood, potatoes, and salad. Guests will also be served an assortment of meats, such as chicken, leg of rabbit, spare ribs, and roasted ham. You won’t go hungry or thirsty since you’ll have an aperitif, unlimited draft beer and wine, juice, soft drinks, and coffee. To top the evening, you’ll receive a syllabub at the end of the meal.  
**Saturday, November 4**  
7 p.m.–10:30 p.m.  
Stadsherberg de Mol, Delft  
€ 69 per person  
€ 5 extra to rent a smock and beret  
http://groupsites.com/AWCTheHague/item/1125886

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**ICTY Visit**
The United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (UN ICTY) is a court of law dealing with war crimes that took place during the conflicts in the Balkans in the 1990s. The AWC will tour the court, one of the last tours granted before the Tribunal closes for good at the end of the year. Our visit will include a tour and presentation by UN staff about the work of the Tribunal in the last 25 years to prosecute those responsible for crimes committed in the former Yugoslavia.  
You must present your passport or other official identification in order to be admitted. Space is limited so sign up by November 1 to secure your spot. Due to security measures, late sign-ups will not be allowed to join the tour.  
**Wednesday, November 8**  
10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.  
Churchillplein 1, 2517 JW The Hague  
http://groupsites.com/AWCTheHague/item/1138772

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We invite you to meet a great group of internationally-minded women. Bring a friend and drop in to broaden your network. Organized by the American Women’s Club of The Hague. Please RSVP on our Facebook page. Hope to see you there!
Sinterklaas Gift Drive

Sinterklaas is coming to town. In fact, Sinterklaas comes to the Netherlands in November and then delivers gifts to children on the evening of December 5, known as Sinterklaasavond or Sinterklaas evening. This holiday season, the AWC will again assist Sinterklaas to ensure that children, whose parents may need a bit of help, receive gifts. Help to spread holiday cheer by donating treats and small toys for children aged 12 and under. Items such as Play-Doh, markers, coloring books, small plush toys, and bubbles, make great gifts. Please bring your donations to the Clubhouse throughout the month of November and then return to help gift wrap them at two workshops (one day, one evening) so they can be delivered in time for Sinterklaas. Please email Laurie Brooks at awcthehague.community@gmail.com with any questions.

Gift Drive: November 1–29
Gift Workshops: Friday, December 1
1 p.m.–3:30 p.m.
5 p.m.–7:30 p.m.
Gift Delivery: Saturday, December 2

Holiday Toiletry Drive

Between the holiday parties and gift wrapping, consider the small things that you can do that will have an impact and make a meaningful difference in our community. Our Club has partnered with a local organization to give toiletries and personal care items to those who may need a helping hand this holiday season. Needed items include toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, shampoo, lotion, facial tissues, and other personal products. Only full-size items, please. Donations should be dropped off at the Clubhouse throughout the month of November. No contribution is too small and every little bit helps! Please email Laurie Brooks at awcthehague.community@gmail.com with any questions.

Toiletry Drive: November 6 to 29
Toiletry Workshops: Friday, December 1
1 p.m.–3:30 p.m.
5 p.m.–7:30 p.m.
Toiletries Delivery: Saturday, December 2

Country and Christmas Fair at Kasteel de Haar

There’s nothing like staying home for the holidays, and that’s what we’ll be doing for this year’s Christmas market getaway. We’re traveling by bus to the Country and Christmas Fair at Kasteel de Haar, a picturesque castle in the province of Utrecht, and less than an hour from The Hague. 2017 marks the 20th anniversary for the fair at Kasteel de Haar. There will be more than 240 heated stands where you can buy everything from sweets to antiques, art, and many other items that will make perfect holiday gifts. If you’re up for glühwein, sizzling hot potato pancakes, and other traditional holiday foods, you don’t want to miss this trip!

Tuesday, November 21
9:45 meet bus. Location will be sent closer to the event
Return 6 p.m.
Members: € 35/non-members € 40

**This price includes transportation on a private coach and entry fee to the fair
Sign up & cancellation deadline is Monday, November 6
***no refunds after November 6 unless you find someone to take your place
http://groupsaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1131878

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Gift Drive: November 1–29
Gift Workshops: Friday, December 1
1 p.m.–3:30 p.m.
5 p.m.–7:30 p.m.
Gift Delivery: Saturday, December 2
You’re Needed at the Holiday Bazaar

by Mary Ann Nation-Greenwall

Join us for a few hours at the annual Holiday Bazaar and volunteer for a shift on Saturday, November 11 or Sunday, November 12. Not only is the bazaar a fun way to get into the holiday spirit, it’s also a great way to spend time and meet other members of the AWC. Most jobs involve working in pairs with the aim to pair an experienced Member with someone new to the Club or bazaar.

Volunteer opportunities include:
• Entry: Welcoming visitors and selling tickets
• General floor monitors: Helping wherever needed
• Bake sale
• Raffle table: Selling raffle tickets as guests enter the shopping area
• Payment tables: Using an adding machine to tally amounts due and processing payments with a PIN machine. Only a general comfort with numbers is necessary as training is provided.

The master schedule is under construction. Please contact Laurie Martecchini at lmartecchini@gmail.com to sign up for any of the jobs listed.

Saturday, November 11 and Sunday, November 12
Morning shift: 11 a.m.–2 p.m.
Afternoon shift: 2 p.m.–closing

Sugar, Spice, and All Things Nice… And Yummy!

by Jan Essad

The Holiday Bazaar Bake Sale needs your favorite cookies, fudge, cakes, pies, muffins, and anything and everything sweet or savory you enjoy baking and making. Our baked goods booth is always one of the busiest at the Holiday Bazaar, so we need as much variety as possible to make the event a true success. Start baking and freezing until Friday, November 10.

The deadline to drop off your baked goods at the Clubhouse is Friday, November 10 when we will put the finishing touches on your goodies to prepare them for sale. If it’s not possible to drop them off then, please deliver them to the Carlton Ambassador, Sophialaan 2, The Hague, by 10 a.m. on Saturday, November 11. If you would like volunteer to work for the Holiday Bazaar Bake Sale, be sure to email our Volunteer Coordinator, Laurie Martecchini at lmartecchini@gmail.com.

If you haven’t already signed up to contribute your baked goods or finger foods, it’s not too late. Please email me at bjessad@hotmail.com and I’ll get you registered, send you some helpful hints, and answer any questions you may have. Put on your aprons, grab those wooden spoons, and happy baking! We are looking forward to “sweet” success thanks to all the bakers.

Message from the President (cont.)

Continued from page 8

These are a few ways you can take part in recruitment:
• Pick up information postcards from the Clubhouse
• Keep them in your purse and give one to potential Members
• Invite her to visit the Club or to take part in an event or activity

It is truly that easy!

Membership Recruitment Incentive

Past president Becky Failor has created an incentive to inspire membership growth. She is offering one year’s free membership dues to the first five Members who each recruit three additional Members. New AWC Members can be a new or former Member, except for the enrollment of the 2016-2017 Club year. I am pleased to announce that Ginny Mees has recruited at least three new Members to the Club. Great job Ginny!

Ginny Mees has recruited at least three new Members to the Club. Great job Ginny!

Each of you makes AWC The Hague the great place it is today. It is important for us to invite others to be part of this family, so it can also can be their “home away from home” and continue to build our Club’s LEGACY.
AWC Holiday Bazaar

by Mary Ann Nation-Greenwall

Don’t Miss the Best Shopping Spot for the Holidays!

Save the dates! Mark your calendar! The annual AWC Holiday Bazaar pop-up store opens for just two days in November. If you have a list, check it twice so you don’t miss out on unique, tasty, quirky, and interesting must-have gifts for everyone you want to treat for Christmas and Chanukah.

If you haven’t yet been to the Holiday Bazaar, be sure to save a few hours to stroll through rooms of items from vendors throughout The Netherlands, the U.S., and many other countries. The pickings are anything but slim at the Carlton Ambassador Hotel, which will be transformed into a winter shopping wonderland. There’s the added bonus of drawings throughout the day if you buy raffle tickets, which will be for sale at the door. Each vendor will donate an item for the raffle, and you could walk away with even more gifts for family and friends.

Have a chef on your list? You’ll find jams, oils, spices, and honey. Plus, bakeware and other kitchen items. Have to get something for the kids? A number of vendors will have toys, books, and jewelry for the younger set. Gems and jewelry for moms and dads will also be available, along with ceramics, artwork, clothing, wine, and much more.

There will be a separate, and supervised, space for the kids so parents can shop at their leisure. Rumor has it that Santa may make an appearance to keep the little ones busy.

Saturday, November 12, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Sunday, November 13, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Carlton Ambassador Hotel, Sophialaan 2, The Hague
€ 2 / Children under 12 years are free
Cash, PIN, and credit cards are welcome.
For more information, please send an email to holbaz@gmail.com.

Happy Holidays

The American Women’s Club of The Hague

HOLIDAY BAZAAR 2017

Featured items:
Fresh Baked Goods, Specialty Food Items, Paintings, Scarves, Jewelry, Pottery, Dutch Collectibles, Wines, Beer, Raffle Items and so much more.

All of your holiday shopping in one convenient location.

Carlton Ambassador Hotel
Sophialaan 2, 2514 JP Den Haag

November 11, 11:00 until 18:00
November 12, 11:00 until 17:00
€ 2 Admission
Kids under 12: Free
€ 5 Kids Craft & Activities
## November 2017

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<td>Wassenaar Coffee and Conversation 9 a.m.</td>
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<td>Mediaeval Dinner at the Stadsherberg de Mol 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>AWC Holiday Bazaar 11 a.m.–5 p.m.</td>
<td>Chat, Crafts n Cake 10 a.m.</td>
<td>ICTY visit 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Coffee 10 a.m.</td>
<td>AWC Holiday Bazaar 11 a.m.–6 p.m.</td>
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<td>Ladies' Night at the Movies 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>AWC Tennis 1 p.m.</td>
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<td>Annual General Meeting 10:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Evening Book Club 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Daytime Book Club 10 a.m.</td>
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<td>AWC Holiday Bazaar 11 a.m.–5 p.m.</td>
<td>Heart Pillow Project Noon</td>
<td>AWC Tennis 1 p.m.</td>
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<td>Thirsty Thursday 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Country and Christmas Fair at Kasteel de Haar 9:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Chat, Crafts n Cake 10 a.m.</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving Service at Pieterskerk in Leiden 9:45 a.m.</td>
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<td>AWC Tennis 1 p.m.</td>
<td>AWC Tennis 1 p.m.</td>
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<td>Out to Lunch Bunch at Koetshuis de Burcht 12:15 p.m.</td>
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**Save the Dates**
- December 7: WWDP Christmas Party
- December 12: Heart Pillow
- December 13: Daytime Book Club Christmas Party
- December 13: Evening Book Club
- December 15: Christmas Out to Lunch Bunch

**AWC Holiday Bazaar**
- 11 a.m.–5 p.m.
- 11 a.m.–6 p.m.
Did you know about the 100 Calvinists who were persecuted for their religious beliefs in England in the early 1600s and who moved to Leiden? And did you know that 10 years later, many of those Calvinists seeking freedom from religious persecution returned to England before setting sail on the Mayflower and landing in what is now Massachusetts in 1620? Although some of the Calvinists eventually left Leiden, many stayed and worshipped in the Pieterskerk, which is still open today.

Overseas Americans Remember (OAR) will host a non-denominational service on Thanksgiving morning at the Pieterskerk. The service will be led by a rabbi, a cantor, a Catholic priest, and Protestant ministers. The Pilgrims recorded their births, marriages and deaths in the Pieterskerk. Some of the descendants of Moses Fletcher, a Leiden Pilgrim and a subsequent signer of the Mayflower Compact, still live in the city. Ria Koet, his direct descendant, will tell the story of her family, the only non-American members of the Mayflower Society. Captain Robert Buzzel, U.S. Navy, is also a descendant of several of the Leiden Pilgrims and will relate his family’s story.

President George H.W. Bush was the first sitting president to visit the Netherlands, and the Pieterskerk was the chosen venue for the visit. The Bush family traces their ancestry to Francis Cooke, also a signer of the Mayflower Compact and a Leiden pilgrim. Former President Obama also has family roots in Leiden, the Blossoms, who left in 1628.

I would not omit to mention I felt a respect and veneration upon entering the church at Leiden. ~ Abigail Adams

The Honorable Henri Lenferink, the mayor of Leiden, will welcome everyone, and Shawn Crowley, Chargé d’Affaires for the United States Embassy, will share excerpts from the annual Thanksgiving Day Proclamation of the President. In addition, Ben Mowat, the son of AWC Member Julie Mowat, will read a speech on behalf of American students. JAKK, the choir from the American School will sing; a concert band will perform, and Scouts of all ages, along with the Little Children Pilgrims, will welcome guests. Americans, Dutch, and guests of all nationalities are welcome.

***OAR requests that you bring cookies for the coffee served after the service

Thursday, November 23
11 a.m.
Pieterskerk
Pieterskerkhof 1A, 2311 SP Leiden
Meet at Starbucks in Den Haag Centraal at 9:45 to travel to Leiden Centraal Walk to Pieterskerk for the ceremony Doors open at 10 a.m.
FREE
http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1126131
The bidding was fast and furious. The purses, more than had ever been donated for previous Handbag Auctions, were the draw. And the result is the 2017 Handbag Auction for FAWCO’s Target Project, Hope Beyond Displacement, which raised more than €2,000.

The Handbag Auction has been a Club staple since 2009. And an event as successful as the Handbag Auction doesn’t happen by chance. Thanks to the many volunteers who gave of their time, and the donors who gave their new and gently-used handbags.

Thanks to Loren Mealy, our auctioneer, Mary Adams, who modeled the bags, Celeste Brown, who kept track of each sale, and Emily van Eerten, who made the event’s catalog. In addition, Una Mulvihill and Laurie Brooks were runners, Georgia Regnault and Debbie van Hees organized and donated food, and finally, Teresa Insalaco and Amber Gatewood were the cashiers and helped sort the handbags.

The hard work, donations, and purchases will make a difference for many refugees. Thank you!
FAWCO Region 4 Meeting
by Mary Adams

During the course of a late September weekend, the American Women’s Club of Antwerp hosted the 2017 FAWCO Region 4 Meeting for members of AWC Amsterdam, AWC Brussels, AWC The Hague, and AWC Luxembourg. The three-day agenda was filled with a varied and inspiring program. On the opening day of the conference, an “Antwerp Experience” was organized, based on the STAND UP Against Human Trafficking Experience that was held in The Hague last October and dealt with sustainable rescue for survivors of human trafficking. The FAWCO business meeting was held on Saturday; on Sunday attendees had their choice of activities, either to join the AWC Antwerp Caring Hearts program in the 10th Annual Race for the Cure for breast cancer, or to enjoy a city tour of Antwerp.

AWC The Hague members participating in the meeting were Laurie Brooks, who is the FAWCO 1st Vice President of communications, Georgia Regnault, and Mary Adams. FAWCO members from clubs in France, Germany, and Spain were also at the meeting, contributing to the lively interaction and sharing of club best practices.

The business meeting began with an Introduction to FAWCO by President Sallie Chaballier (AAWE Paris), then presented an overview of FAWCO which now has 12,000 members in 65 clubs in 34 countries. Sallie highlighted how FAWCO enables women to transform local communities to global networks through “an intangible magic.” Hope explained the four pillars of FAWCO, and Laurie reviewed the new FAWCO website, which is www.fawco.org.

The first meeting topic was Women’s Rights are Human Rights, presented by Katrien Meuwissen, Development Officer at the European Network for National Human Rights Institutions. Dr. Meuwissen’s interesting commentary focused on how her everyday life as a single working woman was an unattainable hope for her grandmother. She spoke about how much has changed in two generations and commented about how much change is needed to break glass ceilings, intimidation, and violence against women. Her research revealed that two out of every three victims of domestic violence do not report their attack to authorities or use support groups. Sallie urged women to have the courage to defend themselves and to “make our rights on paper treatises a reality.”

Susan van Alsenoy (AWC Antwerp), an expert about education, and author, discussed the importance of education for refugee children. Her recommendations include multi-sensory teaching methods that are sensitive to cultural diversity and trauma. These conclusions were based on the Maslow Hierarchy of Schools Needs model that lists physiological, safety, belonging, esteem, and self-actualization as critical success factors.

Hope Moore led a feedback session for clubs to share best practices for member recruitment and retention, volunteers, and how to bring FAWCO to local clubs. Some interesting highlights included:

- Club member recruiting and retention
  - Use public Facebook pages to advertise social events
  - Hold a “first Monday” opportunity for women in the club who own a business to advertise on the closed Facebook page
  - Use the FAWCO seminars on U.S. taxes to draw interest from the American community

- Volunteers
  - Don’t be afraid to get to know your newcomers’ talents through Welcoming Committee conversations and phone calls
  - When asking for volunteer help, don’t use the word ‘need’
  - Extend an invitation or nomination
  - Hold a class and those who attend may help determine member interest as volunteers. For example, a cooking or baking class may lead to a plan for the next bake sale

- FAWCO
  - Know your club members and work with the FAWCO rep to bring specific FAWCO added value to your club
  - FAWCO will be producing shorter “bite-sized” videos to present at club meetings
  - Organize a theme-dinner based on a FAWCO event location to update members. For example, one club hosted an Indian dinner to update their members about the FAWCO Conference in Mumbai, India.

- Suzanne Wheeler (AWG Paris), president of The FAWCO Foundation, explained the Education and Development Grants, the processes for applying for these grants, and shared historical information about the total number of awards and grants presented to Region 4 clubs in the last 50 years. Suzanne thanked AWC The Hague for our recent donation of $4,500 for a Development Grant.

- Target Chair Tricia Sauer, (AIWC Cologne), and Foundation Vice President of Fundraising Barbara Buehling (AWC Dusseldorf), discussed the current FAWCO Target Project for education and fundraising and focused specifically on the Hope Beyond Displacement project. FAWCO clubs hope to raise $125,000 to support four educational development projects implemented by The Collateral Repair Project for Syrian refugees. The four projects include:
  - 200 girls enrolled in school
  - SuperGirl after school program for 120 girls who have been traumatized
  - Vocational training for 60 beauticians and computer training and certification for 180 women
  - Leadership and advocacy training to transform negative cultural coping mechanisms into positive community strategies for men, women and teens

FAWCO clubs have already raised more than 20% of the fundraising goal in the first six months of the two-year period. Special thanks went to AWC Amsterdam for the Club’s donation, making it a Gold medallion winner ($1000-$3000 category). Donations from all clubs are recognized with silver, gold, platinum, and diamond medallions on The Fawco Foundation website donor wall, which clubs can also display on their local websites.

My-Linh Kunst, FAWCO counselor and leadership coach and human rights activist, ended the meeting with the invigorating, interactive, and thought-provoking workshop, Leading from Within: Empowering Women to Greatness. The workshop focused on self-confidence and the three “knows”:

- Know yourself
- Know people
- Know the business

The meeting ended with a FAWCO Gala Dinner at the Palais op de Meir in the luxuriously imperial Hall of Mirrors. Paleis op de Meir is a former royal palace built in the 18th century at the Meir, Antwerp’s main shopping street. Napoleon selected the palace as his private residence in Antwerp and it was also the official Antwerp residence of Dutch King Willem I, in other words a perfect palace for FAWCO! During the dinner we were pleased to see the philanthropic
**FAWCO Region 4 Meeting (cont.)**

Continued from page 37

Efforts of AWC Antwerp included two modern dance performances made possible through arts funding and the awarding of a €10,000 check to Middelheim Hospital for the third “breast lounge” for local hospitals. The lounge is a room built in the hospital where doctors can speak with patients and their families in a cozy, relaxed atmosphere.

If you weren’t able to attend the regional meeting in Antwerp and want to become involved with FAWCO, plan to go to their families in a cozy, relaxed atmosphere.

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**FAWCO Updates**

by Julie Mowat

FAWCO has a dedicated U.S. Issues Team that works on voting, citizenship, tax, and banking issues. The most recent FAWCO newsletter includes information about tax reform for Americans living abroad and suggested talking points. Lucy Laederich, the FAWCO U.S. Liaison, wrote recently, “Beyond support for differing particular proposals for reform, most Americans overseas appear clearly to support a move to residence-based taxation, making the hiring of Americans overseas more attractive to international companies, and reducing the need for burdensome and costly financial reporting requirements on individuals and banks, both to the IRS and under the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA). I encourage you to write even a short note to your legislators (find them at www.senate.gov and www.house.gov) to tell them how your double tax liability affects you and your family. It can be as simple as ‘I am compliant in my country of residence and resent having to pay a professional to report my zero-tax liability to the US.’” This is especially urgent now that Congress is reviewing tax reform.

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**FAWCO Foundation**

**2018 Education and Development Grants**

FAWCO’s 2018 Education Award and Development Grant applications will soon be available. The grants cover several categories including education, the environment, health, and human rights. If you’re interested in furthering your studies, all members of the AWC The Hague are eligible to apply, as are children and grandchildren who are bicultural. FAWCO also states that if our club has provided funding for a nonprofit organization that needs continued support, or if individual members want to apply for a development grant for a specific organization or project, they should go to the Foundation website at www.fawcofoundation.org for more information. If you have questions about the grants, please contact Jen Todd at awards@fawcofoundation.org, Nan Laubadere at grants@fawcofoundation.org, or Tracy Moede at vpprograms@fawcofoundation.org. The deadline for applications is early January.

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**FAWCO Interim Meeting in The Hague**

Save the date! The FAWCO Interim meeting will be held in The Hague, March 23 - 25, 2018, at the Marriott Hotel. The event is a great way to meet FAWCO members and learn about the many opportunities to become involved in the causes the organization supports. If you have questions about FAWCO or the meeting, please ask one of the many active FAWCO members in our Club. Julie Mowat, Laurie Brooks, Mary Adams, Celeste Brown, Anne van Oorschot, Georgia Regnault, and Emily van Eerten are available to answer your questions. You’re also encouraged to visit www.fawco.org/about/conferences/upcoming-conference. Check back often as the website will be updated with more information about registering and volunteering for the conference.

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**Butterfly Quilt**

Starting in 1995, FAWCO members worldwide have contributed squares to each year’s FAWCO Friendship Quilt. Inspired by the Butterfly Warrior theme of the 2017 conference in Mumbai, Butterfly Brigade is the theme for the 2018 Friendship Quilt. AWC The Hague will be well represented in the final quilt with squares made by Beverley Bennett, Suzanne Dundas, and Karin Wolff. The Butterfly Brigade Quilt will be auctioned at the Interim Meeting in The Hague in March 2018.
Hurricane Harvey and Climate Change

by Anne van Oorschot, FAWCO co-chair for the Environmental Team

Did Climate Change Cause Hurricane Harvey?
If you think I’m going to claim that Hurricane Harvey was caused by climate change, you’ll be disappointed. The relationship between hurricanes and climate change is not so simple. The most recent draft of an extensive climate science report by 13 American federal agencies suggested that the science linking hurricanes to climate change is still emerging. Scientists seem to agree, however, that while hurricanes are not necessarily caused by climate change, they are affected by them.

Katherine Hayhoe, a climate scientist at Texas Tech University, and one of the authors of the report mentioned above, said even if global warming does not change the number of storms, she noted there could even be fewer hurricanes overall. Tropical storms and hurricanes do gain energy from warm water, so the unusually warm water that has accompanied climate change, “can have a role in intensifying a storm that already exists.” [1]

In a statement made by the World Meteorological Organization on August 29, 2017 there is almost certainly a link between the seriousness of Harvey and climate change. “Climate change means that when we do have an event like Harvey, the rainfall amounts are likely to be higher than they would have been otherwise.” [2]

As Kevin Trenberth, a senior scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Colorado put it, “Climate change has changed the environment that everything is happening in. When you add in the climate’s natural variability, and then the right conditions come along, you can get a storm which is stronger than you might otherwise have expected.” [3]

While scientists maintain that no single weather event can be attributed to climate change, two centuries of humans burning fossil fuels have altered temperatures just enough to almost certainly make this particular storm worse. Scientists have noted certain aspects of Hurricane Harvey that combined to make it a horrific storm. Let’s look at those aspects and see if climate change had any role in them.

Hurricanes tend to weaken as they approach land because they lose access to the hot, wet ocean air that gives the storms their energy. Harvey’s wind speeds, however, intensified by about 45 miles per hour in the 24 hours before landfall, according to National Hurricane Center data. Kerry Emanuel says that’s not unheard of, as the potential for wind speeds to rise rapidly increases under warmer conditions. [3] Emanuel, an atmospheric sciences professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has analyzed 6,000 simulated storms, comparing how they evolved under historical conditions of the 20th century, with how they could evolve at the end of the 21st century if greenhouse gas emissions keep rising. He found that a storm that increases its intensity by 69 mph in the 24 hours before landfall may have been likely to occur once a century in the 1900s. By late in this century, however, they could occur every five to ten years.

Scientists have known for decades that the peak intensity of severe storms will likely increase as temperatures rise but it’s shortening the time it takes to reach those speeds. Late summer temperatures in the Gulf of Mexico now average more than two degrees Fahrenheit warmer than they did 30 years ago, says Andreas Prein, with the National Center for Atmospheric Research. [3] It’s accurate to say that the rise in overall temperature caused by climate change will result in more storms with the strength of Hurricane Harvey.

(look out, Dorothy and Toto!!)

For more information and to get involved with the FAWCO Environmental Team, please contact Anne at environment@fawco.org.

A Repat’s Story of Her Return to The Hague Home and Back Again

by Polly Spinnler

My expat Dutch life was a non-stop blast! Living abroad was my dream, and it finally happened in the summer of 2013 when we moved to The Hague as Shell expats. I began to explore my new country as soon as my feet hit the ground thanks to the ease of getting around by bus, tram, train, and bike. My best friend in the Netherlands was 9292.nl. My first solo trip was to the cheese market in Alkmaar. I enjoyed trips exploring the Netherlands and Europe with the AWC, PWC, family and friends. I found living in my expat country so enjoyable, especially riding my bike everywhere. It was so easy to learn the ropes in this new country, especially since most of the Dutch speak English.

Along with my husband, we were fortunate to bond with other Americans, Dutch, Canadians, and Brits, and these friendships do continue. I even liked the Dutch weather! After nearly 30 years enduring Houston’s climate, I was ready for cooler temperatures. I especially liked the changing seasons and the long walks in the park with Max, our Texas dog who readily adapted to the Dutch dog lifestyle. What a great place to be a dog!

One thing I learned on this trip is that the friends we made during our time as expats will always be our friends.

As you can tell, leaving this wonderful life was something I did not spend time thinking about, so when the price of crude crashed, a little of me went with it. I accepted our return with the hope our time in Houston would be limited as my husband’s retirement was near. I was ambivalent about going home, back to my house that was ‘occupied’ by our son and daughter and her two new large dogs. Shell made the physical move easy, and our departure was almost as easy as our arrival in The Hague. Though Houston was more or less the same, I came to realize I was not. In the three years I was abroad I had changed. My view of the world had expanded due to many factors, especially the variety of people I met and the many countries I visited. Even though I had traveled outside the U.S. before this trip home, the world now seemed different. Maybe it was because I was older, but it was a palpable feeling. Of course, the sudden immersion back into U.S. life was exacerbated by the election cycle, which I had hoped to avoid. Expat life provided a bit of a buffer to the non-stop, in-your-face news in the U.S.

There was quite a bit of our life in The Hague that I missed after repatriation. I missed biking and walking to the small shops in our van Hoytema area of Benoordenhout. We also missed all the wonderful restaurants near us, especially Donato’s on Weissenbruchstraat! Houston does have more than its fair share of good eating establishments, but still, none of them are as authentically Italian with such kind owners as those at Donato’s.

Once I returned to Houston I thought that I would not need to purchase a car. That turned out to be a pipe dream. I will say, though, I easily assimilated back into the American life of suburbia and am again shopping in one of my favorite U.S. stores, Target!

Life in Houston was one of recovery; reclaiming my house from the years of care thanks to our children, enjoying the company of our now three dogs living in the house, and making plans for our next post-Houston adventure to upstate New York, where we plan to move since Gerard is retiring soon. So, I’ve had many outlets to keep me busy. My transition back to U.S. life was made extraordinarily easier by bringing part of NL with me. Shortly after our return, the son of our Dutch neighbors came to stay with us for three months. We had the pleasure of his company and showed him around Houston, Texas and the U.S., which was a great help in our transition.

When Gerard had to return for a meeting at Shell in September, I tagged along. We stayed with our former neighbors, the parents whose son stayed with us in Houston. Our friends supplied us with bikes and off we went to explore our favorite city sites. I biked to the AWC and enjoyed walking once again with the Walkie Talkies. It was great fun to catch up with friends at Book Club, and I attended lunches and dinners at our favorite restaurants with many friends during this week.

It was so much fun on this trip to hop on the train once again and explore. There were visits to Den Bos, Delft, Haarlem, and Leiden. I enjoyed a beautiful afternoon strolling in my favorite park in The Hague, Clingendael. We spent one afternoon at the Scheveningen beach, although we missed having our dog Max with us. I was also able during this week to go for a walk in the park with our former dog walker and his pack. I know Max misses those beautiful off-leash parks as much as I do!

Coming back was not difficult. Everything was so familiar to me, it didn’t feel as though I had been gone for more than a year. One thing I learned on this trip is that the friends we made during our time as expats will always be our friends. We share a bond that only those who have been fortunate to live abroad can understand. And the friendships with our Dutch friends are stronger than ever. Now on to our next move.

NOVEMBER 2017 43
As one of the lucky winning bidders at the AWC Gala in the spring, my husband and I, along with our two 15 year-olds, headed to Port Grimaud in the south of France in August for a two-week holiday courtesy of a generous donor. Summer traffic in France is known to be the ruin of many a vacation, particularly with respect to “black” days, those weekend traveling days when it feels like half of Europe is on the Route du Soleil. Fortunately, my husband knows the ropes. We started driving early on a Thursday, and reached Gap, the main town in the Hautes-Alpes region, south of Lyon. The first settlement in the region dates back to Neolithic times and it has a rich history, including an important function in Roman times as a base for those working on Roman roads through the valley. We didn’t stay long enough to explore properly, but the entire region is beautiful.

Continuing south the next day, we took the scenic route through the Gorges du Verdun, also known as the French Grand Canyon. This is definitely an area worthy of further exploration. In addition to stunning views there are many opportunities to rent canoes or kayaks along the river to paddle deep into the gorge. Further inland we found easily accessible shallow water areas which compel you to take off your shoes and dip your toes into the chilling and clear water.

After leisurely making our way to the coast, we arrived late afternoon and made our acquaintance with the town of Port Grimaud, created in the 1960s as an auto-free community with a twist. Each of the townhouses comes with its own boat slip! Port Grimaud is less than 7 kilometers from glamorous St. Tropez with Ste. Maxime and Ste. Raphaël also nearby. Don’t be fooled by distance though—summer traffic means spending hours to drive between the coastal towns (we made that mistake once and once only). Fortunately, there are ferries that allow you to visit these charming places.

First up for us was St. Tropez, especially since the world-famous market on the Place des Lices takes place each Saturday. We took the ferry across the Golfe de Saint-Tropez and were delighted to find ourselves in the middle of a de facto yacht show, surrounded by some of the most luxurious super-yachts sailing the world today. As my husband was involved with the design and engineering of several of those we passed, having worked in that world for eight years, he was able to give anyone within hearing range a masterclass on the various innovations and features of some of the yachts at anchor as we passed. Certainly a highlight of his vacation.

Arriving in St. Tropez, it is hard not to notice the conspicuous display of wealth at every turn. The village is lovely, but the spectacle is everywhere. We enjoyed walking along streets filled with galleries and high end merchandise, but it was only window shopping for us, I’m afraid. But on a happier (i.e., more affordable) note, the open-air market is another world entirely. There is a fantastic array of stands, selling everything from food, to soaps, souvenirs, and locally grown/made items. The crowds though were intense. There was no possibility of lingering over anything, which was a bit of a disappointment. Meandering back to the harbor, we decided we would splurge on a coffee on the Quai Jean Jaurès, on the most desirable mooring spot in St. Tropez—a prime people-watching spot!

In the end though, we aren’t really that enamored with the rich and famous, so one day was more than enough for us. We still had 12 more days. I’m relieved to say that the Côte d’Azur has plenty to offer with options to suit any budget.
August can be very warm, and it was rather difficult for us to acclimate to the heat. We enjoyed the beach nearest our house, which had gorgeous water and wasn’t overly crowded. Our girls enjoyed tried parasailing, one of many water sports on offer. On the days the temperatures dropped to the 25 degree Celsius range we hiked, first exploring the inland region around the medieval town of Carcès, including the impressive Chutes du Caramy falls. We then drove west along the coast to the Gien Peninsula, which reminded me of Curaçao with pink flamingoes living in the marshes there, and the colors of the houses. On another hiking day, we started once again in the village of St. Tropez and by walking to the end of the harbor area and behind the restaurants a new world opened up. The public Sentier du Littoral coastal hiking path hugs the water around the peninsula. At times on pavement, at other times over a beach or rocky cliff path, the walk is exhilarating. Although magnificent estates line the inland side of the path, the coast itself still belongs to the people.

The day we took the car east to St. Raphaël, the traffic delay was so severe we ended up missing the appointment we had made there. We nevertheless enjoyed seeing the town, but for the return trip we decided we’d take a detour north to avoid the snail’s pace of the direct route. Using our Michelin map gave us an alternate, and more scenic route that paralleled the coastal road, but at a higher altitude. It was spectacular! We found that the road had suffered erosion and was no longer being maintained, so we pretty much had it to ourselves. We did not save any time, but our souls were well nourished by the stunning views overlooking the Mediterranean.

We rounded out the vacation with day trips to Grimaud, Toulon, an outlet mall near Provence which included visits to a Les Olivades factory store for an authentic tablecloth and to local wineries. There is a drink for every holiday, and in this part of the world, that is rosé. We did bring some home, but it’s just not the same. You have to be there!

**Did you know that any English-speaking woman may join the AWC?**

Invite your English-speaking friends from other countries who have an affinity for Americans to join us today!
Affordable Art Fair

This four-day event presents a wide array of contemporary art from 65 local, regional and international galleries. You can find thousands of original paintings, prints, sculptures and photography all under one roof, and all under €6,000. The work of young, emerging artists hangs alongside some of the biggest household names.

Thursday, November 2 to Sunday, November 5
Kromhouthal in De Overkant
Gedempt Hamerkanaal 231, Amsterdam Noord
www.affordableartfair.nl

Crossing Border Festival
Ever since the first edition in 1993, Crossing Border has examined the frontiers of music and language in the city center of The Hague. It has expanded to become one of the most progressive international music and literature festivals in Europe featuring more than 100 artists ranging from renowned names to promising upcoming talent.

Friday, November 3 & Saturday, November 4
Various venues in Den Haag Centrum
www.crossingborder.nl

IamExpat Fair in The Hague
The IamExpat Fair is returning to The Hague with stands from dozens of companies and organizations working in housing, careers, education, expat services, health, leisure, and family needs. Free workshops and presentations will take place throughout the day. Entrance is free with online registration. www.thehague.iamexpatfair.nl

Thursday, November 2 to Sunday, November 5
Kromhouthal in De Overkant
Gedempt Hamerkanaal 231, Amsterdam Noord
www.affordableartfair.nl

Annual Church Bazaar
The American Protestant Church of The Hague will host its 60th Annual Bazaar. You can savor appetizing dishes and delicacies from the international kitchen, as well as shop for books, clothing, accessories, arts and crafts, and more. Free entrance with proceeds from sales to support charities worldwide. www.aphc.nl

Saturday, November 4
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Esther de Boer-van Rijklaan 20, Den Haag

Scheveningen Beer Festival
On Saturday, November 4 and Sunday, November 5, the Scheveningen Beer Festival Schuim (Foam) is coming to The Pier (www.pier.nl). Enjoy more than 30 different beers, both locally and internationally known with a special focus on freshly harvested autumn and specialty beers. There will also be 0% alcohol beers for designated drivers.

12th Leiden Film Festival
The Leiden Film Festival (LIFF) showcases feature films that examine the border between art-house and mainstream cinema from all over the world. The American Indie Competition is LIFF’s main event that focuses entirely on young American talents who are yet unknown to international audiences. The festival runs through November 5 in various locations in Leiden. www.leidenfilmfestival.nl

English-Speaking Comedy Scheveningen Pier continues to add new businesses and now has a comedy club offering entertainment, food and panoramic views. While most of the shows feature Dutch comedians, they welcome four top English and international comedians to the stage on Thursday, November 9 and Friday, November 10. www.tastycomedy.nl

GLOW Eindhoven
At this annual festival, dozens of light artists give Eindhoven’s facades and public spaces in the city center an entirely new face as nightfall changes the colors and shapes on the city’s streets. The theme of GLOW 2017 is The Source, referring to Eindhoven having been a source of light for the whole world since the founding of the match factory in 1870 and Philip’s light bulb factory in 1891. The festival starts each evening at 6:30 p.m. and runs from Saturday, November 11 through Saturday, November 18. www.gloweindhoven.nl

DFAS Art Lecture
Bilbao Guggenheim Museum
The Guggenheim, which houses a permanent collection of works by Picasso, Dali, Magritte and Warhol, was designed by the American architect Frank Gehry. It opened to the public in 1997 and is one of the most exciting buildings of the 20th century. Lecturer Sian Walters, a graduate of Cambridge University and guest lecturer at the National Gallery in London, begins with an introduction to the Guggenheim Foundation and then moves on to describe the very particular circumstances that led to the commission in Spain. She examines the architecture of Gehry using illustrations from his work in Europe and America, and describes how the vast asymmetrical, apparently chaotic and fragmented structure was created. Non-DFAS member fee is €12. www.dfas.nl

Tuesday, November 14
Doors open at 7:30 p.m.
Lecture begins at 8 p.m.
Cultural Centrum Warenar
Kerkstraat 75, Wassenaar

>> 50
Sinterklaas Arrival

Sinterklaas arrives from Spain in the Netherlands every year on the 2nd or 3rd weekend in November, visiting different towns at various times. He will arrive aboard the SS Madrid in Scheveningen Harbor on Saturday, November 18. After his arrival at 10:30, he will make his way on his white horse, accompanied by a full parade of Zwarte Pies, through the streets of Scheveningen and the Statenkwartier into The Hague Centrum. Even if you don’t have young children, this annual event is uniquely Dutch and is quite a wonderful sight. www.sinterklaasindenhaag.nl

Antique and Art Fair

PAN Amsterdam, the Netherlands’ premier art and antiques fair, is renowned for its high-quality, international offerings by 110 galleries of paintings, furniture, maps, prints and sculptures from the 16th century to the present. The common denominator is that all the objects are vetted by a group of 70 experts for authenticity, artistic quality and condition. Prices range from € 500 to € 500,000. Over 45,000 visitors, from museum curators to private art enthusiasts, are attracted to this fair every year. www.pan.nl

Free Charity Wine Tasting

SPOSA Child (www.sposachild.com), founded by AWC Member Marilyn Tinsay, is a foundation that raises money to provide a full elementary and high school education, housing and counselling for girls traumatized by sexual abuse in the Philippines. Their goal is to turn victims into graduates who will break the cycle of child abuse in the Philippines. Everyone is invited to SPOSA Child’s next fundraiser: a free wine tasting conveniently located near Rotterdam Centraal. This event is sponsored by Vinami Wine Import who will present four red wines, three white wines, one champagne and one cava during the tasting. A very generous 18% of each sale (bottle or box) will be donated to SPOSA Child. Celebrate the holiday season with fine wine for friends and family by raising a toast for charity. For more information, please contact Marilyn at info@sposachild.com or 063-716-8622.

St. Andrew’s Charity Ball

The St. Andrew’s Society hosts a yearly charity ball in celebration of St. Andrew’s Day (the feast day of St. Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland). A highlight will be Scottish dancing to live music for enthusiasts of all abilities. Bringing a dance partner is unnecessary. The € 99 ticket includes a four-course dinner with haggis, wine with dinner and dancing throughout the evening. Kilts are optional. Tickets may be purchased from Marion at maria.janine@ziggo.nl. If you want to practice a few dances before the ball, you are welcome to join the Reel Club which meet on Fridays in the British School on Diamanthorst in The Hague from 8 – 10 p.m. www.standrews.nl

International Food Fair

The Parish of the Church of Our Saviour sponsors this large-scale International Food Fair every November for charity. The diverse members of the parish community from more than 90 nations come together to provide entertainment and to prepare and sell their own national food specialties, wines and pastries. There are kids’ activities, a raffle, used book sale and flea market. The proceeds are donated to charitable organizations for life-sustaining projects such as farming, carpentry, women’s support, street children’s education and rehabilitation for the homeless. In 2016, the fair raised € 40,000 with 100% of the funds dispersed to charities around the world. www.parish.nl

Saturday, November 18
Noon – 6 p.m.
Francois Vatel School
Granaathorst 20, Den Haag
Free entrance

Scheveningen Food Truck Festival

What The Fork?!!! culinary festival will take place above the sea on The Pier in Scheveningen on Saturday, November 18 and Sunday, November 19 with more than 15 food trucks serving culinary delights plus a handmade market. www.pier.nl

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Sunday, November 19
3:30 – 6 p.m.
Alliance Française Rotterdam
Westersingel 14, Rotterdam

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Saturday, November 25
6:30 p.m. – 1 a.m.
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Den Haag
Classifieds

Blossoming Health and Beauty
Looking for a professional, licensed acupuncturist? Contact Linda Chen at 06-37315840. With a background in leadership development by Shell, Linda graduated with Cum Laude in TCM Acupuncture. She is a registered member of the professional association ZHONG. Insurance reimbursement of the fee is possible. www.blossoming-healthbeauty.com

Walkie Dog: Dog Walking and Boarding Service
Small groups with twice the fun. Long walks for an honest price.
For rates or inquiries, contact Misja Rueb at 062 815 2819
Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/walkiedognl

Seaside Apartment for Short-term Rental
Overlooking the pier and the North Sea at Scheveningen beach, this 6th floor apartment sleeps 3 comfortably, with 1 king bed and 1 single futon. € 65 per night, with a 3-night minimum, plus deposit. Contact AWC Member Jane Gulde at iaminholland@yahoo.com.

Counselling International
For professional, confidential individual counselling or coaching, relationship/couple therapy or conflict mediation. Experienced, multilingual professional Els Barkema-Sala, MPhil, MBACP.
Contact 071 528 2661 for FREE initial telephone consultation or for an appointment. www.counsellinginternational.com

Attorney
For high-quality professional legal services in English, contact Robert Oosthout (highly recommended by AWC Member Cynthia Lardner). For over 31 years, Mr. Oosthout has specialized in immigration and IND matters, divorce, employment law, real estate and general contract law. With an office conveniently located in Leiden, Mr. Oosthout can be reached at +31 6 26 90 25 45. The first one-hour consultation is complimentary to AWC Members. www.oosthoutadvocatuur.nl

Event information, suggestions or comments for eNews?
***New email account***
Please send all eNews information to awcthehague.enews@gmail.com no later than end of day each Friday for the following week’s eNews.

Member Privacy
Please be reminded that the AWC Membership List is for AWC Member reference only and use of this information in any communication other than AWC official business is strictly prohibited. Members may not share the list with anyone other than another AWC Member in good standing and never to any third party.
The AWC takes care to protect Member information and adherence to this policy is critical to maintain Member privacy. Members are asked to report suspected misuse of the list to any AWC Board Member.

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The AWC is not responsible for accidents or injuries occurring at Club activities or on Club property. Sports and exercise instructors must carry their own liability insurance.

Classified Mini-Ads: Deadline: In general, the 1st of the month prior to the month in which your ad will appear, although subject to change due to holiday schedule.

AWC Member Rates:

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<th>Per Issue</th>
<th>For 45 Words</th>
<th>€ 10</th>
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Non-Member Rates:

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How to Submit Your Ad:
Email your ad to: goingdutchads@gmail.com

Payment Information:
Please indicate the name of your ad on your payment so that we are able to match up your payment with your ad.

Be Bank Transfer:
ABN-AMRO
43.14.21.757
IBAN: NL42ABNA0431421757

Display Ads:
For full, half, third or quarter page commercial display ads, email our magazine staff at goingdutchads@gmail.com

AWC Members, please connect with us on LinkedIn https://nl.linkedin.com/in/awcthehague

Members: eNews Distribution
A weekly electronic newsletter is sent to all AWC Members via GroupSpaces.com. If you have not been receiving your eNews, please contact Shirley at awcthehague.member@gmail.com.

AWC Members, please connect with us on LinkedIn https://nl.linkedin.com/in/awcthehague

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Why are you living in the Netherlands?  
My husband’s job in oil and gas.

Give us a quick wrap-up of your family.  
Close-knit and country. My grandparents, parents, and sisters (and families) all live on the same farm in the Allegheny foothills. I’m the one that got away!

What is it about the AWC that you most enjoy?  
The comradery with women who experience the same highs and lows of living abroad. It’s a special connection.

What do you consider the most overrated virtue of being an expat?  
“Every day’s a holiday”. It may seem like it to outsiders, but time marches on.

What is the quality you most like in a friend?  
Humility.

What was your greatest travel extravagance?  
My first European trip to Italy 2011–no holds barred!

Which travel experience made you the happiest?  
See above. The history, wine, and people enchanted me!

What is your favorite travel purchase?  
A painting of a street scene in Montmartre that makes me smile every time I look at it.

Where would you most like to live?  
The hardest question for me! A few years ago I could’ve answered this in a heartbeat. After living abroad, I haven’t a clue. I will say I’m happy in Holland.

Who are your favorite writers?  
I’m trying to read more classics and right now I can’t get enough Jane Austin.

Who or what is the greatest love of your life?  
Aside from my husband, both sets of grandparents. They’re the reason I go home often and the wisest people I know. My love for them is immeasurable. Married 65 and 70 years in 2017!

Who’s a better chef, you or your husband?  
I do all the cooking being a real housewife of The Hague, and all :). Also, I’m one of three girls who grew up in the kitchen, and he’s one of three boys who didn’t.

Who are your heroes in real life?  
Abe Lincoln and my dad. Both are honest, hardworking men who inspire me.

If you have pets, tell us breed and names.  
Cash and Clyde—a cockapoo and some other kind of “poo”. They’ve been my constant buddies for eleven years!

What is your motto?  
Montani Semper Liberi…Mountaineers are always free.
HOME IS WHERE YOUR GYM IS

2.5 Miles from ASH

So you like challenges. You came all the way to this country, so why not take an extra step? Continue pushing your limits, get your natural energy going and make yourself at home at YOUR LIFE.

FIT RIGHT IN

YOUR LIFE sportsclub / Industrieweg 4 / 2254 AE Voorschoten
T 071 561 19 06 / info@yourlife.nl / YOURLIFE.NL