

Going Dutch

American Women's Club
of The Hague

2015
Jan - Feb

In
this
issue

Holiday Bazaar
London Theater Trip
Legoland Adventure
FAWCO Regional Meeting



AVEDA CITY SPA HAIR & SKIN



Nail Champagne Bar

Lash Bar

Wax Bar

Perm. Hair Removal

Microdermabrasie

Hair Extensions

Sun Junkie Spray Tan

Brazilian Blowout

Brazilian Wax

Boyzilian Wax



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Going Dutch January/February 2015



These AWC ladies were among the group that helped to make hosting the FAWCO Regional Meeting such a success



Santa was only one of the many volunteers at this year's AWC Holiday Bazaar



A small AWC group had a great time exploring London

The Magazine of the American Women's Club of The Hague

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AWC Purpose Statement

The AWC of The Hague 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. The association does not endeavor to make a profit.



FAWCO Regional Conference



Message from the President

by Linda Divon

As the holiday season is now behind us, we bring in 2015 with cold winter temperatures. Winter has indeed arrived to the Netherlands. Although January and February are going to be cold, windy and wet and we may even see ice and snow, we do hope that you will be brave enough to venture out and take advantage of the fun activities, tours and trips that the AWC Board and Committee Chairs have planned for you.

With warmth in our hearts, we will officially open the season with our Spring Kick Off on Wednesday evening, January 14, from 6 – 8 p.m. and on Thursday morning, January 15, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Our entire team of Board Members and Committee Chairs will be there to welcome you all. This will be a great opportunity to reconnect with old friends and to welcome Newcomers who would like to learn more about who we are and what we do at the AWC. Join us for a glass of wine and some snacks. At that time lists of our diverse activities and tours will be available for registration as well as lists for those of you who would like to sign up to give some time to an event or to a project. Remember that the AWC is an all-volunteer organization and volunteering is the only way that will make our Club stronger and greater.

Thank you to Vice President **Patricia Raynolds** and Member & Club Administration Officer **Rachel Kupperts** and to their dedicated and hard working Committee Chairs and Team who will be organizing this event. As always the AWC Board and Committee Chairs are trying to organize fun and interesting activities, trips and tours. We would appreciate suggestions, feedback and input from our Members.

To give you a glimpse of what January and February have on offer:

Following a successful “Vision Board” event last year, Patricia Raynolds will once again guide and help you in creating your very own personal vision board (see pages 16 and 18). She will explain about the law of attraction and tell us what the concept of positive thinking entails. At the end of this workshop, you will surely leave with a positive energy as well as a positive new way of looking at the world!

There are a number of Newcomer activities in the planning stages by **Greetje Engelsman** (see page 12). Thank you, Greetje, for always being on hand with a smile to welcome, guide and assist Newcomers to the AWC. Stay tuned for updates.



On Saturday, January 17, join us for a viewing of a very special exhibition at the Kunsthall Rotterdam for a tour of *Designing 007, 50 Years of Bond Style*. For those James Bond fans, entering the world of Bond with costumes, gadgets, props, clips and more will be a very special experience. Then on Friday, January 30, our very own AWC Member and Arts Committee Chair, **Jane Choy**, will give an introductory lecture on Rembrandt, who is seen >> 51



Spring Kick Off

by Trena Cormier

Join us as we “Kick Off” the New Year at the AWC! During our Open House format, you can drop in when it is most convenient for you. Come learn about the new Activities and Tours that have been organized to help get us out of the house during the cold winter and into the spring. By hosting both evening and daytime hours, we hope to cater to everyone’s schedules.

Registration will be open for 2015 One-of-a-Kind Activities, Tours and other events which you will find featured throughout this issue. Space for all activities is limited, so please sign up early to avoid disappointment. You can also learn about our Ongoing Activities. Board Members and Committee Chairs

will be on-site to answer any questions. We will provide drinks and nibbles.

Free babysitting will only be available at the Thursday session for children between six months and five years of age. In order to have the correct ratio of babysitters to children, you **must book in advance**. Call the Front Office at 070 350 6007 or email awcthehague@gmail.com before January 12 to reserve your child’s place.

Wednesday, January 14
6 – 8 p.m.

and
Thursday, January 15
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
AWC Clubhouse

February General Meeting

by Trena Cormier

Computers and the Internet are now deeply embedded in our daily lives and society. Yet it seems that every day brings news headlines such as “Millions of passwords stolen from...,” or we receive emails urging us to “click here to clarify details of your recent purchase.” It can be a challenge for even experienced Internet users to know what is safe and what is not.

To help us learn about the role of cybersecurity in everyday life, we will welcome Ms. Sarah Brown, a US cybersecurity expert as our speaker for the February General meeting. Ms. Brown moved to the Netherlands with the MITRE Corporation in 2008, providing engineering expertise to the US government and working with NATO. She is now a principal cybersecurity expert with Fox-IT, considered one of the top Dutch cybersecurity organizations. Ms. Brown works as a member of Fox-IT’s InTELL team, providing intelligence to banks and retailers about existing and immi-

nent threats involving hacking, malware, phishing, and hybrid attacks.

In her talk, she will discuss general security awareness when using the Internet. In particular, she will focus on online shopping, banking, and how security teams work to stay in control of today’s threats.

Free babysitting will be available for children between six months and five years of age. In order to have the correct ratio of babysitters to children, you **must book in advance**. Call the Front Office at 070 350 6007 or email awcthehague@gmail.com before February 10 to reserve your child’s place.

Thursday, February 12
Coffee and Newcomers Meet & Greet:
10 a.m.
Meeting: 10:30 a.m.
AWC Clubhouse



Ramblings from the Editor

by Melissa White

I am frequently asked what I think of living in the Netherlands and, even after nine years, my answer is basically the same, "I love it here, but the weather stinks." As I'm writing this, I'm holed up in my house watching the rain continue down in droves as it's been doing for hours. I'm monitoring my favorite rain radar website at www.buie.nl (which allows me to monitor when rain is predicted within the next two hours on my street rather than just regionally), so I'll know when it's dry enough to take my dog out for a walk.

There's no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothes.

~ Old Scandinavian Saying

When I lived in North Carolina, which also gets its fair share of bad weather, I didn't need to monitor the radar as religiously or plan my entire day around the next rainstorm. I always knew that I'd be toasty warm and dry in my car. In fact, I rarely even wore my winter coat despite freezing temperatures because I wouldn't be exposed to the cold for long as I dashed between my car and the gym or shops. Here in Holland, I am rarely without a coat. I spend a lot of time outdoors, whether walking my dog or cycling to the grocery store or further afield. Even when using public transport, while there is often shelter from the rain, there's little protection from the cold while waiting to catch a train, tram or bus. Thus, I rely pretty heavily on technology to help me avoid getting soaked or chilled.

Personally, I love snow. Perhaps that's because I've never lived anywhere that gets serious quantities of snow. I can appreciate its beauty without the hassles of major snowfall. It's the ice that I could do without. Black ice and cycling don't mix well. Luckily, many of the bike paths in the area do get salted (often before the roads).

It is easy to want to hunker down during the dark winter months and barely emerge from your house until spring. Rather than hiding until the bulb fields are in bloom, make an effort to get outside and see something new. An unadvertised benefit of AWC Membership is that there are ladies working on your behalf to make sure that you venture out during all seasons. Rather than remaining isolated during the bleak winter, the AWC helps get you out and about. Be sure to come to Spring Kick Off (see previous page) to learn about all the ways you can stay busy this winter.

I'm thrilled that **Jane Choy** has arranged for a guided tour of the James Bond Exhibit at the Kunsthal Museum on Saturday, January 17. My husband has threatened to wear his tuxedo so that he can bond better with 007. He has some crazy notion that I should dress up as a Bond girl. Does anyone else want to get dressed up? I'm making arrangements for a group dinner at a new restaurant that evening, so please be sure to let me know if you're interested in joining us when you register on GroupSpaces.com.

I plan to register at Kick Off for the tour that **Becky Failor** has planned with assistance from **Linda Divon** to Amsterdam's Jewish Quarter and Jewish Historical Museum. While I visited the museum with my father years ago (and highly recommend that you bring your children to the JMH Children's Museum even if you're not Jewish), I very much look forward to the added dimension of having a tour through the collections. I'm disappointed that I can't make it to the tour the following week of the Royal Palace in Amsterdam. If you're available for these tours, I urge you to not let these unique opportunities pass you by. Just remember to bundle up!



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Newcomer Activities

by Greetje Engelsman and Sue Merrick

Dutch Products



AWC Member, long-term resident of the Netherlands and former chef in California, **Carol Sloodweg**, will explain Dutch cooking and cleaning products. Carol also teaches cooking classes, so she is an expert on using local products and adapting American recipes and ingredients to Dutch products. You should attend her Dutch Product Class at least once so you can see for yourself why those who attend always give her class five stars!

Wednesday, January 21

10 a.m.

AWC Clubhouse

FREE

Meet & Greet for Newcomers

Are you a Newcomer or a potential Member of the Club with questions on how to navigate through your new homeland? Do you need help with translating Dutch owner's manuals or with Dutch forms that you are struggling to complete? Send us a message at awcthehague.newcomers@gmail.com and/or join us for coffee before the monthly meeting at the Clubhouse. You will be introduced to the Club and find assistance with some of the challenges in life as an expat in Holland.

Wednesday, January 14 at 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 15 at 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, February 12 at 10 a.m.

AWC Clubhouse

FREE

Welcome New Members!

Kristin Anderson

Kagari Arnoldi

Amber Broughton

Astrid Casares

Travel Talk

Meet us for a coffee afternoon and make plans to surprise yourself and your family with new ideas for traveling in and around The Hague and the Netherlands and beyond, as well as tips on how to organize these trips. After the discussion, you will have a list of hidden places to visit and the best way to plan how to get there!

Join us as we discuss how to organize your travels with tips for:

- Travelling by plane, train or other means of public transport
- Using websites and travel organizations
- Planning daytrips in your own backyard
- Learning suggested times to go to different places

When you register for this activity on *GroupSpaces.com*, please share your response to these two questions: What is your favorite travel planning tool? And, what is your favorite hotspot to spend a day or weekend?

Tuesday, February 10

1 p.m.

AWC Clubhouse

FREE

RSVP for all Newcomer Activities directly on *AWC GroupSpaces.com*.

Direct any questions to

awcthehague.newcomers@gmail.com.

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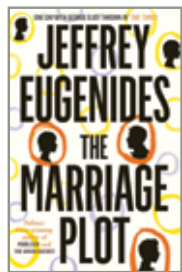
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Ongoing Activities

Book Club: Daytime

The AWC Book Groups are open to all book lovers and are always open to new Members. There is no obligation to attend every meeting or lead a discussion. We take turns bringing a snack. If you've always wanted to try out a book club, you have two options per month. You can now register yourself for either (or both!) Book Clubs on the AWC *GroupSpaces.com* website. Any questions? Please email **Teresa Mahoney** for the daytime group or **Rebecca Fry** for the evening group at awcthehague.bookclub@gmail.com. Happy reading!

The January Daytime Book Group selection is *The Marriage Plot* by Jeffrey Eugenides:



This coming of age drama centers around three college seniors at Brown in the early 80s: Madeleine, a self-described “incurable romantic” who is slightly embarrassed at being so normal; Leonard, brilliant, brooding, charismatic and poor; and Mitchell, a Religious

Studies major from the author's hometown. Told in three viewpoints, the novel starts the day the three graduate, returns to college to give us the back story, then follows their first year out into true adulthood.

Thursday, January 22

10 a.m.

**AWC Clubhouse
FREE**

The February Daytime Book Group selection is *The Middlesteins: A Novel* by Jamie Attenberg: Raised by parents that believed “food was made of love,” Edie indulged for decades, expanding finally to 350 pounds. After her husband of 30 years gave up trying to stop her and moved out, she



Daytime Book Club

Planning Ahead:

Thursday, March 26 *The Good Lord Bird*
by James McBride

Thursday, April 23 *The Boys in the Boat*
by Daniel James Brown

discovered that food is “a wonderful place to hide.” This is a tragicomic novel of marriage, family and obsession, exploring the hopes and heartbreaks of new and old love, and our devastating, fascinating preoccupation with food.

**Thursday, February 19
10 a.m.**

**AWC Clubhouse
FREE**

Recap of the November Discussion

Let the Great World Spin: Irish writer Colum McCann is a resident of New York City who chose to deal with the tragedy of the Twin Towers through loosely connected short stories. Rather than focusing on 9/11, the stories all took place on the day that Philippe Petit illegally strung a 450-pound wire between the towers and walked across it. Though the fictional New Yorkers who witnessed the Frenchman's performance were enthralled, his daring deed touches McCann's book lightly, tangentially. Instead, McCann's stories are character studies of diverse individuals living in NYC on August 7, 1974. He focuses on, among others, the grief-stricken wife of the judge who deals with Petit's case, the matriarch of a family of prostitutes, and an Irish priest compelled to help...everyone. They're detailed with real insight and artistry, satisfyingly connected in the final story that serves as an epilogue. Our group recommends this book.

Evening Book Club

Planning Ahead:

Wednesday, March 11: *The Bone Clocks*

by David Mitchell

Wednesday, April 15: *Tree of Smoke* by

Denis Johnson

Wednesday, May 20: *In the Garden of the Beasts* by Erik Larson

Wednesday, June 10: *Orfeo* by Richard Powers

Book Club: Evening

The January Evening Book Group selection is *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves* by Karen Joy Fowler:



As a girl in Indiana, Rosemary, the 22-year-old narrator, felt that she and Fern were not only sisters but also twins. So she was devastated when Fern disappeared. Then her older brother, Lowell, also vanished. Eventually we learn that Rosemary's father is a

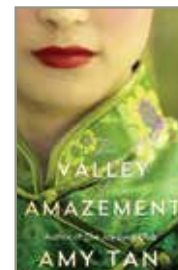
psychology professor, her mother a non-practicing scientist, and Fern a chimpanzee. The profound consequences of this unusual family configuration are shared through flashbacks. Smart and frolicsome Fern believes she is human, while Rosemary, unconsciously mirroring Fern, is instantly tagged “monkey girl” at school. Like Rosemary, we can ponder the mutability of memories, the similarities and differences between the minds of humans and chimps, and the treatment of research animals.

Wednesday, January 14

7:30 p.m.

**Rebecca Fry's House (Note offsite location due to Kick Off)
FREE**

The February Evening Book Group selection is *Valley of Amazement* by Amy Tan:



Spanning more than forty years and two continents, this evocative epic of two women's intertwined fates and their search for identity moves from the lavish parlors of Shanghai courtesans to the fog-shrouded mountains of a remote Chinese village. A deeply evocative narrative about

the profound connections between mothers and daughters, this historical novel returns readers to the compelling territory of *The Joy Luck Club*. With her characteristic insight and humor, Amy Tan conjures a story of inherited trauma, desire and deception, and the power and stubbornness of love.

Wednesday, February 11

7:30 p.m.

**AWC Clubhouse
FREE**

Recap of the November Discussion

This Is the Story of a Happy Marriage: This month we stepped away from fiction and enjoyed reading a collection of essays by novelist Anne Patchett. Though the title doesn't reflect the content, we all enjoyed the essays. She covered topics as diverse as trying out for the Los Angeles Police Department, her dog, life in a nunnery, and what going out on a book tour is really like. We would particularly recommend this collection to budding and established writers.

Chat, Crafts & Cake

Let's get creative! The AWC will be open to all crafters. If you've been looking for an open space large enough to lay out that king-size quilt, or need more table space to organize your photo albums or scrapbooks, or just need an excuse to stitch, pack up those supplies and bring them to the Clubhouse so you can chat with fellow AWC Members and visitors while you work. You might even be able to pick up some suggestions from a fresh pair of eyes. Each week, a different Member will bring a cake made from a never-before-tried recipe for tasting and critiquing. We're sorry, but babysitting is not available and thus

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Ongoing Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 15

we can't accommodate children. Questions? Contact: **Suzanne Dundas** at awcthehague.crafts@gmail.com

Tuesdays
10 a.m. – Noon
AWC Clubhouse
FREE
Visitors Welcome

Dinner Club

Have you run out of ideas of what to do to celebrate Valentine's Day? How about sharing dinner with AWC friends and spouses/partners? Every other month, dinners will be planned and you will dine with a different group of people each time. **Rebecca Niles-Pourier** will set the dates, place couples (or individuals) randomly, and assign the hostess/host couple. Then each hostess will set a theme and guests will be asked to prepare a dish. For example, if the theme is Italian, then one person might bring antipasto, one brings bread, one brings Italian wine, etc. The hostess may choose to cook the main course or do it all, but then you might be asked to contribute some money towards the cost. It will be up to each hostess how they want to structure the meal. You may be asked to host one dinner for eight, six or four guests (depending on your space at home) and then you will be a guest at someone else's home the next time. This is a fun way to share an evening with new AWC friends while enjoying a great dinner! Future dates include Saturday, April 25. Contact Rebecca at awcthehague.wwdp@gmail.com to join in the fun.

Saturday, February 14
Locations and Meals Vary
Sign-up deadline: February 7

Dutch Conversation Coffee

If you've had at least one beginner course in Dutch, here's the perfect opportunity to try to speak your new language in a safe environment. We will practice speaking Dutch over coffee with some of our Dutch Members. This is not a class, but an informal opportunity to

speak *Nederlands*.

Wednesdays
10 – 11 a.m.
Clubhouse
FREE

Heart Pillow Project



The AWC is in its 7th year of making heart-shaped pillows to support the arms of breast cancer patients in local hospitals. Each pillow is made with tender loving care, wrapped in a plastic bag tied with a beautiful bow and a message signed by a volunteer. No sewing skills are needed; just the ability to cut and stuff! What a wonderful way to meet new friends while contributing to a worthy cause. The emails we receive are so touching and show that women are linked everywhere to this terrible disease. We are proud to provide women with something not only practical, but comforting as well. If you can cut fabric, stuff fiberfill, thread a needle or tie a bow, we need you! No sign-up is necessary. For more information, contact **Eileen Baker** at awcthehague.heartpillow@gmail.com.

Tuesdays, January 20, February 17
Noon – 2 p.m.
AWC Clubhouse
FREE
Visitors Welcome

Ladies' Night Out: Vision Board for the New Year

Do you believe that the law of attraction and

positive thinking can create life-changing results? Are you interested in putting out to the Universe what you want for your future? **Pat Raynolds** will explain the concept and direct us in creating a positive vision board. Bring your old magazines, photos and inspirational quotes; using scissors and glue, we will create our futures. Scissors, glue and poster boards will be provided. Afterwards, we'll have a snack and share our visions with the group. RSVP on GroupSpaces.com. Questions? Contact Pat at awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com.

Monday, January 12
7 – 9 p.m.
AWC Clubhouse
€ 5 Members or Guests

Ladies' Night Out: Oscar Time

In the run up to the Oscars, the Pathé usually starts re-showing the Oscar nominated films at either the Pathé Buitenhof or Spui. If we're lucky, we might even get to see this year's Best Picture! Look for details on movie location and time in eNews that morning.

Monday, February 2
7 – 10 p.m.
Pathé (at own expense)

Pilates

Pilates is a form of exercise developed by Joseph Pilates which emphasizes body development through core strength, flexibility and body awareness. Pilates works the deeper, more stabilizing muscles of the spine and the abdominal wall. Doing Pilates makes you stronger, longer and leaner. **Ineke Latour**, certified STOTT Pilates® Instructor and AWC Member, will teach Pilates classes at the AWC Clubhouse. You will be monitored and corrected to enjoy responsible, safe and effective Pilates training. Email Ineke to sign up for these classes and pay her directly. Bring your own mat and towel. All levels are welcome. Participants should arrive at the Club at 10 a.m. so class can start promptly at 10:15 a.m.

Wednesdays
10:15 – 11:15 a.m.
€ 15 per class Members
Min 6 / Max 10
Contact: Ineke at
Latour@globalswing.com

Tennis League

The AWC Tennis Group plays doubles every Tuesday (except specific holidays) 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
1 – 3 p.m.
Dekker Tennis Courts
Veerpolder 14, Warmond
€ 275 Members (€ 325 nonmembers)

Walkie Talkies

Taking a walk with friends is the perfect way to start your week! Join us for an energetic walk and talk. We meet in front of the Clubhouse each week and then walk to a variety of destinations between the beach, woods and city. Occasionally, we take longer walks which we announce on the AWC Facebook Group. Sign up for this group on GroupSpaces.com to get email updates or email **Greetje Engelsman** at awcthehague.newcomers@gmail.com or **Emily van Eerten** at awcthehague.fawco@gmail.com.

Mondays
9:30 a.m
FREE



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One-of-a-Kind Activities

by Pat Raynolds

RSVP directly on [AWC GroupSpaces.com](http://AWCGroupSpaces.com). Direct any questions to awcthehague.activities@gmail.com. Payment must be made within 5 calendar days of reserving or your name will be moved to a waitlist. Payment can be made in the Front Office by PIN or by bank transfer to the AWC account NL42ABNA0431421757.

Vision Board for the New Year



Do you believe that the law of attraction and positive thinking can create life-changing results? Are you interested in putting out to the Universe what you want for your future? **Pat Raynolds** will explain the concept and direct us in creating a positive vision board. Bring your old magazines, photos and inspirational quotes; using scissors and glue, we will create our futures. Scissors, glue and poster boards will be provided. Afterwards, we'll have a snack and share our visions with the group. Questions? Contact Pat at awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com.
Monday, January 12
10 a.m. – Noon
AWC Clubhouse
€ 5 Members or Guests

Greeting Card Workshop

You know the feeling? You're about to turn in for the night and you remember you need a card for an event the next day. Perhaps you want to give someone something more than a card, but not quite a gift. Or maybe your colleague is having a really bad day and you just want to spread a little sunshine. You can achieve all this while having fun at this workshop taught by AWC Member **Jaimie**

Keppel, owner of Jaimie's Joyful Stampin'. You'll make ten all-purpose handmade cards in five different styles while learning basic stamping and punching techniques. Just assemble as demonstrated or let your creativity run free with your own sentiments. ALL materials are provided PLUS a credit of € 20 towards the purchase of any crafting products when purchased on the day of the workshop. Questions? Contact Jaimie at JaimiesJoyfulStampin@yahoo.com.

Sunday, January 18
3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
AWC Clubhouse
€ 25 Members (€28 nonmembers)
Cancellation deadline: January 11



6th Annual Chili Cook-Off

It's time for the 6th Annual AWC Chili Cook-Off! This is serious business as contenders vie for the coveted award of the Best Chili in the AWC. If you think you have the best chili in town, "bring it on!" This is one tasty event you won't want to miss. If you're interested in being a contestant, just let us know mighty quickly (please note that the contestant gets in free, but the spouse still pays). You could be

the next to wear the Best Chili Crown! Bring a six-pack of beer or your favorite beverage and a good appetite.

Saturday, February 7
6:30 – 10 p.m.
AWC Clubhouse
€ 10 Members or Spouses (€ 15 nonmembers)
Minimum 10 / Maximum 30
Cancellation deadline: January 31

Mini Spa Night

Why not shake off the winter blues and treat yourself to a mini spa night at ASPA, an organic spa in The Hague? We'll meet at the spa and indulge in up to two 30-minute treatments per person (at own expense). You will receive one glass of Prosecco (tea and coffee are also available) as well as nibbles. Treatment options include:

- Manicure € 35
- Eyebrow threading € 15
- Make up application lesson € 35
- Hair styling € 45
- Neck, shoulder & back massage € 45
- Mini facial € 35

When booking on GroupSpaces.com, please indicate your treatment choice(s). Payment by bank transfer or Paypal is due by February 2, after which no refunds are possible.

Monday, February 9
7:30 p.m.
ASPA
Alexanderplein 2, Den Haag
Cancellation deadline: February 2

Join AWC Member Allison Hamilton-Rohe for an afternoon of Discovering Your Personal Style



Photo by Crisspix

Style Starts Now! Workshop

Would you love to feel your style is easy yet powerfully effective? AWC Member **Allison Hamilton-Rohe** of DailyOutfit will host an intimate afternoon celebrating what makes you amazing and how to convey your true beauty through personal style. The value of this workshop is € 300.

- Principles of Personal Style Talk by Allison of DailyOutfit
- Smoothies and snacks break
- Selfie Station with Professional Photographer Cristina Stoain of Crisspix
- Guided Foot Treatment with Simply Skin Founder Vivienne McAlister-Geertz
- On-the-Spot Coaching with Allison of DailyOutfit
- Inhabit Your Style Celebration with Allison of DailyOutfit

Saturday, March 14
1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
AWC Clubhouse
Maximum 10
€ 135 Members (€ 155 nonmembers)
Cancellation deadline: February 27

Would you love to feel your style is easy yet powerfully effective?



What Flatters
+ What Matters
+ Your Dream
Personal Style

Join Allison from DailyOutfit
for an afternoon of discovery

Saturday, March 14th

American Women's Club of The Hague
RSVP at <http://tinyurl.com/do-march-14>

Tours

by Becky Failor

RSVP directly on AWC GroupSpaces.com. Direct any questions to awcthehague.tours@gmail.com.

Payment for all Tours must be made within 5 calendar days of reserving or your name will be moved to a waitlist. Payment can be made in the Front Office by PIN or by bank transfer to the AWC account NL42ABNA0431421757.

Amsterdam's Jewish Quarter and Jewish Historical Museum

Amsterdam has long been a city of trade and many cultures. The rich diversity of the city brought a tolerant and welcoming atmosphere. Into this rich city came Jews from all over the world. We are all familiar with the story of Anne Frank. Let's now learn more about the Jewish community of Amsterdam. In the heart of Amsterdam we will find a number of impressive Jewish monuments. In the old Jewish Quarter, you will find the Jewish Historical Museum with its fascinating Children's Museum, the imposing Portuguese Synagogue and the Hollandsche Schouwburg (National Holocaust Memorial). Each of these places will be etched in your memory.

The AWC will host a private tour of the Jewish Quarter and Jewish Historical Museum with an English-speaking guide. We will depart from DHCS around 9:15 a.m. to Amsterdam

Centraal and then take the metro to meet our guide at 10:30 a.m. at the Portuguese Synagogue. After visiting this beautiful temple built in 1675, we will walk through the old Jewish neighborhood seeing monuments and buildings, including the Hollandsche Schouwburg which the Nazis used as a deportation center. We will end our walking tour at the



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.

Jewish Historical Museum where we will have a guided tour and a Jewish-themed lunch (included in fee). Bring your OV-chipkaart for the train and metro.

Thursday, February 19

Meet at DHCS at 9 a.m.

€ 42 Members (€ 47 nonmembers)

PLUS Museum Entrance Fee (€ 12 or free with Museumkaart)

Min 8 / Max 20

Cancellation deadline: February 11

Royal Palace in Amsterdam

Have you ever stood on the Dam Square in Amsterdam and wondered why the Royal Palace looks so plain? The lavish interior may surprise you if you have only viewed the palace from the outside. Join the AWC for a private tour with an English-speaking guide and marvel at the beauty of this palace that is used by the Dutch Royal Family to entertain world leaders. The Royal Palace was originally built in 1655 as the town hall of Amsterdam. Designed by Jacob van Campen (who also designed the Mauritshuis), the town hall displayed the wealth and grandeur of the Dutch Golden Age. During Napoleon's occupation in 1808, the town hall was converted into a palace. It was here that Willem I accepted the proclamation naming him as the first King of the Netherlands. The building is used to this day for royal events, such as state visits and state dinners and also plays a role in royal weddings. Recently, the Royal Palace was used for the abdication of Queen Beatrix

and investiture of King Willem-Alexander.

We will take the train from Den Haag Centraal (DHCS) at approximately 9:15 a.m. to Amsterdam Centraal and a tram to Dam Square. We will stop for coffee or tea (at own expense) before entering the Royal Palace. Our one-hour tour will be followed by free time to visit the temporary exhibitions and revisit our favorite places in the palace. If there is interest, we will go for lunch together (at own expense) before returning to The Hague. Bring an OV-chipkaart and money for transportation, museum entrance, coffee and lunch.

Thursday, February 26

Meet at DHCS at 9 a.m.

€ 9 Members (€ 14 nonmembers)

PLUS Museum Entrance Fee (€ 10 or free with Museumkaart)

Min 10 / Max 20

Cancellation deadline: February 18





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Holiday Bazaar Appreciation

by Jan Essad and Julie Schipper

This year's AWC Holiday Bazaar was a true success in every sense of the word, from our wonderful vendors to the enthusiasm and energy of all of the volunteers (more than 40!) who seamlessly ran every aspect of their jobs with a holiday spirit that resonated throughout the Carlton Ambassador Hotel the entire weekend. It all began on Saturday morning. We were so excited to greet the vendors as they started setting up their table displays, we couldn't help but feel pride and satisfaction as our months of planning all started coming together. The beautiful Carlton Ambassador Hotel was transformed into a Holiday Bazaar Wonderland filled with unique treasures from food items and jewelry, to Christmas ornaments, toys and books, to clothing, art and Delft and Polish pottery.

Behind the scenes, **Teresa Insalaco**, **Johanna Dishongh** and the finance team (**Marge MacPherson**, **Becky Failor**, **Susan McKinley** and **Georgia Regnault**) were arranging sales receipts for the vendors and setting up the PIN machines so our shoppers could check out quickly and easily (and stayed until late Sunday evening when the last Euro cent was counted!). **Anya Knoop** and **Leslie Martin** were setting up the Bake Sale with delicious cakes, brownies, cookies and cupcakes all baked by our talented AWC Members. **Eileen Baker** was finishing the display of Christmas ornaments for sale while our raffle queen, **Jan de Vries**, was busy collecting and arranging all the vendor-donated prizes in a way that created a beautiful entry to the Bazaar with a warm and welcoming spirit.

From greeting the first visitor to the last happy holiday wish, the entry table ladies and **Patricia "the Red-Nosed" Raynolds** did a marvelous job making everyone feel welcome. All our payment table ladies made checking out effortless for our shoppers. While their parents shopped, our "little" visitors had a special time with Natalie Essad, who welcomed them to the Kids' Corner where they enjoyed arts and crafts, and stories from Santa. And, oooh what a Santa! Truly a jolly ole St. Nick he was with his Ho Ho Ho! Thank you (Honey) Bob Essad for bringing so much fun and laughter to all who saw you. And where would we have been without **Laurie Martecchini**, our Volunteer Coordinator "extraordinaire" and **Teresa Braunschweig** who placed each volunteer in just the right job. Our appreciation goes to our President **Linda Divon** for her unwavering support and her cheerful manner in dealing with vendors. We must also thank **Trena Cormier**, **Teresa Mahoney**, **Julie Otten** and **Melissa White** for helping us promote the Holiday Bazaar on our website and social media as well as in eNews and this magazine.



Lastly (but certainly not the least), there are no words to express our appreciation to the incredible staff of the Carlton Ambassador Hotel. They ALL go above and beyond to accommodate every request that gives our Bazaar that added special experience. Their warm hospitality, efficient service and "no matter what the request, if it's possible we'll do it" attitude is truly commendable.

We were humbled and grateful for the outpouring of support from everyone whose time, talents and energy made this special event a true American experience and grand success. It is a very joyful feeling to see how you all enjoyed participating in our Club's biggest FUNdraiser by both working and/or shopping.

Julie created a little song (or at least a chorus) that sums up the weekend. Sung to the chorus tune of *The Twelve Days of Christmas*:

- 37 vendors selling
- 49 table settings
- Hundreds visitors shopping
- Dozens of cakes and cookies
- 8 months of planning
- 7 hours on Saturday
- 6 hours on Sunday
- 500 raffle tickets!
- 40 volunteers
- 3 rooms at the Carlton Ambassador
- 2 days in November
- and the best Santa Claus in The Hague!

Many thanks to all and a very Happy New Year!





Eileen Baker
Maitreyi Bery
Tina Boshuijer
Teresa Braunschweig
Mary Brotherton
Celeste Brown
Kimberly Carlton
Susan Cave



Trena Cormier
Anita Deal
Kathy DeBest
Jan de Vries
Johanna Dishongh
Suzanne Dundas
Dominique Duysens
Natalie Essad



Becky Failor
Marsha Hagney
Allison Hamilton-
Rohe
Teresa Insalaco
Karla Kahn
Debra Keller
Anya Knoop





Michelle Oliel
Julie Otten
Maria Posma
Patricia Raynolds
Georgia Regnault
Ginnie Rempt
Jessie Rodell
Polly Spinnler





Suzanne MacNeil
Marge MacPherson
Teresa Mahoney
Laurie Martecchini
Leslie Martin
Susan McKinley
Sue Merrick
Rebecca Niles-Pourier



Yoke van der Louw
Gabrielle van der Winden
Julie van der Wolf
Jo van Kalveen
Anne van Oorschot
Melissa White
Christine Zuidwijk

JANUARY 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	Spring is around the corner: Mar 14: Style Starts Now Workshop Mar 28: Kids' Easter Party Apr 18: Partner Appreciation Evening				1	2	3
4	5 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m.	6 AWC Tennis 1 p.m	7 Pilates 10:15 a.m.	8	9	10	
Clubhouse Closed thru Jan 5							
11	12 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m. Vision Board for the New Year 10 a.m. Ladies Night Out: Vision Board 7 p.m.	13 Chat, Crafts'n Cake 10 a.m. AWC Board Meeting 10:30 a.m. AWC Tennis 1 p.m	14 Pilates 10:15 a.m. Newcomers Meet & Greet 5:30 p.m. Spring Kick Off 6-8 p.m Evening Book Club (off site) 7:30 p.m.	15 Newcomers Meet & Greet 9:30 a.m. Spring Kick Off 10 a.m.-2 p.m	16	17 Tour of "Designing 007: 50 Years of Bond Style" 3 p.m.	
18	19 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m.	20 Chat, Crafts'n Cake 10 a.m. Heart Pillow Workshop Noon AWC Tennis 1 p.m.	21 Newcomer Dutch Products 10 a.m. Dutch Conversation & Coffee 10 a.m. Pilates 10:15 a.m	22 Daytime Book Club 10 a.m.	23 Couples' Game Night 8 p.m.	24 Kids' Event: Americana TBD	
25 Martin Luther King Jr. Dinner 5:30 p.m.	26 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m	27 Chat, Crafts'n Cake 10 a.m. AWC Tennis 1 p.m.	28 Pilates 10:15 a.m	29	30 Art history lecture: Rembrandt 10 a.m.	31	

FEBRUARY 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m. Ladies Night Out: Oscar Time 7 p.m.	3 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake 10 a.m. AWC Tennis 1 p.m.	4 Dutch Conversation & Coffee 10 a.m. Pilates 10:15 a.m.	5 Wassenaar Coffee and Conversation 9 a.m. AWC Board Meeting 10:30 a.m.	6 Art history lecture: History Painting 10 a.m.	7 Annual Chili Cook Off 7 p.m.
8	9 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m. Mini Spa Night at ASPA 7:30 p.m.	10 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake 10 a.m. AWC Tennis 1 p.m. Newcomer Travel Talk 1 p.m.	11 Pilates 10:15 a.m. Evening Book Club 7:30 p.m.	12 Newcomers Meet & Greet 10 a.m. General Meeting 10:30 a.m.	13	14 Kids' Event: Americana TBD Dinner Club TBD
15	16 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m.	17 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake 10 a.m. Heart Pillow Workshop Noon AWC Tennis 1 p.m.	18 Dutch Conversation & Coffee 10 a.m. Pilates 10:15 a.m.	19 Daytime Book Club 10 a.m.	20 Art history lecture: Portraits 10 a.m.	21 Wine and Cheese Tasting 8 p.m.
22	23 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m.	24 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake 10 a.m. AWC Tennis 1 p.m.	25 Pilates 10:15 a.m.	26	27	28



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Visit The FAIRC Foundation's online Backing Women Boutique to support "Free the Girls" which provides help for women and girls rescued from sex trafficking in developing countries. Net proceeds will be donated to the project.



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www.access-nl.org

Women with Dutch Partners

by Rebecca Niles-Pourier

RSVP for all WWDP Activities directly on AWC GroupSpaces.com.
 Direct any questions to
awcthehague.wwdp@gmail.com

Couples' Game Night

ALL AWC Members are invited to start the New Year with a fun-filled night at the Clubhouse playing group games, such as Pictionary and Scattergories. Bring your partner as well as a snack and your favorite beverage to share. Please feel free to bring any fun group games you own.

Friday, January 23

8 p.m.

AWC Clubhouse

FREE Members or Spouses who bring something to share (€ 5 nonmembers)



Still Life with Bottles, Wine, and Cheese by John F. Francis, 1857

Wine & Cheese Tasting

Are you a wine and cheese lover and want to know more about them? **ALL AWC Members** are invited to join us for this tasty and educational evening in the Clubhouse and to bring your partner or a friend. We will taste eight different wines with paired cheeses.

The tasting will be conducted by Jochem Beijer, a viticulturist of the Wine Academy since 2006. Over the years, he has worked in Michelin-starred restaurants De Hermitage and Restaurant Savelberg, as well as Villa la Ruche. Among these fine restaurants, he gained knowledge by working with high quality products. Now as the owner of Het Proefhuys, a wine, cheese and nut shop in Voorburg, he wants to share his knowledge with you. Mr. Beijer will be bringing along some extra cheese and cases of wine, so bring some cash so you can buy your favorites.

Saturday, February 21

8 p.m.

AWC Clubhouse

€ 20 Members or Spouses

(€ 25 nonmembers)

Non-refundable

St James
 Voorschoten
 the international Anglican Church in the Leiden area

**every Sunday
 Church Service**

10.30 am
 BSN Senior School
 Voorschoten

**with children's &
 youth programme**

Contact:
 Ruan Crew (chaplain)
chaplain@stjames.nl
 071-5613020

Tim Carroll (youth minister)
youthminister@stjames.nl
 06-46697651

www.stjames.nl



Announcements

DFAS Art Lecture



Family Life in Dutch 17th Century Art

Early European portraits often showed stern faced merchants and their wives all dressed in black. However Rembrandt, Vermeer and De Hooch painted a more natural picture of domesticity. Other Dutch artists painted genre paintings with amusing scenes of families tackling life's problems, which was very different from the rest of Europe. Lecturer Dr. Sophie Oosterwijk was born in Gouda and studied in Leiden, York and Leicester. She has taught at four British universities and Sotheby's Institute of Art.

Tuesday, January 13

Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Lecture begins at 8 p.m.

Cultural Centrum Warenar

Kerkstraat 75, Wassenaar

Non-DFAS member fee is € 12

www.dfas.nl

International Literature Festival

Writers Unlimited, an annual international literature festival connecting over 60 authors, poets and musicians from all over the world with each other and with audiences, will take place on January 15 – 18 in The Hague. The theme of this 20th anniversary is "At Home," ranging from the space we share with loved ones and relatives to being part of a community or a country. There are programs in English as well as Dutch. International guests include: Karen Armstrong, David Grossman, Karl Ove Knausgaard, Ian Buruma, Jennifer

Clement and Leela Corman. For more information, go to www.writersunlimited.nl

Amsterdam Fashion Week

The 22nd edition of FashionWeek Amsterdam takes place from January 16 – 26. A creative and artistic program with crossovers into other disciplines including film, dance and music will be presented over a period of ten days at a variety of cultural locations. Established names as well as young fashion designers will showcase their Autumn/Winter 2016 collections on the catwalk.



Looking for Discounted Books?

The Book Festival is a free consumer fair with more than one million discounted new books in English and Dutch. The hall is as large as a football field with long rows of tables dividing the books into categories. There is also a large selection of hobby and craft items. The Ahoy is easily accessible by public transportation.

January 29 – February 1

Ahoy in Rotterdam

Free entrance

www.boekenfestijn.com

Grab Your Skates

Winter is here and in addition to the chance of skating on natural ice, there are several outdoor rinks that have been set up around The Hague. The seaside resort of Scheveningen offers ice skating in front of the Kurhaus through January 18 (www.coolventscheveningen.com). At Leidsenhage, the large shopping center in Leidschendam, the large rink is open daily until 10 p.m. through early March. This rink is occasionally closed for private parties, so be sure to check the calendar before heading there so the kids won't be disappointed (www.iceparadise.nl).

Art Fair in Rotterdam

The 16th edition of Art Rotterdam, an international art fair for contemporary modern art, takes place from February 5 – 8 in the Van Nelle Factory. This factory produced tobacco, coffee and tea from 1930 to 1995. It is an iconic example of the Modern Movement in

the Netherlands and has been nominated for inclusion on the UNESCO World Heritage List. This is an excellent opportunity to visit this unique site in addition to browsing around an art fair known for discovering emerging artists. Discounted tickets are available online: www.artrotterdam.com



Photo by Ula Mirowska

Rotterdam Expat Fair

Rotterdam's first Expat Fair will be a day to support expats and internationals in the Rotterdam area to connect with others and settle effectively. The registration fee includes three Expat Boot Camp Workshops, lunch, childcare and parking. Learn how the Dutch systems work during workshops on starting a business and buying a home as well as on subjects such as healthcare, taxes and networking.

Sunday, February 8

American International School of Rotterdam

Verhulstlaan 21, Rotterdam

www.rotterdamexpatfair.nl

>> 50



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The Dutch Daily

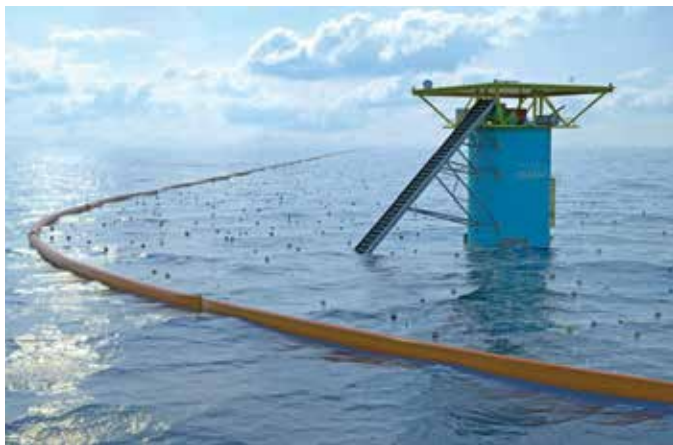
by Eileen Harloff

Winners Redux

In the last issue, a veritable avalanche of gold medal winners in the world of sports was listed and their owners congratulated for their spectacular accomplishments. In this first issue of the New Year, kudos is in order for award winners in several other fields:

Marks & Spencer: The Hague's new Marks & Spencer store (aka in Dutch as "De Markies") has won the FGH Real Estate 2014 Prize beating out competitors in Groningen and Rotterdam. The professional jury was impressed by the developer's transformation of an eyesore into an eye-catching public attraction by combining a partially preserved historical facade with an austere urban building style in The Hague's main shopping district.

Boyan Slat: A 20-year-old former aerospace student at Delft University has won the UN's global environmental prize, Champions of the Earth, for inspiring efforts to clean up the ocean of plastic waste. Boyan Slat was still in high school when he invented a system which closely resembles long floating arms which can be strategically placed to benefit from the ocean's currents with the aim of capturing plastic waste and transporting it along floating barriers towards a central collection platform



for removal and eventual recycling. He has since founded The Ocean Cleanup, which has successfully raised \$2.2 million through crowdfunding to develop increasingly larger prototypes, with the goal of launching a huge ocean arm system within the next four years. Authored by 70 scientists and engineers, The Ocean Cleanup's recently published feasibility research estimates that almost half of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch can be removed using this technology in just ten years. It is hoped that The Ocean Cleanup initiative can contribute to ongoing worldwide efforts to tackle the escalating problem that widespread plastic waste poses to marine life. Mr. Slat is the youngest person to have won this UN prize, which is shared with Fatima Jama Jibrell, a Somali environmental activist who is fighting the illegal charcoal industry in the midst of her country's civil war.

Blendle: In 2013, two 27-year-old former journalists, Alexander Klopping and Marten Blankestijn, launched Blendle, which is a Dutch online pay-per-view news platform that aggregates articles from 50 newspapers and magazines at an average cost of € 0.20 per article. Blendle allows individuals to flip through all print newspapers and magazines in the user's country for free; when they actually

read an article, they have to pay only for that single article. There are currently 130,000 users registered in the Netherlands. Of the fees earned, 70% goes to participating publishers with the remaining 30% being spent on the salaries of 32 programmers, recurring costs and investments in the business. At the startup of the venture, immediate interest was shown by two publishing giants, Axel Springer from Germany and The New York



Times, and by October 2014 a deal was made and the two publishers paid € 3 million to own 23% of the company's shares. Now the Blendle owners not only have significant investment capital, they also have access to a variety of legal and business experts which should come in handy when launching Blendle in other countries.

Nikki van Essen: A 10-year-old girl from The Hague won the WNF (Wereld Natuur Fonds) Photo Award in the 6- to 12-year-old age category for her underwater image of a large sea turtle taken while snorkeling on the coral reef off the Caribbean island of Bonaire. According to the jury, Nikki's picture perfectly portrayed the underwater world. Her prize is a new underwater camera and a day swimming at a vacation park. Nikki said that she was so moved at the award ceremony, which was held at Museon (next to the Gemeentemuseum in The Hague), that tears came to her eyes. All 40 of the nominated photos for the award are currently on display, along with the BBC Wildlife Photographer



Photo by Nikki van Essen

of the Year exhibition, through March 9 at Museon (www.museon.nl).

Kris Florek: Coming from a poor background in Poland, Kris Florek decided to go west in 2004 and subsequently moved to the Netherlands. He worked 14-hour days at any job he could find (including cleaning toilets in The Hague for under minimum wage at just € 3 per hour) and he learned the Dutch language. At the request of a neighbor, he painted the neighbor's house. "Probably he thought that all Poles could do odd jobs. For a week long, I looked at films on how to paint on YouTube." He ended up painting half the houses in his neighborhood. He then started a business in the maintaining of commercial buildings, which now has the World Fashion Center in Amsterdam and the World Trade Center in Arnhem as his clients, and a second enterprise of importing American painting equipment into Holland. His latest enterprise is the making and sale of Dutch French fries in Poland. He says, "The Polish fries are not big, thick and crunchy like the ones here." Under the name Patat (potato), his first shop will open in Poland this spring. Mr. Florek has also had time for volunteer work, particularly with the Make-A-Wish Foundation, and as a member of the Professional Speakers Academy, he gives talks here and also in England, on his journey from cleaner to international businessman. It is no wonder that the 33-year-old living in Zoetermeer was recently named the Pole of the Year in the Netherlands, a title he is proud to accept.

Teenage Businesses:

The number of Dutch teenagers setting up their own businesses and registering them with the Kamer van Koophandel (Chamber of Commerce) is increasing, numbering some 4,500, a 100% increase over the year 2013. Mainly these entrepreneurs are developers of apps and websites, and tend to be financed by crowdfunding. >> 36

Dutch Daily (cont.)

Continued from page 35

Spectacular Find

While digging last November in the area where the Rotterdam Highway access road is being constructed, The Hague archaeologists came upon a pot from Roman times. The pot contained 107 silver coins called *denarii*, the oldest of which is from the time of the infamous Emperor Nero in the first century AD and the youngest coins from a century later in the time of Emperor Marcus Aurelius. A few rare coins were also found, including one with an emperor who ruled only three months in the year 69 AD: Emperor Otho. This treasure trove has doubled the number of Roman coins found in The Hague. The treasure also included six silver bracelets, a large pin with which to fasten a cloak, and glass beads. According to archaeologist, Ab Wassdorp, the pot was most likely deliberately hidden by a family to protect its capital in a time when there were attacks by

pirates who would come ashore and plunder what they could find. Archaeological research around the spot where the treasure was found clearly shows that a Roman settlement was once located there. After being displayed in City Hall, the treasure has now been moved to the Historical Museum of The Hague (www.haagshistorischmuseum.nl).



Ongoing Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 17

NEW Activity: Wassenaar Coffee & Conversation

Do you live in Wassenaar and want to get together with other AWC Members, but don't want to journey to the Clubhouse? Or maybe you would like to go to Wassenaar for a change of pace? Here is your chance! **Ramona Oswald** will be hosting a monthly coffee at her home in Wassenaar on the first Thursday of every month starting in Febru-

ary. We will extend the invitation to women who are not currently Members, but who live in Wassenaar with children at the American School. Ramona will provide directions to her house when you sign-up on *GroupSpaces.com*.

Thursday, February 5
9 – 11 a.m.
Ramona's House
FREE

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.

Kids' Club

by Patricia Raynolds

Americana

Join us for a monthly, hour-long program to teach American children between the ages of 3 and 10 facts and traditions about the US that most American children would normally learn at school or through simple exposure while growing up in the US. We aim to ground American children living abroad in the history and traditions of American life and culture. This program is intended for both expatriates and those permanently living in the Netherlands.

Please register on *GroupSpaces.com* so we can plan activities accordingly for the ages of children participating. The time of these activities are still to be determined, but will likely be from 1 – 2 p.m.

Saturday, January 24
Martin Luther King and Civil Rights
AWC Clubhouse
€5 per child

RSVP for all Kids' Club Activities directly on *AWC GroupSpaces.com*. Direct any questions to awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com



Saturday, February 14
President's Day
AWC Clubhouse
€5 per child

Christian Childcare, The Hague

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London Theatre Trip

by Becky Failor

Seeing as London is so close to us here in The Hague and that it is a world center for theater, I decided it would be a fun option for our 2014 Fall AWC Trip. The American Travel Center helped me choose options that kept the costs reasonable for this expensive city, such as flying into Gatwick Airport rather than Heathrow.

Polly Spinnler, Newcomer **Seanette Meresole** and I had each been to London before so we did not feel obliged to visit some of the typical first timer tourist spots, such as Westminster Abbey or Buckingham Palace. However, we didn't hesitate to enjoy a traditional fish 'n chips dinner at a pub on our first evening.

Since our hotel was in Kensington, we visited Kensington Palace, which was an easy walk. Each of us remembered seeing the thousands of floral bouquets and other gifts left at the golden gate when Princess Diana passed



away. We learned of the convoluted history of succession of the British Royal Family that resulted in young Victoria becoming Queen at just 18 years of age and having her first meeting with her ministers at Kensington Palace. The docent at the Palace told the story of her romance with Prince Albert and her lusty affections for him. We were familiar with Queen Victoria as a widow during the last 42 years of her life, so it was great fun learning about the young Queen.

On November 11, 2014, a remarkable 888,246 handmade ceramic poppies filled the moat surrounding the Tower of London. Each poppy represented a British or colonial death during World War I. When we visited the Tower the poppies were being removed and packaged for shipment to those who had made the £ 25 donation for each poppy. We were lucky that only about half the poppies had been removed so we could still see en-



tire sections of this moving display. We felt deep emotion as we looked not only at the individual poppies but the sea of red that filled the moat. What a tragic loss of young life! We remarked how NATO has helped to preserve the peace in much of Europe for almost 70 years.

We then had the amazing view of London one can only get by riding the London Eye. We only wished we could hear Big Ben chime as we rode in our pod!

The Hotel Goring had exactly the right atmosphere for our pre-theater dinner. We were in our seats in time for the curtain opening in two of the grand theaters of London; Seanette went to see *Billy Elliot* at the Victoria Theater and Polly and I went to see *The Lion King* at the Lyceum Theater. It was so fun to share our experiences when we met up back at the hotel.

We spent our last morning at the Victoria and Albert Museum in South Kensington followed by a quick trip to Trafalgar Square and lunch in the "crypt" under the church of Saint Martin-in-the-Fields. Finally our time for touring was over and we had to catch our plane home.





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FAWCO Corner

by Emily van Eerten



Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas, a United Nations NGO with consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council www.fawco.org.



AWC The Hague welcomed nearly 50 Region 4 women in November to a FAWCO Regional Meeting entitled "Reach Out – Lift Up." The program started on Friday evening with a working session for a beloved project of our own Club and of many FAWCO Clubs: Heart Pillows. Led by **Eileen Baker**, stations for cutting, stuffing, sewing and wrapping were set up. Participants put together 13 pillow packages in short order, while exchanging best practices tips and ideas for better implementation of the Heart Pillow concept at Region 4 Member Clubs.

The evening continued with a presentation from three teens from The Hague, Darcy van Eerten, Renger van Eerten and Sariah

Roberts, who had participated as FAWCO Youth Cultural Volunteers in Dubai and Shanghai. The evening wrapped up with an Indonesian *rijsttafel* buffet, a Dutch specialty.

Saturday's sessions got off to an invigorating start with a brisk walk and tour through the International Zone surrounding the Clubhouse led by **Greetje Engelsman**. Our own Walkie Talkies group meets weekly for free, fun, fitness. In doing so, we are meeting the goals of FAWCO's Clubs in Motions Campaign. We report each month with our kilometer and participation totals. For example, in November our group walked 240 kilometers! FAWCO hopes collectively to log 15,000 kilometers by the Rome Conference in March.



Back at the clubhouse, participants got right to work "Reaching Out" with workshops on Shared Communications, Activities, Dreams and How Best to Bring FAWCO Fever to Region 4 Clubs. FAWCO Reports from FAWCO 2nd VP, Sallie Chaballier (AAWE Paris), FAWCO Target Project Chair, **Johanna Dishongh** (AWC The Hague), and FAWCO Foundation President, Michele Hendrikse DuBois, (IWC Munich) brought the participants up to date on the latest FAWCO news.

In keeping with the goals of our Target Project beneficiary Free the Girls, guest speaker David Ellero from Europol gave an informative talk about his work combating human trafficking in Europe and reminded us that trafficking is, in fact, merely a modern term for slavery. Despite the efforts and cooperation of many governments, sexual, labor and child exploitation remain rampant. It is vital that governments work together and with humanitarian and charitable organizations to continue to combat this pervasive scourge on society.

The afternoon sessions included a panel discussion from a group of FAWCO women (My-Linh Kunst (AWC Berlin), Sallie Chaballier (AAWE Paris), Johanna Dishongh (AWC The Hague) and Martha Canning (AWC Amsterdam)) who were just back from the Geneva NGO Forum for Beijing +20 UN ECE Regional Review, plus Helen Hootsmans, a member of the AWC Amsterdam, who had attended the original meeting in Beijing 20 years ago. Although

they were able to share their impressions about how much progress has been made in the areas of gender equality, clearly there is more work to be done. Afternoon workshops explored the "Lifting Up" theme, focusing on membership and membership satisfaction, recruiting and keeping volunteers, and the integration of US and international members.

Throughout the day, coffee (with delicious treats prepared by AWC The Hague baker extraordinaire **Suzanne Dundas**), lunch and cocktail breaks ensured an opportunity for participants to mingle and bond, while dinner at an Italian restaurant capped the day and helped spark excitement for the upcoming conference in Rome. For those who stayed the night, AWC The Hague Member and art historian **Jane Choy** gave an insightful and delightful tour of the treasures of the Mauritshuis Museum on Sunday morning.

Photos, presentations and workshop write-ups from not only our own meeting, but those of other FAWCO regions, can be found on the FAWCO website. Take a look and see what clubs like ours are doing worldwide: www.fawco.org/home/conferences/regional-meetings/regional-meetings-2014

The busy and fun weekend was a great chance to show off our Club, strengthen our regional bonds and make new friends. We are hoping for a strong delegation in Rome in March. Interested in joining us? Talk with me about joining the always large contingent from AWC The Hague, and you might catch some FAWCO Fever too.



AWC and the Arts

by Jane Choy

Tour of Designing 007: 50 years of Bond Style

Join us for a guided tour as the Kunsthal Rotterdam celebrates the 50th anniversary of the world's favorite secret agent by presenting the exhibition *Designing 007: Fifty Years of Bond Style*. From *Dr. No* in 1962, starring Sean Connery, to 2012's *Skyfall* with Daniel Craig, Agent 007 has captured the world's imagination. The screen hero has not only headlined the most successful franchise in film history, he has also made an indelible impact on the worlds of art, music, fashion, technology, travel, automotive design and lifestyle. More than 500 gadgets, costumes, iconic vehicles, storyboards, graphic designs and props, together with numerous film clips, present an unequalled multimedia experience of the world of James Bond.

We have arranged our tour of this exciting exhibition on a Saturday so that our spouses can join along. We will meet in the auditorium downstairs at the orange sign saying "Startpunt rondleidingen." We will have an additional hour to explore the exhibition before the museum closes. Please specify on GroupSpaces.com if you are interested in joining us afterwards for a group dinner.

Saturday, January 17

3 – 4 p.m.

Kunsthal Rotterdam

Westzeedijk 341, Rotterdam

€ 10 Members or Spouses

(€ 12 nonmembers)

PLUS Museum Entrance Fee (€ 11 or free with *Museumkaart*)



RSVP for all Arts Activities directly on

AWC GroupSpaces.com.

Direct any questions to

jechoy@me.com

Minimum 12/ Maximum 20
Cancellation deadline: January 7

Lecture on Rembrandt

From February 12 through May 17, the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam will present its first major retrospective of Rembrandt van Rijn's later works. Against the backdrop of tragic personal losses and ongoing financial difficulties, Rembrandt began experimenting with printing and painting techniques in the later years of his life. In collaboration with The National Gallery in London, the exhibition *Late Rembrandt* presents a comprehensive overview of the Master's work from around 1652 until his death in 1669. This landmark exhibition, the world's largest ever, brings together more than 90 paintings, drawings and prints from the world's leading museums and private collections to showcase Rembrandt at the height of his power.

I will give an introduction to this artist – one of, if not the greatest, artist of the Netherlands – through tracing his life and career and highlighting his late works. Please join me at my house for a PowerPoint presentation accompanied by coffee, tea and refreshments.

Friday,
January 30

10 a.m. – Noon

Jane Choy's

House in

Voorburg

€ 10 Members

(€ 12 nonmem-

bers)

Min 8 / Max 20

Cancellation

deadline:

January 22



Art History Lecture Series:

Holland's Golden Age Revealed!

Intro to 17th Century Dutch Art

AWC Member **Jane Choy** will continue to share her expertise on art of the Dutch Golden Age by hosting an art history lecture series. The course of five PowerPoint lectures will be presented in the intimate living room setting of her 17th century home in the historic center of Voorburg, accompanied by coffee, tea and refreshments. Parking is free in the neighborhood, although it is a blue zone with a two-hour limit. Her house is easily accessible by public transportation: Bus 23, 28, 45 or 46 and sprinter train from Den Haag Centraal Station.

The Golden Age was a period in Dutch history, roughly spanning the 17th century, in which the Dutch were a major world power and leaders in trade and science as well as art. The paintings produced by Dutch artists during this era are considered some of the greatest works of art in the world. This series of lectures will not only introduce you to the art of this dynamic period, but will also talk about the history and culture that brought this art to fruition, providing a deeper understanding of the country in which we now live.

Each lecture will concentrate on one of the categories of art which were produced during that period: history, portraits, genre, landscape, and still life/architectural. In addition to talking about the artists' lives, their subjects and style, we will explore what caused this explosion of art and why genre and landscape became such specialties of the Dutch. Not only the great masters Rembrandt, Vermeer and Frans Hals will be discussed, but many of the minor masters (as they have come to be called) will be included as well. We will see that they were in fact very talented in their own right.

History Painting: Intimacies & Intrigues!

As Tolstoy said, "Art is a human activity having for its purpose the transmission to others of the highest and best feelings to which men have risen." This certainly describes the purpose of history paintings which can be defined as paintings in which the human figure plays the main role and the subject matter is religious, mythological, historical, literary or allegorical. This category was considered the highest

category of art so many artists aspired to it, such as Rembrandt and Vermeer. In this first lecture, we will explore who, how and why these works were painted.

Friday, February 6

Portrait Painting: Who's Who?

Portraits were a very special phenomenon in 17th century Holland. Never before were so many portraits produced. The booming economy created a wealthy *burger* class who were proud of what they had achieved and wanted their portraits done. Dutch artists captured these people and the works have become masterpieces, such as Rembrandt's *The Night Watch*.
Friday, February 20



Future Lectures

Genre Painting: Reality Show or Illusion?

Friday, March 13

Landscape Painting: Mirrors of Reality!

Friday, March 27

Still Life and Architectural Painting: Objects of Desire!

Friday, April 3

10 a.m. – Noon

Jane Choy's Home

€ 10 Members (€ 12 nonmembers) per lecture

€ 45 Members (€ 55 nonmembers) for series

Minimum 7 / Maximum 22

Cancellation deadline: Thursday of previous week

Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute and Dinner

by Roberta Enschede

Sunday, January 25 at 5:30 p.m.
Hotel Den Haag – Wassenaar
Zijdweg 54, Wassenaar (off the A-44 at the bridge)
Dinner € 30 (Children under 12 € 15)
Reservations: oarinnl@yahoo.com

When one thinks about the Civil Rights Movement, there are no words. A people who were enslaved and freed and then forced to live in segregation or de-facto segregation said we can, we must be free, but the force we use will be “Soul Force.” Dr. King led that movement and the hundreds of thousands who followed him shared his belief in non-violence and his love and commitment to the US and the dignity of people everywhere.

He did something so American when America is at its best, its most principled and idealistic. He asked – in fact he forced – the nation to begin living out “the true meaning of the Dream” articulated in the Declaration of Independence. “We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal.”

Though he was assassinated on a spring evening in Memphis, on April 4, 1968, the Movement he led still inspires and challenges the way we live and what we teach our children.

Four days after his death, Rep. John Conyers called for the creation of a national holiday honoring Dr. King. In 1983, President Reagan signed legislation designating the third Monday of January as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The first commemoration in the US was in 1986. Here in The Hague, we have held a Tribute to Dr. King every year.

Over the years many people who were part of the Civil Rights Movement have joined us. This year, we are honored to bring back Professor Timuel Black. “Tim,” from the Southside of Chicago, turned 96 years “young” on December 7. When I first spoke to him, he remarked, “I’m old, but I’m never

too old to keep on trying.” Recently, he was honored at the Library of Congress. This past fall, he received an Honorary Degree from the University of Chicago, his alma mater. His papers are in the Du Sable Museum of Black History in Chicago. He is an oral historian and the author of several volumes entitled *Bridges of Memory*. He is a former high school teacher and administrator, professor of anthropology and sociology, and Dean of Wright Junior College in Chicago. He is also a jazz historian.

Furthermore, he is a veteran of WWII having participated during the D-Day invasion of Normandy Beach and the Battle of the Bulge, as well as the Liberation of both Buchenwald and Paris. As a soldier in the segregated US Army, he was profoundly affected by the discrimination he experienced and the human devastation he witnessed in the Buchenwald death camp. He resolved then to devote his life to peace and justice.

On the Liberation of Buchenwald, he said, “If this could happen here, it could happen anywhere. It could happen to me. It could happen to black folk in America. I guess more than any single event, it was this sight that



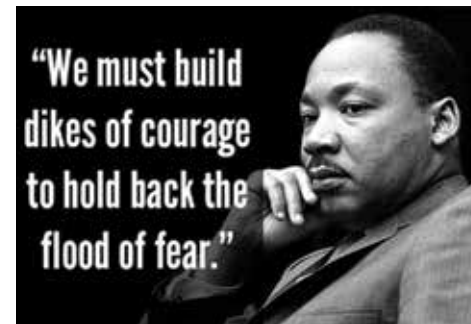
crystallized my determination to do as much as I could to bring about some sanity in a very insane world.”

Professor Black was the organizer of the March on Washington from Chicago and a colleague and friend of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He helped elect Carol Mosely-Braun, the first and only black woman to the US Senate and Harold Washington, the first black mayor of Chicago. President Obama met with him at the Medici, a University of Chicago coffee house, to discuss his future in politics. At 96, he is still writing, publishing and speaking out. He is a man with a message that neither age nor distance can silence. We are honored to bring Professor Timuel Black back to the Netherlands.

Reverend Harcourt Klinefelter and Lois Mothershed Pot will also join us. Reverend Klinefelter worked for Dr. King for three years, until his death. After he finished his studies at Yale Theological Seminary, he went down south to find Dr. King and became his Public Relations Director. He used to sit in the kitchen with Dr. King and his wife Coretta.

Lois Mothershed Pot grew up in Little Rock, Arkansas. Her sister, Thelma Mothershed, was one of the “Little Rock Nine,” the young kids who were able to integrate Central High School only after the intervention of President Eisenhower and the National Guard. Lois was the first African-American President of the National Christian Students Union and the first black student at her university.

We hope you will take the time to bring your children to the 30th Anniversary Tribute to Dr. King. Marjorie Barnes, Adrienne West with David Cameron, Liat Alkan and The Close Shaves, a chorale group from the American School, will sing songs of the Movement: **Let Us Break Bread Together, Oh Freedom** and other songs Dr. King would have loved. Jimmy Yarnell and a combo will play jazz and, as always, young people, the



“Bearers of the Torch” will speak. Finally, Timothy Broas, the US Ambassador to the Netherlands, will read the President’s Proclamation for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and share his own thoughts and feelings.

So much has changed since Dr. King, and all those who first marched with him, “sat-in” and went to jail with him, demanded the rights guaranteed to every American – indeed every human being. However, we know that today there is still much to be done. Given the events of the last few months, it is more evident and urgent than ever!

It is fitting that the motto of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is a Day of Service: *Make This a Day On, Not a Day Off!* And by making each day a day on, the words of the anthem of the Civil Rights Movement will become reality, “We can and we shall overcome some day.”

Join us for a simple dinner, the kind Dr. King would have enjoyed. Listen to people who were there; listen to the singing and the music and wisdom of the young.

A special thank you to the Public Affairs Office of the US Embassy and Delta Airlines for helping us to bring Professor Timuel Black back to the Netherlands for the 30th Anniversary of the Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sponsored by: OAR ~ Overseas Americans Remember
Anneke Beeuwkes Roberta Enschede Michele Fiszbañ Jessie Rodell
Further information: Roberta Enschede 070 511 8409 or
robertaenschede@yahoo.com



Legoland Adventure

by Alison Hamilton-Rohe

One of the most wonderful things about living in the Netherlands is the chance to explore Europe. With a central location and amazing transportation networks, the Netherlands is the perfect jumping-off point for trips of all kinds. When you have kids aged nine and six as I do, this inevitably means Legoland!

While I was not a big Lego fan as a kid myself, I couldn't wait to experience the Lego theme park with my kids and my husband who are all Lego fiends. Frankly, Lego is every parent's fantasy of a great toy: kids love it, they spend hours playing with it, and it's good for their brains. Voilà! Everyone is happy!

The drive to Denmark can seem long and uneventful, so we did it in one stretch with a delightful lunch stop in Bremen to visit the sculpture of the Bremen Town Musicians

from the famous fairytale. Driving through Germany and experiencing an unlimited speed limit for the first time was fun and exhilarating all at once. When we eventually arrived in Billund, we were delighted by the amazing Lego sculptures everywhere. Our cabin was adorable, and we settled in immediately.

The weather was abysmal the next day, but it didn't dampen our spirits for visiting Legoland. We arrived when the park opened and we were ready to go! In fact, the poor weather turned out to be a boon because we basically had the park to ourselves. We bought Legoland ponchos and were toasty warm and dry with our two layers of raingear. We walked straight to the back of the park and rode every ride that tickled our fancy. We had done some advance research by downloading the park map and by having the kids each



choose their top priority of a ride. Luckily, we didn't need to make any hard choices, which was lovely!

We had saved this area for last as we had read it would remain open after all the rides closed. Fabulous!

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Legoland (cont.)

Continued from page 47



to the World's Biggest Lego Store (imagine my son yelling this in his six-year-old retainer-induced lisp). My daughter learned an important lesson on this trip the hard way: if she had saved, she would have had more money to spend. Nonetheless, she was very happy with her purchase and so pleased she was able to go to Legoland that she said so completely unprompted. My son and my husband did such a careful study of all the Lego City boxes in the store that my son learned another important lesson in the use of your resources: spend wisely!

It was a fantastic trip, topped off with a lovely overnight stay in Hamburg to visit Jeff's mom's cousin. If you have Lego-aged kids or grandkids or visitors coming with kids under 11, I highly recommend considering a trip to Legoland. It was so special to see the actual Lego factory – even if we weren't allowed inside – and have a full and wonderful Legoland experience.



We had tickets to Legoland again for the next day; however, we decided to see some more of Denmark first. We traveled to a Viking living history museum and to Ribe, which is the oldest town in Denmark (first documented in 854 AD). The living history museum had closed the weekend prior, but they let us walk around the grounds anyway. My kids know the Viking stories well, so they played Thor as we wandered through trying to imagine life so very long ago.

Ribe was pretty and worth the drive. The boys climbed up the bell-tower while my daughter and I strolled along the main street. We met up for hot drinks and delicious treats before climbing back in the car for an afternoon back at Legoland. We discovered on our way out that there's also a cool Viking museum in Ribe. It looked well worth a visit; since we didn't have time, I merely popped in to buy a book for the kids' bedtime to feed their dreams.

Our second afternoon spent in Legoland was brilliant. The weather cleared up, so we visited our favorite rides plus a few more and then spent another hour thrilling at Miniland. We concluded our trip with a visit

Details on Trip Planning

Choosing Which Park

The first question we had to answer was: which Legoland? I consulted a friend of ours, who is a nut about Lego, and she sent me a lengthy email, which compared and contrasted Legoland Denmark (the original theme park) with Legoland Germany. I'll spare you the details and pass along our impression that Denmark wins! For information on the theme park and accommodations, visit www.legoland.dk.

Lodging

As anyone who has ever made a theme park trip knows, lodging is key. There are the questions of proximity to the park, how to keep costs or aggravation down, and how to maximize the park experience. We looked at three options: the hotel adjacent to Legoland, a fancier resort, and Legoland Holiday Village, the latter of which is across the street from the theme park.

We chose Legoland Holiday Village and rented a small cabin for our long weekend. We love to be able to close the kids' doors after they're asleep and having a kitchenette worked well (for example, we brought spaghetti with us to cook in the cabin). It was nice knowing that we didn't have to eat out for every meal. My kids are awesome, but with a sensory experience as intense as Legoland,



I could not count on them having good behavior at a restaurant, too! Legoland Holiday Village is adorable with amazing things built out of Lego everywhere. It felt like we were already having a Lego experience before we even hit the park!

Food

One of the things I love about the Netherlands is the nonchalance surrounding bringing a packed lunch. We did some research and found that we could bring our lunch into the park as well. Packing a lunch ensured the kids would not only eat, but they would eat something moderately healthful while helping to save money as well.



We ate at the restaurant at Legoland Holiday Village when we arrived and ate dinner at Legoland on the last day, which was surprisingly good. High prices in Denmark kind of "boggle the mind," so having flexibility regarding meals definitely will help your blood pressure!

Announcements (cont.)

Continued from page 33

42nd ABN AMRO World Tennis Tournament

Over 100,000 spectators are expected at this annual indoor tennis tournament from February 9 – 15 at the Ahoy Rotterdam. Andy Murray will be competing here for the fifth time. The event offers men's singles, men's doubles and the World Wheelchair Tennis Tournament. Ladies' Days will be on both Monday and Tuesday with tennis of the very highest standards and fashion shows with the latest tennis trends. Tickets for Kids' Days can only be purchased at the Ahoy Box Office. For more information, go to: www.abnamrowtt.com

DFAS Art Lecture Italian Gardens: Their Beauty, Meaning and Relevance Today

Dr. Laura de Beden was born in Rome and grew up surrounded by art, history and beauty. Her high school in Milan was in an 18th century palazzo with ceilings frescoed by the Tiepolos. Her doctorate is in Humanities and Languages from the Università Bocconi in Milan. In the 1980s she commuted weekly from Milan to London to study Landscape Architecture. She has since become a fully qualified landscape architect and has her own practice in London. She will talk about her love of Italian gardens.

Tuesday, February 10
Doors open at 7:30 p.m.
Lecture begins at 8 p.m.
Cultural Centrum Warenaar
Kerkstraat 75, Wassenaar
Non-DFAS member fee is € 12
www.dfass.nl



Chinese New Year Festival



Each year, The Hague hosts an annual Chinese New Year Festival typically kicking off in the Stadhuis (City Hall) with the traditional Dragon and Lion Dance followed by a parade. Activities then continue in City Hall and around Chinatown with acrobatic and dance demonstrations, and an arts and culture market to celebrate the Year of the Ram. This event is still provisional, but the festivities should occur around Saturday, February 21. For the full schedule, go to www.chinesecultuur.nl

Blues Festival Delft

Delft is home to the Netherlands' biggest indoor blues event on February 20 – 21. More than 50 Dutch and foreign bands perform at dozens of cafés and restaurants throughout the city during this free festival. If you love Chicago and Texas blues, blues rock and acoustic Delta blues, you'll feel right at home. To see the program, visit: www.delftblues.nl

Partner Appreciation Event by Becky Failor

The Activities & Tours Committee is planning an event to show our partners how much we appreciate them for making our lives here in the Netherlands so great as well as for their support of the AWC. We are still in the early planning stages and are considering a number of ideas. We would love to have you join us in the planning and preparation. If you are interested, please contact me at awcthehague.tours@gmail.com.

Save the Date: Saturday, April 18

Message from the President (cont.)

Continued from page 8

as perhaps the greatest artist of the Netherlands (see page 42).

In early February, join us for the 6th Annual Chili Cook-Off (see page 18). Whether you plan on cooking up your very own chili dish or just tasting and voting on this year's winner, make sure to mark Saturday the 7th in your calendar. It is always a very tasty and fun evening.

Thanks to **Becky Failor**, the AWC Tours Committee Chair, we have two very interesting outings planned for February (see page 20). The first one is a tour of Amsterdam's Jewish Quarter followed by a visit to the Jewish Historical Museum with a guided tour. The second tour is of the Royal Palace in Amsterdam. We have all seen this very impressive and grand Palace that is situated on Dam Square. Now we will be able to view its interiors and learn about its history.

Our first General Meeting in 2015 will be held in mid-February. **Trena Cormier**, our Program Chair, will be on hand to introduce the guest speaker, Sarah Brown, who will be telling us about cybersecurity (see page 9).

It is indeed going to be a fantastic season for all of us at the AWC. We have a great team of Board Members, Committee Chairs and Volunteers as well as a wonderful Membership that is still growing.

As you can clearly see, our upcoming agenda is full and super interesting. You will be able to find the precise information regarding all of the mentioned activities and tours and more, in this issue as well as on GroupSpaces.com.

One additional item that is of great importance for our Club and for the future of the AWC is our Nominating Committee. Our Club Secretary, **Marsha Hagney**, is now forming this committee that will be responsible for recruiting the 2015-2016 Executive Board. For those interested in being on this committee, please get in touch with Marsha at awcthehague.secretary@gmail.com.

I encourage each and every one of you to take on a position whether it may be a Board position or a Committee Chair position. I can guarantee that it will be an extremely rewarding experience – but more importantly, jumping on board and being an active Member of AWC is what it takes to keep our Club going and strong. I look forward to seeing you all very soon.

With warmest wishes and *tot ziens*,

Linda

January Birthdays

Rebecca Niles-Pourier	1	Silvia Calles	21
Bronia Ichel	8	Ramona Oswald	25
Cynthia Veeger	8	Barbara McConnell	26
Lisa Arensman	11	Anne van der Steur	26
Valerie Norton	11	Emily van Eerten	27
Emilie van der Vaart	12	Greetje Engelsman	28
Fiona Muir	15	Helene Deguise	28
Julie Otten	16	Patricia Raynolds	29
Sara Darnell-McGee	18		

February Birthdays

Tracie Hogan	1
Mary Bos-Wittschen	2
Rebecca Failor	7
Karen Lowe	14
Tove McGrew	18
Christine Zuidwijk	23
Astrid Casares	23
Georgia Hodge-Manos	28
Hedy Kohlinger	28

Classifieds

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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

Driving Lessons in English

After living in England for 17 years, I returned to the Netherlands and became a driving instructor. I offer lessons for novice drivers as well as for experienced drivers who want to familiarize themselves with driving in the Netherlands. Contact Ron Keislair at 064.430.2594 or www.ronkeislair.nl

Psychology Practice for Expats

CONFIDENTIA is the professional psychology practice of Drs. Veneta Brummel-Teneva, American Psychological Association International Affiliate. Offering individual and couple counseling and short-term customized therapy. Client-centered in the strictest of confidence! Conveniently located at Burgemeester Patijnlaan 484 in The Hague. For an appointment: 070.338.7086 confidentiaforexpats@gmail.com confidentiaforexpats.nl

North Sea Chiropractic for All Your Spinal Health Needs

Chiropractic care for your whole family, specializing in general pain, pregnancy, pediatrics, sports injuries and more. The chiropractor is an AWC Member and American graduate. Most insurances cover chiropractic. Call for a free 15-minute consultation: 065 369 7739 chiropractienoordzee@gmail.com www.chiropractienoordzee.nl

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

Invite your English-speaking friends from other countries that have an affinity for Americans to join us today!



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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Going Dutch is Available Online

Go to www.awcthehague.org to share the current month's issue with friends and family. You will also find links to our annual advertisers, whose support makes this magazine possible. If you visit or contact one of our advertisers, let them know *Going Dutch* sent you!

Notice to Members Regarding 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 Lynn at awcthehague.membership@gmail.com.

Rates

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:

	For 45 Words	For 25 Additional Words
Per Issue	€ 10	€ 5
Eight Issues	€ 70	€ 30

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