

# Going Dutch



2014  
November

In  
this  
issue

Kick Off Photos  
US University Tour  
Prinsjesdag Luncheon

American Women's Club  
of The Hague



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## Going Dutch

November 2014



These lovely ladies donned hats in honor of this year's Prinsjesdag Luncheon



We had a very fun and successful day making Heart Pillows in Rotterdam with ANCOR



There were a lot of new smiling faces at our Fall Kick Off Marathon

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

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### AWC Clubhouse

Johan van Oldenbarneveltlaan 43  
2582 NJ Den Haag  
Tel: 070 350 6007  
info@awcthehague.org  
www.awcthehague.org

### Going Dutch Magazine

goingdutchmag@gmail.com

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Melissa White

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Teresa Mahoney

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Celeste Brown, Marge MacPherson, Diane  
Schaap, Susan Yates-Brown

**Contributors**  
Jane Choy, Trena Cormier, Jan de Vries,  
Johanna Dishongh, Linda Divon, Greetje  
Engelsman, Roberta Enschede, Becky  
Failor, Eileen Harloff, Sunita Menon,  
Rebecca Niles-Pourier, Ramona Oswald,  
Dory Ritchie, Emily van Eerten

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## 2014-2015 AWC Officers

**President** Linda Divon  
awcthehague.president@gmail.com

**Vice President** Patricia Raynolds  
awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com

**Treasurer** Teresa Insalaco  
awcthehague.finance@gmail.com

**Secretary** Marsha Hagney  
awcthehague.secretary@gmail.com

**Community Development and Resource  
Officer** Jan de Vries  
awcthehague.waysandmeans@gmail.com

**Member and Club Administration  
Officer** Rachel Kupperts  
awcthehague.2ndvp@gmail.com

**Communications Officer** Trena Cormier  
awcthehague.communications@gmail.com

## Front Office

Rachel Kupperts

Patricia Raynolds

Melanie Stringfellow

## Committee Chairs

**Activities** Dory Ritchie

**Assistant Treasurer** Sarah Dunn

**At Home in Holland** Becky Failor

**Caring Committee** Naomi Keip

**Community Service Coordinator** Sunita Menon

**FAWCO** Emily van Eerten

**Heart Pillow** Eileen Baker

**Holiday Bazaar** Jan Essad, Julie Schipper

**Library** Laurie Martecchini

**Kid's Club** Open

**Membership Coordinator** Lynn Roberts

**Newcomers** Greetje Engelsman, Ramona Oswald

**Parliamentarian** Georgia Regnault

**Philanthropic Fundraiser** Jan de Vries,  
Sunita Menon

**Programs** Trena Cormier

**Public Relations** Johanna Dishongh

**Tennis** Molly Boed

**The Arts** Jane Choy

**Tours** Becky Failor

**Volunteer Coordinator** Open

**Webmaster** Julie Otten

**Website Assistant** Open

**Women with Dutch Partners** Rebecca Niles-Pourier

## 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.





## Prinsjesdag Luncheon





# Message from the President

by Linda Divon

It is hard to believe that November has already arrived. Our Club Year was opened with our Kick Off in September. It was indeed wonderful to reconnect and to catch up with old friends. Our Board Officers, Committee Chairs, Volunteers and AWC Members were all there to welcome many new Members! A big Thank You to Vice President **Patricia Reynolds**, Member & Club Administration Officer **Rachel Koppers** and all the high energy Committee Chairs and Members who contributed to a very successful Fall Kick Off! It is great to see our Membership grow with such a diverse group of American women as well as women coming from all parts of the world.

The AWC November Calendar is filled with many fun and interesting activities and tours. Make sure to register early to be assured of a place.

This year, from November 7 – November 9, the American Women's Club of The Hague will be hosting the FAWCO Regional Meeting. We will welcome FAWCO Club Members from the Benelux who will join us for an interesting and informative weekend in the International City of Peace and Justice.

The AWC Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place on Thursday, November 13 during the morning and again in the evening to allow all Members to participate. This year it is particularly important for all of our Regular Members to attend. There will be a vote on the ratio of Regular to Associate Members. The Regular Members have a responsibility to vote and should be there to participate in shaping the future of the Club. Although Associate Members are not entitled to vote, I certainly encourage your attendance. It is essential to have a quorum of the Membership for the vote. Regular Members will receive further instructions on how to cast a paper ballot if they are unable to attend this important meeting. In addition to the vote, we will report on last year's activities. Our Treasurer, **Teresa Insalaco**, will report on the state of the Club's finances as well as submit the final budget for a vote of approval.

Following the formal and official part of the morning meeting, we will have our traditional Thanksgiving Potluck Lunch. In the tradition of sharing, please bring a dish of your favorite holiday recipe. More information about the Thanksgiving Lunch is on the following page. Please block this date on your calendar and I hope to see a good turnout.



On Saturday evening, November 15, the US Marines will once again be holding their annual Marine Corps Ball. It is a memorable event to be experienced at least once. The evening pays homage and celebrates the Marine's 239th birthday regardless of where they may be in the world. The evening includes a very moving cake cutting ceremony followed by a fun-filled evening with music and dancing. This year the event will take place at the Grand Hotel Huis ter Duin in Noordwijk. So put on your dancing shoes and formal attire and join the US Marines and the American Embassy in The Hague for a fabulous evening.

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# Annual General Meeting

by Trena Cormier

Our November meeting will be our Annual General Meeting when we will review club financials and general business. We will conduct this meeting twice—once in the morning and again in the evening to allow all Members to participate.

1. Reports will be given on the activities and finances of the Club from the past year.
2. **Teresa Insalaco**, our Treasurer, will present the proposed budget for the 2014-2015 Club Year. Beginning November 6, copies of these documents will be available in the Front Office for your review.
3. Nominations for the Audit Committee will be presented for your approval.
4. Regular Members will be asked to vote on the issues of Regular vs Associate Membership (previously presented to all the Membership earlier in the fall). Votes from both meetings will be tallied and announced the following morning through a special eNews.

According to our Bylaws, Regular Members will be asked to vote on the proposals. Rather than voting by a show of hands, we will be using paper ballots. Regular Members will receive further instructions on how to cast

a ballot if they are unable to attend this important meeting.

November is also when the Club traditionally celebrates Thanksgiving with a potluck luncheon. After the conclusion of the Club business in the morning, we invite everyone to join us for this traditional American meal, featuring a roasted turkey and all the trimmings. Please **RSVP by Thursday, November 6** on [GroupSpaces.com](http://GroupSpaces.com) and mention in the comments which dish you will bring. Please note: we request that your dish serve around six to eight people.

Free babysitting will be available in the morning for children between six months and five years of age. In order to arrange 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](mailto:awcthehague@gmail.com) before Tuesday, November 11 to reserve your child's place.

**Thursday, November 13**  
**Coffee and Newcomers Meet & Greet:**  
**10 a.m.**  
**Morning Meeting: 10:30 a.m.**  
**Potluck: Noon**  
**or**  
**Evening Meeting: 7:30 p.m.**  
**AWC Clubhouse**

## Welcome New Members!

Barbara Bremer  
Kathy DeBest  
Maureen Halbach  
Susan Hodges  
Valerie Norton  
Toni Stapel  
Yoka van der Louw

## November Birthdays

Ethelyn Goble	4	Paula Looijmans	16
Seanette Meserole	8	Marianne Lemstra	17
Paula Traynor	9	Lorraine Cooper	18
Carol van Dijk	12	Laurie Martecchini	20
Pearl Waterreus	13	Lynne Roukema	21
Anja Knoop	15	Teresa Mahoney	29
Sasha Goldstein-Sabbah	16	Liliana Gonzalez	30

# Ramblings from the Editor

by Melissa White

When my family chose to move to the Netherlands nine years ago, we thought we'd live overseas for a maximum of six years. It never dawned on me that our eight-year-old might graduate from high school here, but she's just begun her final year at the British School and will finish the International Baccalaureate (IB) program in May. It also never dawned on me that she would possibly go to university anywhere other than in the US, but she's now in the process of applying to schools in both the US and UK (read more about our whirlwind tour of US universities on page 44).

former financial analyst and self-proclaimed cheapskate, I have a hard time getting my head around the ridiculously high tuitions in the US; while UK fees would also be high as an international student, she could complete a master's degree in just four years, thus saving two years of tuition. While I joke that Veronica will have to take up pole dancing to pay for university, James is confident that the financing will work out. Although we both think our opinions should matter, the only real opinion that counts is that of our daughter (and, of course, the universities that will either accept or reject her applications).

*There are moments in our lives we find ourselves at a crossroad. Afraid. Confused. Without a roadmap. The choices we make in those moments can define the rest of our days. Of course, when faced with the unknown, most of us prefer to turn around and go back. But once in a while, people push on to something better.*

~ Lucas Scott on One Tree Hill

As hard as it is for all mothers to prepare for their kids to leave the nest, expat mothers have an extra component to deal with: their children living not just in a separate state or country, but perhaps living on a separate continent. My closest three friends here have just sent their eldest children to the US and England in the last few months; another friend is preparing to watch her sons move to South Africa for their studies. As we watch Veronica fill out her university applications, my husband James and I are already dreading her leaving. Complicating matters, while we try to guide her to make her own decision, it is hard for us not to put in our two cents (or would that be four cents?).

James believes that the US liberal arts system is fantastic and that university is a time to explore many subjects and avenues of learning. I, on the other hand, think it would be great for her to jump right into the nitty gritty of her major, as she would in the UK, without having to take further general education courses, which I feel she's already fulfilled to a high level through the IB program. As a

As with all decisions, there are consequences. I, for one, am a worry wart and tend to overthink things. What if Veronica goes to the US and meets her future husband? What if we have to move back to the US while Veronica's still in the UK? What if she's no good at pole dancing?

Much like our family is facing a crossroads with ramifications that we can only guess at, the AWC is at a juncture in its history. Not only will Regular Members be asked to vote on adjusting the ratio of Regular to Associate Members, but they will also consider the option of allowing Associate Members to vote. For some, this change is long overdue. For others, it is a step down a path that they worry could lead to a change in the culture of the Club. These are decisions that have already led to much discussion. Hopefully you were able to attend one of the meetings in June or October to familiarize yourself with the options and you plan to come to one of the two Annual General Meetings (see previous page). Here's to pushing on to something better.



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# Newcomer Activities

by Greetje Engelsman and Ramona Oswald

RSVP for all Newcomer Activities  
directly on [AWC GroupSpaces.com](http://AWCGroupSpaces.com).

Direct any questions to  
[awcthehague.newcomers@  
gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.newcomers@gmail.com).

## The Dutch Language

### What Are the Difficulties and What Is the Easiest Way to Learn Dutch



Join us for a coffee morning with Imke Hoefnagels, language teacher and author of a practical book for expats called *An Introduction to Dutch Language Learning*. All expats struggle with how to speak Dutch. Imke will tell us all about it in this informal class designed

for Newcomers as well as non-newcomers.

**Wednesday, November 12**

**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 have owner's manuals in Dutch or Dutch forms that you are struggling to complete? Send us a message at [awcthehague.newcomers@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**Thursday, November 13**

**Coffee: 10 a.m.**

**Meeting: 10:30 a.m.**

**AWC Clubhouse**



## Thanksgiving at Pieterskerk, American Pilgrim Museum and Lunch in Leiden

Each year, OAR ~ Overseas Americans Remember hosts a wonderful non-denominational Thanksgiving Service at the Pieterskerk in Leiden where our Pilgrim story began (see page 31 for more information). Following the service we will have lunch at Het Koetshuis de Burcht. This restaurant sits at the base of a historic castle ruin (built in the 11th century). It was a coach house from 1657 until being opened as a restaurant in 1981. After enjoying a warm Dutch lunch, we will visit the Leiden American Pilgrim Museum, housed in one of Leiden's oldest buildings dating to 1370, before catching a train back to The Hague. We will meet in front of Starbucks at Den Haag Central Station (DHCS) at 10 a.m. to train to Leiden. We'll then walk to the Pieterskerk arriving at approximately 10:45 a.m. Specific train details will be sent to participants prior to the event.

**Thursday, November 27**

**Meet at Starbucks at DHCS: 10 a.m.**

**Service: 11 a.m.**

**Lunch: 12:30 p.m.**

**Visit Pilgrim Museum: 2 p.m.**

**Train, lunch and museum will be at your own expense**

**Cancellation deadline: November 22**

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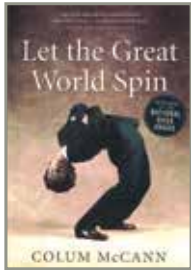
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# Ongoing Activities

## 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](mailto:awcthehague.bookclub@gmail.com). Happy reading!

The November Daytime Book Group selection is *Let the Great World Spin* by Colum McCann:



This novel is a set of vignettes chronicling a loosely connected set of fictional Manhattanites in August of 1974. In the background are real events: the Vietnam War, Nixon's resignation and a tightrope walker successfully walking between

the newly built Twin Towers. This critically acclaimed author captures the spirit of America in a time of transition, extraordinary promise, and, in hindsight, heartbreaking innocence.

**Thursday, November 20**  
**10 a.m.**  
**AWC Clubhouse**  
**FREE**

## Recap of the September Discussion

**A Casual Vacancy:** J.K. Rowling can write. The question is whether we want to read about the things she writes about. In this novel for an adult audience, the death of a small town councilman ripples throughout the community like a pebble dropping in a pond, the concentric circles stretching to people he never knew. Rowling immerses her readers into the minutiae of small time life and the detail can be stifling or mesmerizing, depending on

## Daytime Book Club Planning Ahead:

Thursday, December 18 *Josephine* by Kate Williams

Thursday, January 22 *The Marriage Plot* by Jeffrey Eugenides

Thursday, February 19 *The Middlesteins: A Novel* by Jamie Attenberg

whether you want to read 512 pages about political rivalries, family jealousies, teenage angst, bad marriages and wan love affairs. With detailed and insightful descriptions, she captures the universal in her very specific characters and situations. Irish, American, British, Dutch—we all could relate. Most of us enjoyed the book and appreciated Rowling's artistry. We recommend the book with the caveat that it is a character-driven novel rather weak on plot.

## Book Club: Evening

The November Evening Book Group selection is *This Is the Story of a Happy Marriage* by Ann Patchett:



Blending literature and memoir, Ann Patchett, author of *State of Wonder*, *Run* and *Bel Canto*, examines her deepest commitments: writing, family, friends, dogs and books.

Told through a series of non-fiction personal short stories, she brings into focus the experiences that have shaped her as a daughter, wife and writer. This entertaining self-portrait stretches from the author's childhood in California and Nashville to the present day, from a disastrous early marriage to a later happy one.

**Wednesday, November 19**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**AWC Clubhouse**  
**FREE**

## Evening Book Club Planning Ahead:

Wednesday, December 10: *Little Bird of Heaven* by Joyce Carol Oates

Wednesday, January 14: *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves* by Karen Joy Fowler

Wednesday, February 11: *Valley of Amazement* by Amy Tan

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

## Recap of the September Discussion

**The Signature of All Things:** The Evening Book Group kicked off our new Club Year with an interesting and enjoyable discussion of Elizabeth Gilbert's latest book. All members of the group save one would recommend this novel to a friend. Although some of it felt pretty contrived, we all liked Gilbert's prose and appreciated her considerable storytelling gifts. The last section of the novel takes place in Amsterdam, making it an especially intriguing read for us Netherlands-dwellers. After Gilbert's commercial success and "Oprahfication," this book marks a welcome return to her roots as a novelist. Those of us who loathed the ultra-narcissistic *Eat, Pray, Love* and the palaver-fest *Committed* in equal measure were particularly pleased to see Gilbert produce such a fine novel.

## 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 we can't accommodate children. Questions? Contact: **Suzanne Dundas** at [awcthehague.crafts@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.crafts@gmail.com)

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

## Dinner Club

Sign-up at Kick Off to share dinner at home 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, February 14. Contact Rebecca at [awcthehague.wwdp@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.wwdp@gmail.com) to join in the fun.

**Saturday, December 6**  
**Locations and Meals Vary**  
**Sign-up deadline: November 28**

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# Ongoing Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 15

## 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](mailto:awcthehague.heartpillow@gmail.com).

**Tuesday, November 18**

**Noon – 2 p.m.**

**AWC Clubhouse**

**FREE**

**Visitors Welcome**



## Ladies' Night Out: Jewelry Exchange

**Jewelry + Best Friends + Wine = One Night of Splendid Fun!**



Is your wardrobe looking outdated? Instead of spending a bundle on all new items, why not spice it up by adding some new fun accessories and having a fabulous party with friends? Most of us have bought a piece of jewelry and worn it on only one or two occasions. It is time for those accessories to find a new home! An AWC Jewelry Exchange Party is a great way to shop for accessories to update your look without breaking the bank. Bring a few pieces of jewelry that you never use anymore, along with a bottle of your favorite beverage and some nibbles to share. RSVP on [GroupSpaces.com](http://GroupSpaces.com). Questions? Contact **Pat Raynolds** at [awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com).

**Monday, November 3**

**7 – 9 p.m.**

**AWC Clubhouse**

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://GroupSpaces.com) to get email updates or email **Greetje Engelsman** at [awcthehague.newcomers@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.newcomers@gmail.com) or **Emily van Eerten** at [awcthehague.fawco@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.fawco@gmail.com).

**Mondays**

**9:30 a.m.**

**FREE**





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# One-of-a-Kind Activities

by Dory Ritchie

RSVP directly on [AWC GroupSpaces.com](http://AWC GroupSpaces.com). Direct any questions to [awcthehague.activities@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## Christmas Card Workshop



Would you like to give those special people in your life a beautiful handmade Christmas card, but think you don't have the time or talent? Think again! AWC Member **Jaimie Keppel**, owner of Jaimie's Joyful Stampin', will teach you the techniques for simple stamping, two-color stamping and stamp/punch combinations. Best of all, you'll go home with ten festive holiday cards in five different styles! All materials are included PLUS a credit of € 25 towards the purchase of products.

**Sunday, November 2**  
**3:30 – 5:30 p.m.**  
**AWC Clubhouse**  
**€ 25 Members (€ 30 nonmembers)**  
**Non-refundable**

## Introduction to Sculpting

Perhaps you are already familiar with Sculptor Anat Ratzabi? ([www.atelieranart.webs.com](http://www.atelieranart.webs.com)) She is the artist that makes the chocolate sculptures that you may have seen at last year's AWC Holiday Bazaar. She is now offering the AWC an introductory workshop. Anat's teaching method will guide and stimulate your creativity to its full potential. Come

and try it out while spending time with other Members!

**Thursday, December 4**  
**10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
**AWC Clubhouse**  
**Min 5 / Max 10**  
**€ 40 Members (€ 45 nonmembers)**  
**Cancellation deadline: November 27**



## 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.

# Women with Dutch Partners

by Rebecca Niles-Pourier

## WWDP Monthly Gals' Lunch

It's time for another monthly lunch at Vapiano. Come have good food, good wine and laughs. Girls only! Mark your calendar for our next lunch date: January 25

**Sunday, November 23**

**12:30 – 2 p.m.**

**Vapiano**

**Buitenhof 45, Den Haag**

## WWDP Dames' Holiday Potluck



**Celeste Brown** has graciously offered her home again to host this annual dinner and the singing of the *12 Days of Christmas*! We would appreciate if you could **bring a dish and a bottle of wine** to share. Look for our Evite for directions to her house and details on our meal. Please RSVP by December 7.

**Thursday, December 11**  
**7 – 10:30 p.m.**  
**Celeste Brown's home**

RSVP for all WWDP Activities  
directly on [AWC GroupSpaces.com](http://AWC GroupSpaces.com).

Direct any questions to  
[awcthehague.wwdp@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.wwdp@gmail.com)

## Christmas Cocktail Party-Contest

**ALL AWC Members** are invited to join us for a mouthwatering cocktail contest just in time for the holidays. Guests are challenged to make the best new cocktails or the standard golden oldies. Let's track down Holland's best cocktail ingredients and create a selection of delicious concoctions ranging from exotic to sophisticated. Non-alcoholic cocktails also welcome. If you feel like getting dressed up, feel free to wear your favorite cocktails dress. Include a note when you register on *GroupSpaces* to let us know if you plan to enter the contest. Please note that if a couple enters the contest, one person is considered a contestant and will be free, while the other will need to pay to participate.

**Saturday, December 13**  
**8 – 11 p.m.**  
**AWC Clubhouse**  
**€ 10 Members or Spouses (€ 15 nonmembers) – Contestants gratis**  
**Cancellation deadline: December 8**





# Helping Kids this Holiday Season

by Sunita Menon

## WANTED



Chocolate letters, holiday candy, coloring books, Play-Doh, markers, bubbles, small toys, etc. for our AWC Sinterklaas Gift Bags Drive for Needy Children

Please drop off your donations at the Clubhouse by  
November 28

### Sinterklaas Gift Bags Drive & Workshop

For all children in the Netherlands, December 5 is a very special day. It is when Sinterklaas (St. Nicholas) surprises them with presents! Children leave carrots for Sint's horse and shoes or clogs near the fireplace or outside the front door in anticipation that Sinterklaas will come during the night with gifts. For many children from extremely poor families, Sinterklaas is not so generous. As the holiday season approaches and you reflect on the joys and blessings in your own life, please take a moment to think of the less fortunate children in our midst.

In keeping with our tradition of helping the underprivileged in our community, we are proud to help bring smiles and laughter to these children. As always, the impact of our work is not just felt by the beneficiaries, but also by the entire community. Our Sinterklaas Gift Bags Drive & Workshop will involve gathering treats, small toys and chocolate letters during the month of November and gift wrapping these during our workshop, so they can be dropped off just in time for Sinterklaas at local food bank De Morgenster.

Help spread happiness. Support us by donating goodies for children up to 12 years of age (candy, small plush toys, Play-Doh, markers, coloring books, bubbles, etc.) or volunteering to collect donations or helping on the day of the workshop. Join our happy group of "Piets" to help package all the goodies our Members have generously donated. We hope to work some magic that will put a sparkle in some children's eyes. Register for the workshop on AWC GroupSpaces.com. Please email me with any questions at [awcthehague.philanthropy@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.philanthropy@gmail.com).

**Wednesday, December 3**

**2 – 5 p.m.**

**AWC Clubhouse**

**FREE**

**Donation deadline: November 28**

### Making Gingerbread Houses

Back by popular demand, we happily invite you to make gingerbread houses with us for the holidays. Based on an authentic German recipe, Members will learn how to make the dough and assemble the houses, and will get hands-on experience mixing icing and decorating the houses with colorful candy and chocolate. The class has two sessions and participants will receive the recipe and instructions for making gingerbread houses on their own. However, before we can decorate, we need volunteers to bake the roofs and walls of the gingerbread houses in their homes prior to December 12. Even if you can't make it to either workshop, please let me know if you would still like to help. The houses will be donated to these local organizations: Bronovo Hospital, Vliet en Burgh, the Leger des Heils children's foster home in Voorburg and to Class R and Class A at the Lighthouse Special Education School. Register for this fun activity on [AWC GroupSpaces.com](http://AWCGroupSpaces.com). To volunteer to bake gingerbread, please email me at [awcthehague.philanthropy@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.philanthropy@gmail.com).

**Friday, December 12**

**and**

**Tuesday December 16**

**7 – 9 p.m.**

**AWC Clubhouse**

**Min 6 / Max 16**

**FREE**

**Cancellation deadline: December 5**





# AWC Holiday Bazaar

by Jan Essad and Julie Schipper

'Twas Saturday and Sunday the 29th and 30th of November,  
a weekend I certainly will always remember.

When in my nightgown of true Christmas red,  
I sprang right out of my warm and most comfy bed!

I had been dreaming all night of the Holiday Bazaar,  
I must be there at eleven as I jumped in my car.

They'll greet me quite joyfully at the Carlton Ambassador Hotel  
where Santa will be strolling through ringing his bell.

The vendors will have the perfect gift for all on my list,  
I'll shop 'til I drop, Saturday eleven till six.

On Sunday I'll go back, my holiday spirit still alive,  
I'll lunch, laugh and shop from noon until five.

The bake sale, books, clothing, toys, paintings, jewels, linens and more,  
I'll be leaving with yummy baked goods and presents galore!

At the end of the weekend, I'll snuggle back in my bed  
with visions of happy holidays dancing around in my head.

*So please mark your calendars, you really must be there.  
Don't miss this truly "gezellig" holiday affair!*

The American Women's Club of The Hague is ready to welcome you to our 2014 Holiday Bazaar at the beautiful Carlton Ambassador Hotel. Please join us in this festive atmosphere to shop with many of our returning vendors and several new ones. You are sure to find the perfect gift for everyone on your list! We look forward to ringing in the holiday season with you as you spend the weekend with us creating warm holiday memories. See you at the Bazaar!

When: Saturday, November 29, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Sunday, November 30, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Where: Carlton Ambassador Hotel, Sophialaan 2, The Hague

Admission: € 2; children under 12 years are free

It's not too late to volunteer to help at the Bazaar! To be part of this fun event, contact **Laurie Martecchini** at [lmartecchini@gmail.com](mailto:lmartecchini@gmail.com).

## The American Women's Club of The Hague Holiday Bazaar 2014



Nov. 29, 11:00 - 18:00  
Nov. 30, 11:00 - 17:00

The Carlton  
Ambassador Hotel

€2 Admission  
Kids Free

# Kids' Club

by Pat Raynolds

## Americana

**What is Americana?:** A monthly, hour-long program to teach American children, both expatriates and those permanently living in the Netherlands between the ages of 3 and 10, facts and traditions about the US that most American children learn at school or through simple exposure while growing up in the US.

**Americana's Purpose:** To ground American children living abroad in the history and traditions of American life and culture.

**Why Americana?:** Most American children living overseas – even if attending American schools – often do not have the opportunity to learn key aspects of American life and culture: the Pledge of Allegiance; our national anthem; traditional American songs; traditions about our country, flag and culture; and American history. They can often feel like “foreigners” when they return to the US. This program has been very popular at other American Women's Clubs around the world.

We have an ASH student volunteer who is interested in working with AWC mothers to host monthly cultural events at the Clubhouse. She started with planning the Kid's Halloween Party. If you are interested in having your children participate in future cultural events,

RSVP for all Kids' Club Activities directly on [AWC GroupSpaces.com](http://AWCGroupSpaces.com).

Direct any questions to [awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com)

please let me know at [awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com), including the names, gender and ages of your children. Classes will cost € 5 per child and events will be held on Saturday afternoons. We also would like some moms to volunteer to help the student, so please let me know if you are willing. Once we have an idea of interest, we will make a calendar with topics so you can choose which events you don't want your child to miss.



## 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](mailto: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.

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*Register now!*

**Tineke Span**  
[tineke@10forkids.nl](mailto:tineke@10forkids.nl)  
06-10 93 6680

**Nicole Colijn**  
[nicole@10forkids.nl](mailto:nicole@10forkids.nl)  
06-30 39 9278

## Wanted: Bake Sale Volunteers

by Anja Knoop and Jan Essad

Put on your aprons and grab your wooden spoons, it's time to bake your favorite holiday treat or try that new recipe you saw in your favorite cookbook. Either way, your talents are needed to help stock the Sweet Shop and/or volunteer to sell culinary delights!

The Holiday Bazaar Bake Sale is a very important fundraiser, contributing a significant amount for the general maintenance of the Club. To make it a success, we need as many baked goods as possible! We welcome sweet and savory items: cakes, pies (nonperishable), brownies, cookies, cupcakes, muffins, breads, salty sweets and anything else you like to make. We'll even give you helpful guidelines on how to package your goodies with holiday flair.

Baked goods may be delivered to the Clubhouse on Friday, November 28 from Noon – 3 p.m. or you may bring them directly to the Carlton Ambassador before 10 a.m. on Saturday, November 29. To become a volunteer baker, please contact **Anja Knoop** at [pknoop@ziggo.nl](mailto:pknoop@ziggo.nl).

And, of course, we always need volunteers — at least six per day — to staff the Sweet Shop at the Bazaar. If you are willing to volunteer, please contact our Holiday Bazaar Volunteer Coordinator **Laurie Martecchini** at [lmartecchini@gmail.com](mailto:lmartecchini@gmail.com). Thank you and happy baking!



# Tours

by **Becky Failor**

## London Theater Trip

London is known as one of the two premier theater cities in the world. So let's go to London and see some shows!

We will fly into London's Gatwick Airport and take the train into the city. From our hotel in Kensington, we will have great access to the city and good pubs just doors away. We will go to the theater the first evening we arrive. The next day we have several options: a day tour to Windsor Castle, go by boat to Hampton Court for a tour, visit the V&A and Natural History Museums or go to the area surrounding Westminster Abbey to see many of the standard London sites. Our group will decide if we do things together or split up. In the evening we MAY take in a second show. The next day we will do a bit more sightseeing then fly home.

The price of this land-only tour will include two nights at the London Lodge Hotel (double occupancy – single supplement approximately € 120) with daily breakfast, train to and from Gatwick Airport, and one theater show with orchestra seats. Optional activities include tours and second theater show. As you are likely aware, London is a very expensive city. We have worked hard to make this a cost effective tour.



**RSVP directly** on [AWC GroupSpaces.com](http://AWC GroupSpaces.com).

Direct any questions to

[awcthehague.tours@gmail.com](mailto: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.

Airfare is an additional cost which you will arrange on your own. The American Travel Center is available at [travel4u@americantravelcenter.net](mailto:travel4u@americantravelcenter.net) to assist you so we are all on the same flight; tell them you are with the AWC London Tour.

**Tuesday, November 18 to**

**Thursday, November 20**

**Land portion: € 370 Members or spouses (€ 400 nonmembers)**

**Min 4 / Max 12**

**Cancellation deadline: November 7**

## One-Day Christmas Market Tour

Join us for a one-day trip to the Christmas Markets in Cologne, Germany. There are seven Christmas Markets in total with more than 150 stalls at the Cologne Cathedral plus many others scattered around this lovely city. Each market has its own theme and special treats. The Cologne Christmas Markets are considered by some to be the best in Germany.



Our Christmas Market trips over the last two years have been so popular that we have again hired a bus for 50 passengers, so don't hesitate to invite your friends. We will depart near Den Haag Centraal at 8 a.m., ride in comfort to Cologne chatting along the way, shop until we drop and then ride back to The Hague arriving about 9 p.m.

**Tuesday, December 2**

**Meet at Bus pick-up location no later than 7:45 a.m.**

**€33 Members (€ 40 nonmembers)**

**Cancellation deadline: November 26**

## Future Tours in 2015

### Royal Palace in Amsterdam

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, the town hall was converted into a palace in 1808. Afterward, 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. The lavish interior may surprise you if you have only viewed the palace from Dam Square. After the New Year, the AWC will host a tour with an English-speaking guide. The date and price are yet to be set.

### Amsterdam's Jewish Quarter and Jewish Historical Museum

Amsterdam is the home of the fascinating Jewish Historical Museum, the Portuguese Synagogue and many other important places and stories of the Dutch-Jewish people. We will coordinate a walking tour rich with stories and sites that emphasize the importance of the Jewish history of Amsterdam, including the Hollandsche Schouwburg (Dutch Theater) that was the collection site for the Jews who were to be sent to concentration camps. The date and price

are yet to be set. Your input on what you want to see on this tour is welcome. Contact me at [awcthehague.tours@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.tours@gmail.com).








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# NOVEMBER 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>Final 2014 Events:</b> Dec 2: Christmas Market in Cologne Dec 6: AWC Dinner Club Dec 12, 16: Making Gingerbread Houses Dec 13: Christmas Cocktail Party-Contest					1
2  Christmas Card Stamp Workshop <b>3:30 p.m.</b>	3  Walkie Talkies <b>9:30 a.m.</b>  Ladies Night Out: Jewelry Exchange <b>7 p.m.</b>	4  Chat, Crafts'n Cake <b>10 a.m.</b>  AWC Tennis <b>1 p.m.</b>	5  Dutch Conversation & Coffee <b>10 a.m.</b>  Pilates <b>10:15 a.m.</b>	6  AWC Board Meeting <b>10:30 a.m.</b>	7  <a href="#">AWC The Hague Hosts FAWCO Regional Meeting &gt;&gt;</a>	8
9  Tour: Explore the Mauritshuis <b>10 a.m.</b>  <a href="#">&lt;&lt; FAWCO Meeting cont.</a>	10  Walkie Talkies <b>9:30 a.m.</b>	11  Chat, Crafts'n Cake <b>10 a.m.</b>  AWC Tennis <b>1 p.m.</b>	12  The Dutch Language: Difficulties etc <b>10 a.m.</b>  Pilates <b>10:15 a.m.</b>	13  Newcomers Meet & Greet <b>10 a.m.</b> Annual General Meeting and Thanksgiving Potluck Lunch <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Evening General Meeting <b>7:30 p.m.</b>	14  Tour of the Mark Rothko Exhibit <b>12:45 p.m.</b>	15  Marine Corps Ball <b>6 p.m.</b>
16	17  Walkie Talkies <b>9:30 a.m.</b>	18  Chat, Crafts'n Cake <b>10 a.m.</b>  Heart Pillow Workshop <b>Noon</b> AWC Tennis <b>1 p.m.</b>  <a href="#">London Theatre Trip</a>	19  Dutch Conversation & Coffee <b>10 a.m.</b> Pilates <b>10:15 a.m.</b>  Evening Book Club <b>7:30 p.m.</b>	20  Daytime Book Club <b>10 a.m.</b>  Tour: Explore the Mauritshuis <b>6:30 p.m.</b>	21	22  ANCOR Thanksgiving Dinner <b>4:30 p.m.</b>
23  WWDP Gals' Lunch <b>12:30 p.m.</b>	24  Walkie Talkies <b>9:30 a.m.</b>	25  Chat, Crafts'n Cake <b>10 a.m.</b>  AWC Tennis <b>1 p.m.</b>	26  Dutch Conversation & Coffee <b>10 a.m.</b>  Pilates <b>10:15 a.m.</b>	27  Thanksgiving at Pieterskerk, American Pilgrim Museum and Lunch in Leiden <b>10 a.m.</b>  <a href="#">Happy Thanksgiving! Clubhouse Closed</a>	28  Bake Sale Drop Off  AWC Sinterklaas Gift Bags Drive Donation Deadline	29  <a href="#">AWC Holiday Bazaar</a>
30  <a href="#">AWC Holiday Bazaar</a>						





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Visit The FAWCO 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.



FIND THE BOUTIQUE ON [WWW.FAWCOFOUNDATION.ORG/BACKINGWOMENBOUTIQUE](http://WWW.FAWCOFOUNDATION.ORG/BACKINGWOMENBOUTIQUE)

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**[www.access-nl.org](http://www.access-nl.org)**

# Thanksgiving Day Service

by Roberta Enschede

**Thursday, November 27 at 11 a.m.**

**Pieterskerk in Leiden**



Please join us at this non-denominational service on Thanksgiving morning at the historic Pieterskerk. The service lasts approximately one hour, combining a civil ceremony with a Service of Thanksgiving. A Catholic priest, Protestant and Anglican ministers, a rabbi and a cantor will conduct the service. Bring your Dutch friends and friends from all nations and beliefs. This is a service for everyone! Consider joining the AWC for lunch afterwards (see page 12).

Thanksgiving at the Pieterskerk in Leiden is unique. In that church, the Pilgrims recorded their births, marriages and deaths. They lived in its surroundings from 1609 to 1620. In fact, their descendants still live in Leiden and Ria Koet, a Dutch woman who is a direct descendant of Moses Fletcher, a signer of the Mayflower Compact, will tell her story. Furthermore, there will be music from American artists and the hymns we love to sing together. Mayor Lenferink of Leiden will welcome us and US Ambassador to the Netherlands Timothy Broas will share his thoughts and excerpts from President Obama's Thanksgiving Proclamation. Scouts of all ages will present the colors and "Little Pilgrims" will welcome you. JAKK, the American School chorale group, will sing. The concert band will play during the offering and a young student will share her memories and feelings.

Last year, a film crew from the BBC filmed the service and a small excerpt was broadcast last summer as part of a documentary series. It emphasized the historical roots of Thanksgiving and noted that this service focuses on the history that intertwines the Netherlands, England and the United States. Many who sailed on the Mayflower were, in fact, Pilgrims from Leiden.

Presidents Bush are descended from Francis Cooke, a signer of the Mayflower Compact who lived in Leiden. When President George H.W. Bush became the first sitting president to visit the Netherlands, the site chosen for a major speech was the Pieterskerk. It is also significant to note that President Obama is descended from the Blossom Family who were Leiden Pilgrims. They left on the second voyage of the Mayflower in 1629. Furthermore, some historians say that the idea of Thanksgiving might have come from Leiden. After the Hunger Time in 1574, when the Spanish Siege was lifted, there was a Service of Thanksgiving in the Pieterskerk that continued year after year. Though the Pilgrims were Separatists and did not worship there, perhaps after that first harvest on the edge of a craggy continent, they remembered.

If you would like to help with flowers or usher, call me at 070 511 8409 or 065 425 3650. We would welcome a "cookie contribution" for the coffee after the service. For your convenience, please car pool or take public transportation, if possible.

The Thanksgiving Day Service is sponsored by OAR ~ Overseas Americans Remember ([oarinnl@yahoo.com](mailto:oarinnl@yahoo.com)). For further information, contact: Roberta Enschede, Coordinator at [robertaenschede@yahoo.com](mailto:robertaenschede@yahoo.com), Anneke Beeuwkes, Michele Fiszbajn, Tove McGrew or Jessie Rodell.

# Announcements

## Community Fair for Internationals

Experience the 11th annual "I am Not a Tourist" Fair, a community fair for internationals and expatriates living in the Netherlands, hosted by Expatica in Amsterdam. Whether you've lived in the Netherlands for five months or five years, you will no doubt find a free workshop or entertainment session of interest to you. Exhibitors will be available to offer advice on topics as diverse as employment, housing, relocation, taxes and banking. For more information or to get free tickets, visit: [www.expatica.com/iamnotatourist](http://www.expatica.com/iamnotatourist).

**Sunday, November 2**

**10 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

**Beurs van Berlage**

**Damrak 277, Amsterdam**

## DFAS Art Lecture

**The Perfect House: Andrea Palladio's Villas**

Andrea Palladio (1508 – 1580) began his career as a stone mason and bricklayer in the Venetian Republic. Patrons sent him twice to Rome to study ancient architecture, which enabled him to write *The Four Books of Architecture*. He is now regarded as one of the most influential individuals in the history of Western architecture. His work created harmonious beauty throughout the Veneto (the region of Venice) and his books have influenced building styles throughout the world, including Thomas Jefferson's Monticello. Lecturer Dr. Andrew Hopkins obtained his doctorate on Venetian architecture from the Courtauld Institute and has worked and taught



widely in Italy and America.

**Tuesday, November 11**

**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](http://www.dfas.nl)**

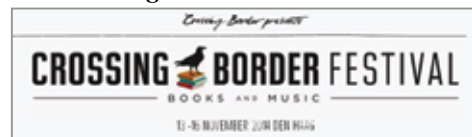
## Crossing Border Festival

Crossing Border, one of Europe's largest literary and music festivals, caters to an audience of broad cultural interests. Hosted for the 22nd time in The Hague, one of Crossing Border's goals is to highlight both international stars and new artists in literature and music as well as their interconnection with other arts.

**Thursday, November 13 through Sunday, November 16**

**Various venues in Den Haag Centrum**

**[www.crossingborder.nl](http://www.crossingborder.nl)**



## 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 15. After his arrival at 11:30, he will make his way on his white horse, accompanied by a full parade of Zwarte Piets, 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 to see. For more info including the parade route, visit: [www.sinterklaasindenhaag.nl](http://www.sinterklaasindenhaag.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 over 90 nations come together to provide entertainment and to prepare and sell their own national food specialties, wines, pastries and handicrafts.

Each country or region takes pride in decorating their booths with national flags and working together as a team. There are kid's activities, a raffle, a large used English book sale and a flea market. The event's proceeds are donated to several charitable organizations around the world for life-sustaining projects. Past projects included farming, carpentry, women's support, street children education and rehabilitation for homeless people, to name just a few. In 2013, the fair raised € 44,000 with 100% of the funds dispersed to charities around the world.

**Saturday, November 15**  
**Noon – 6:30 p.m.**  
**Francois Vatel School**  
**Granaathorst 20, Den Haag**  
**(behind the Mariahoeve Shopping Center)**  
**Free entrance**  
**[www.parish.nl](http://www.parish.nl)**

**Saturday, November 15**

**Noon – 6:30 p.m.**

**Francois Vatel School**

**Granaathorst 20, Den Haag**

**(behind the Mariahoeve Shopping Center)**

**Free entrance**

**[www.parish.nl](http://www.parish.nl)**

## Documentary Film Festival

Creative documentaries take center stage during the 27th International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), one of the leading documentary film festivals in the world.

The IDFA is the place for documentaries that are cinematically intriguing or innovative, that are relevant or highly topical to society at large, and that stimulate the viewer to reflect, discuss and ask questions.

**Wednesday, November 19 through Sunday, November 30**

**Various Locations in Amsterdam**

**[www.idfa.nl](http://www.idfa.nl)**

## Sunday Market

The monthly Sunday Market in Amsterdam is coming again to The Hague. With a slogan of "Shop till you drop and get inspired," this art, fashion and design market offers a place for artists and designers to showcase their creations directly to the public. You will find unique designs and art that cannot be purchased elsewhere. Free entrance. [www.sundaymarket.nl](http://www.sundaymarket.nl)



**Sunday, November 23**

**Noon – 6 p.m.**

**Grote Kerk Area, Den Haag**

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**St James**  
Voorschoten

*the international Anglican Church in the Leiden area*

<p><i>every Sunday</i> <b>Church Service</b></p> <p><i>with children's &amp; youth programme</i></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<p>10:30 am BSN Senior School Voorschoten</p> <p>Contact: Ruan Crew (chaplain) <a href="mailto:chaplain@stjames.nl">chaplain@stjames.nl</a> 071-5613020</p> <p>Tim Carroll (youth minister) <a href="mailto:youthminister@stjames.nl">youthminister@stjames.nl</a> 06-46697651</p> <p><a href="http://www.stjames.nl">www.stjames.nl</a></p>
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# The Dutch Daily

by Eileen Harloff

## Zwarte Piet Goes to Court

"I thought he was a chimney sweep and therefore his skin was black from soot," said a non-Dutch friend. "Not that I care what color he is; it's his personality that is so appealing." A decision as to whether or not Zwarte Piet should change his skin color to avoid being a discriminatory figure is to be decided by three judges appointed by the Raad van State (Council of State), the Netherlands' highest advice body and the country's oldest administrative organization – according to Wikipedia, it is one of the oldest, still active, governmental organizations in the world, dating back to 1531. Its functions are twofold: to advise the government with regard to proposed legislation and administrative matters and to serve as the highest court of appeal when citizens, asylum seekers and non-governmental organizations are in dispute with the Dutch government. In other words, the matter concerning Zwarte Piet is being decided at the highest level.

As to the judges, Ben Vermeulen is a specialist in administrative and education law, and has in the past stated that the country's basic laws should ensure the rights of minorities, in particular those of "unpopular minorities." He experienced being a minority in his youth when his family lived in Curaçao, where his father worked for Shell. The second judge, Dick Slump, is Chairman of the General Chamber of the Raad van State. Henk Lubberdink, the third judge, is a lawyer who in a

recent legal magazine article wrote that there are more questions being raised nowadays about the compatibility of national laws with European laws. The Raad van State is hopeful that the judges will come to a decision by the end of November, prior to the arrival of Sinterklaas from Spain. Then it will be known if the traditional Zwarte Piets will disappear, and if those who ignore their ruling would be accused of discrimination and racism.

## Et Tu, Pippi?

The Netherlands is not the only country that is being accused of discriminating against minorities. The same is being said with regard to a popular character in a series of books created by the Swedish writer, Astrid Lindgren, the first of which was published in 1945. Pippi Longstocking is the well-known young red-headed, freckle-faced girl with her hair in two braids standing out perpendicularly to her head with a wide smile on her face and mischief up her sleeve. Pippi has been the main character in films, television and cartoon series and a musical, as well as appearing in doll form and having her image on a wide variety of manufactured goods. Children in Sweden and around the world love Pippi and her adventures. Her mother is in heaven, and her father is a sailor who was shipwrecked and ended up on an island in the South Pacific, where he became its "Negro King." This language was eventually considered colonial stereotyping and racism and the wording has been changed so that

Pippi's father is the King. In 1990, the author said that she wished she had made the father a pirate instead of the king of black people who had knelt in front of Pippi and her friends. Further, Pippi's imitation of a Chinese girl was cut out of the TV series to avoid hurting anyone's feelings.

Recently the Swedes have been involved in heated nationwide discussions on immigration and immigrants, racism, dislike of foreigners within the country and colonial stereotyping. It was thus not surprising when the adventures of Pippi came under closer scrutiny. For those who know Pippi, however, any accusations of her knowingly causing pain to others is quite out of the question. Long may her pigtailed fly!

## Rotterdam, World Expo City 2025?



Taking into account its new central train station, market hall and other modern buildings, the City of Rotterdam has presented itself as a candidate for the site of World Expo 2025 ([www.rotterdam2025.nl](http://www.rotterdam2025.nl)). One of the world's oldest international events, the first World Expo was in London in 1851. Originally developed with a strong focus on technology and trade, the World Expo has evolved into a platform for the exchange of ideas and cultures. Every five years, millions of visitors from around the world visit the six-month long exhibition and share ideas on a universal theme. Hosting a World Expo in Rotterdam would set a deadline for change, paving the way towards a sustainable way of living.

Not only would this event put the city itself on the world map, it would also be a boost to the city and wider regional economy. The theme chosen by the supporters of the candidature is *Changing Currents – Deltas in Transition*. They propose that the Expo site be in the harbor area on both sides of the Maas River with the now ramshackle harbor area being transformed into a showcase for the latest developments in energy, road and water construction, shipping and raw materials. There is a need for ecological and economic changes within the

area and the country, and one of the aims of the organizers would be to urge experts from all parts of the world to come forward with new ideas in the fields of art, architecture, town planning and the like. Moreover, following the exhibition, rather than having abandoned pavilions, the organizers envisage buildings which could be used for various urban events, such as a public gymnasium or as headquarters for a sports club. The supporters of the Expo have closely studied the feasibility of organizing such a massive event, and have concluded that it can be done. Further, they project that the Expo could provide 100,000 new jobs in the area, attract 50 million visitors and add € 50 billion to the economy against an investment of € 5 billion based on the experience of previous World Expos.

## Resuscitation, Yes or No?

Recently an acquaintance showed me a pendant she had on a chain around her neck that said she did not want to be resuscitated should she be in a position to require emergency life or death medical help. Upon seeing it, another acquaintance said that she was intending to get a similar pendant. The Netherlands Association for a Voluntary Ending of Life (NNVE) reports that there has been a run on their do-not-resuscitate pendants and that 5,000 of these pendants had been given out over the past six weeks. The increase in demand is due to recent media attention as well as to the likelihood that people of age would survive resuscitation efforts. The Heart Association of the Netherlands, however, says that the NNVE statistics are out-of-date and do not take into account resuscitations outside of hospitals. They report that life-saving resuscitation success is 10% and the quality of life for survivors is good.





# Heart Pillow

by Eileen Baker

## Special Heart Pillow Workshop and Lunch with ANCOR

It was the perfect, sunny fall morning to spend the day in Rotterdam with our friends from the American Netherlands Club (ANCOR). Sixteen volunteers spent the morning busily clipping, turning, stuffing and packaging 26 Heart Pillow sets! The conversation was lively and our hearts were full of warm thoughts for those who would benefit from the pillows. We were additionally rewarded with a delicious lunch provided by our hosts.

I am so proud of the sustainable collaboration between the AWC and ANCOR on Heart Pillows. Every session we attend, we learn a new tip about pillows and open our hearts a little more towards each other. It doesn't surprise me that women who work together to support women can find harmony in a dusty art room and truly make a difference in someone else's struggle towards recovery.

## Heart Pillow Thank You Emails

Thank you so much for the heart shaped pillows! I received them yesterday from the Mammacare Nurse at the MCH West-einde. I am very touched by the fact that people who are strangers to me are willing to spend their time making something that will no doubt ease my recovery. I am having my surgery next Wednesday and the pillows are on top of my list of items to bring to the hospital. Thanks again!! Your gift has lifted my spirit.

Best wishes,  
Cynthia, September 9











## Fall Kick Off



# 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](http://www.fawco.org).*

As a Member of the AWC The Hague, you are also a Member of FAWCO and are eligible to apply for an Educational Award for your child — and for yourself. There are individual educational awards for our children studying arts, IT, sciences, and humanities, as well as a dual culture award to facilitate attending a summer program in the US. There are also awards for Members (this means YOU!) pursuing a degree or additional skill enhancement. This year, The FAWCO Foundation will also offer a new Members' award "Women in Technology." The award has been added to the 2015 Education Awards, which includes an Information Technology Award for Young Women to be offered to the daughters of FAWCO Club Members.

This award is for the study of information technology, including the study of computer and telecommunications systems, software and application development, information management and mobile computing. Applications are offered to FAWCO Club Members. The program of study can include undergraduate or graduate university programs as well as non-academic and continuing education programs. The recipient will be announced in March 2015. The initial award will be \$3,500 and will be fully funded by The FAWCO Foundation in the first year.

In a recent article announcing their own technology awards, the United Nations noted that "Major tech companies, including Google, Facebook, Yahoo and LinkedIn, have revealed that, across the board, the number of women in tech jobs is well under 20%, with the percentage of women in leadership roles not much better — reflecting a global lack of women coming into the ICT field." The article went on to say that with "digital technologies now pervading every business

sector, girls and women who learn coding, apps development and computer science will have a significant advantage over their non-tech-trained peers, regardless of their chosen field."

FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation are committed to furthering the cause of gender equality and support the UN and the IT industry's commitment to promoting women and "breaking the glass ceiling" of IT corporate management.

Created by and for FAWCO Clubs, the Education Awards Program has been recognizing excellence in academic achievement since 1972. The Awards Program elevates the profile of the recipients who have attained the highest standards through their hard work. See [www.fawcofoundation.org](http://www.fawcofoundation.org) for information on all available awards.





# AWC and the Arts

by Jane Choy

## Two More Chances to Explore New Mauritshuis!

### Tour by Jane Choy, Docent

In the past, the Mauritshuis was often referred to as the smallest of the great museums and the greatest of the small museums, but now it has been expanded to almost twice its size. This lovely jewel in the middle of The Hague has been closed for the past two years for a major expansion. It is now open for us to enjoy one of the best collections of 17th century Dutch art in the world. The paintings have returned from their very successful world tour. We now have the opportunity to see them back in their home and admire the changes and expanded facilities. Please note that the November 9 tour is part of the FAWCO Regional Conference so priority will be given to out-of-town guests. If you do not have a *Museumkaart*, please arrive early to buy your entrance ticket or pre-purchase online.

**Sunday, November 9**

**10 – 11:30 a.m.**

or

**Thursday, November 20**

**6:30 – 8 p.m.**

**Mauritshuis**

**Plein 29, Den Haag**

**€ 10 Members (€ 13 nonmembers)**

**PLUS Museum Entrance Fee (€ 14 or free with *Museumkaart*)**

**Min 12 / Max 15**

**Cancellation deadline: October 31 for November 9**

**or November 12 for November 20**



## Mark Rothko Exhibit

### Tour by Monique Varma, Docent

Mark Rothko was born in 1903 in the Russian Empire (modern day Latvia), but grew up in Portland, Oregon from the age of ten. Nothing in his background or family seems to have predestined him to become an artist, but he became one of the preeminent artists of the 20th century. Rothko is closely identified with the New York School, a circle of painters that emerged during the 1940s as a new collective voice in American art. He created a new and impassioned form of abstract painting characterized by rigorous attention to formal elements such as color, shape, balance, depth, composition, and scale; yet, he refused to consider his paintings solely in these terms. He explained, "It is a widely accepted notion among painters that it does not matter what one paints as long as it is well painted. This is the essence of academicism. There is no such thing as good painting about nothing."

From pink and yellow to blue to black – face one of his vast canvases and you feel yourself being sucked into his world. Constructed layer upon shimmering layer, his color fields are of unparalleled intensity and communicate universal human emotions such as fear, ecstasy, grief and euphoria. Rothko was an intensely committed painter who invested his whole being in his art and, like many other great artists, led a difficult life. Disillusioned by the two world wars and plagued by depression, he was a tormented soul, yet capable of producing great art with an enduring capacity to comfort and enthrall. His palette became darker and more somber as his life became overshadowed by mental health problems until he took his own life in 1970.

These days, exhibitions of the American artist's work are huge crowd-pullers and his paintings

RSVP for all Arts Activities  
directly on [AWC GroupSpaces.com](http://AWCGroupSpaces.com).  
Direct any questions to  
[jechoy@me.com](mailto:jechoy@me.com)

fetch record sums at auction. This is a unique chance to enjoy Rothko's work as this exhibition will be held only in The Hague. As home to the world's greatest collection of work by Piet Mondrian, the Gemeentemuseum is the ideal place to show the development in Rothko's work. Although Rothko was dismayed when one art critic called his work "blurry Mondrians," he was influenced by the Dutch artist. The exhibition will spotlight both the similarities and the differences in the artistic development of the two leading first and second generation pioneers of abstract art. It will also throw light on the differences between European and American abstract art, in particular in terms of format and composition.

**Friday, November 14**

**12:45 – 1:45 p.m.**

**Gemeentemuseum**

**Stadhouderslaan 41, Den Haag**

**€ 10 Members (€ 13 nonmembers)**

**PLUS Museum Entrance Fee (€ 17 or € 3.50 with *Museumkaart*)**

**Cancellation deadline: November 5**



National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC © 1998  
Kate Rothko Prizel & Christopher Rothko



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# University Trip from Hell

by Melissa White

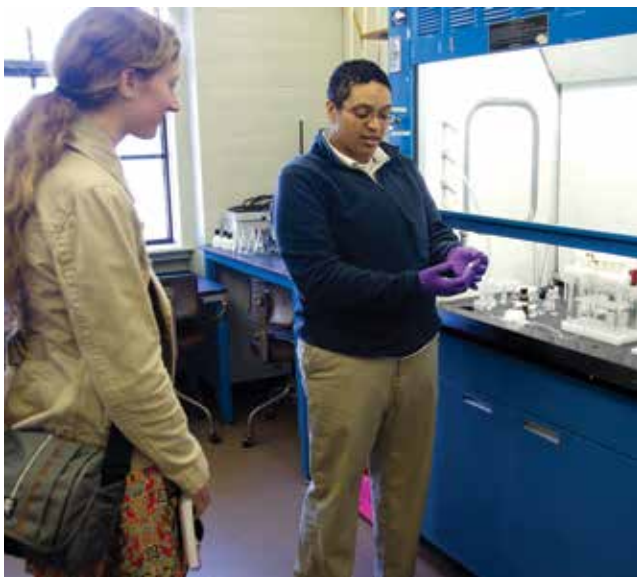
It's hard for me to believe that my eldest is already old enough to be applying to university. Ideally, Veronica would love to make documentaries for BBC, Discovery or National Geographic (if you have any contacts, please let me know!). Rather than going to film school, her father and I have encouraged her to major in a scientific field and she has chosen to study environmental science; she didn't take much convincing as she has a keen interest in science and is the co-chair of the Environmental Committee at school. She's been going to the British School of the Netherlands since she was eight, and is now uncertain whether she'd prefer to study in the US, where she can pursue a liberal arts education, or the UK, where most of her classmates will go and where she will be much closer to her family. While we have visited several UK schools over scattered weekends, it was a big undertaking to visit the US options.

Our US university tour schedule was daunting: 19 days, 6 universities, 4 states, 24+ hours inside airplanes and seemingly countless airports, and – to top it off – visiting family in yet another state. Planning our itinerary took days; I had to juggle schedules of admission sessions at each school and ensure that we could be with my husband's family for Easter. I must confess that I wasn't really looking forward to my first trip to the US since August 2011 (perhaps the title already gave me away?). Our journey didn't get off to the greatest start when we realized we were caught in a catch-22 between codeshare partners Delta and KLM (surprisingly, neither was willing to take our payment to upgrade to Economy Plus: Delta said they couldn't because the

flight was operated by KLM and KLM said they couldn't because the flight was ticketed by Delta). Fortunately, other than a 2.5-hour flight delay on the jetway due to a flat tire, everything went smoothly once we were on our way. Veronica had a good laugh when she was assigned "TSA Pre-Check" at every airport, which allowed her to go quickly through security while the rest of us were busy taking off our shoes.

Our first stop was Massachusetts to visit Wellesley College, the first of two all-female schools that we'd visit. We spent two nights with a family that we met while scuba diving in Bonaire in April 2011 (it still amazes me how close a connection we can feel with people we met while on vacation). I was immensely touched when they said they'd be Veronica's surrogate family if she chose to attend Wellesley.

Considering some of Wellesley's alumni (Hilary Clinton and Madeleine Albright), I was worried that Wellesley might foster an



overly competitive atmosphere, but I really liked what I heard from several students that we chatted with. Observing that the students were walking around with headphones and weren't engaging with each other, 13-year-old Ashlynn voiced concern that they were anti-social. While Veronica sat in her first university class, James and I took Ashlynn dress shopping for her middle school dance. Imagine our bewilderment when the shop owner tried to talk us into spending \$300 for a silk crop top and shorts set. Wellesley is a nice town, but from what we saw of the shops, it might not offer the typical university town experience. Boston is less than an hour away, which would be a big bonus.

Our next stop was Ithaca, New York to visit Cornell University. The six-hour drive was mostly through rural countryside, which was dotted with gun shops, dilapidated barns and broken down cars. We spent two nights at the Climbing Vine Cottage ([www.climbingvinecottage.com](http://www.climbingvinecottage.com)), which was actually a yurt (defined by Wikipedia as a "portable bent dwelling structure traditionally used by nomads"). The owner described our experience as "glamping" (glamorous camping), but it was much nicer than that because this yurt had permanent walls and a nice kitchen, bathroom, bedroom and loft. Downtown Ithaca was very eclectic with great second-hand and artisan cooperative shops. Our favorite dinner of the trip was at the Moosewood Vegetarian Restaurant.

The tour of Cornell was very different from any of the other schools; most significantly, it was on a Saturday so the prospective students couldn't meet any professors or



attend classes. We were disappointed that the environmental science building was locked. While Veronica and I saw one of the waterfalls on campus and the inside of a dorm room, James took Ashlynn to the open house at the vet school, where they were astonished to witness a horse running on a treadmill (apparently this treadmill can go up to 45mph, the speed of a thoroughbred racehorse).

The next day we drove to Manhattan. I was quite nervous about the idea >> 46

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The BSN Language Centre



# US University visit (cont.)

Continued from page 45



isty things; rather, James took each girl out separately for an adventure. He and Ashlynn went on a 15K run at 6 a.m. to see the city waking up, starting at Central Park, past the *Today* newscasters preparing for the nationally televised morning newscast and ending at the Staten Island Ferry with a view of the Statue of Liberty. He then took Veronica out on a nighttime photo safari on the Brooklyn Bridge and at Times Square until 1 a.m.

We toured Barnard College on the Upper West Side so that Veronica would have another all-female university to compare to Wellesley. The two schools couldn't have been more different. Whereas Wellesley's 500 acres is situated next to a lake with woodlands and open meadows, Barnard's 4 acres are completely urban. While we hadn't originally planned on visiting Columbia University, which is just across the road, we were lured over out of curiosity and managed to finagle our way onto a tour. While the idea of my sweet, naive daughter living in Manhattan scares me to death, it was nice to know that our good friends would look after her.

Our next stop was Chicago, where we spent a wonderful afternoon with Dru van



Harten, a former AWC Member, and her toddler Leah. We took a ridiculous number of photos at Millennium Park of the *Cloud Gate* sculpture, otherwise known as "The Bean." We walked along Michigan Avenue, known as "The Magnificent Mile," to Lake Michigan (when my girls saw the fifth largest lake in the world, they thought it was a sea because we couldn't see the other side). We finished up the evening at Pizzeria Uno, the original home of the famous Chicago deep dish pizza.

We stayed in Evanston, which is a very quaint university town. While Veronica, James and I spent the entire next day at Northwestern University, Ashlynn went to a movie by herself (which I've never done). We went on a tour and to two information sessions; while Veronica took a class, James and I went to the art museum on campus. Afterwards, an environment science professor spent two hours with us talking about the program and showing us the department (I eventually opted out since it was too scientific for me). The campus itself is beautiful with a private beach; although I'm not sure the students can use it much since it was already mid-April and there were no signs of spring arriving.

For the first time in 15 years, we headed to Atlanta to stay with my in-laws (we have seen them elsewhere over the years, but hadn't stayed with them for a very long time). We were thrilled that James' sister drove up from



Jacksonville, Florida with her two sons to spend the weekend with us. It was great fun to see the four kids doing a sing-along rather than sitting separately on electronic devices. They joined us for the midnight showing of *Rocky Horror Picture Show*. The entire movie was acted out in front of the movie screen with great props, but the audience wasn't allowed to throw anything (rice, bread, toilet paper) like we did in the 1970s. The commentary by the master of ceremonies made it much raunchier than any of us expected, but we still had a good laugh.

Instead of sleeping in on Easter morning as most of us had originally planned, we attended an Easter Service at Buckhead Church. Frankly, I think it might be the Disneyland of churches with seats for 3,000 (there were five Easter services so the numbers are staggering), amazing facilities for each stage of childhood, and ushers that wear "Guest Services"



shirts. The preacher, Andy Stanley, wasn't physically there; instead there was a life-size video of him which, frankly, creeped me out. The rock music was great and the sermon was quite interesting. Afterwards, James scored us a tour backstage to see the control room for all of the video operations which rivaled those at TV stations.

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## US University visit (cont.)

Continued from page 47

The day after Easter, it was time to fly to our final destination: North Carolina. Veronica was especially thrilled that we were spending the week with her best friend, Rachel. The following morning, James dropped Veronica and me off at Duke University for a tour of the campus, while he took Ashlynn horseback riding. We were early for our info session and tour, so we visited Duke Gardens, which was in full bloom. It was nice seeing some tulips since we were missing tulip season in Holland. The next day, we visited UNC-Chapel Hill, the only public university among the seven schools we visited (as we are now stateless and would have to pay out-of-state tuition, government-funded universities have lost much of their financial appeal); Veronica loved the campus and the idea of living near friends.

Much of the rest of our trip was spent visiting with friends. James stayed behind while us girls went with Rachel and her mom to their vacation house, built in 1854, in historic Beaufort near the Atlantic coast. Highlights of our weekend included visiting the Duke Marine Center, wandering through



the Old Burying Grounds dating back to the Revolutionary War, kayaking, and boating out to Shackleford Banks to see the wild horses.

During past trips to the US, I have been guilty of having expectations that were too high. This time I was expecting the trip to be hell, but luckily the “hell” part of this trip was confined to the planning stages. Although I originally dreaded our whirlwind tour of the US and several of its halls of higher education, it actually turned out to be a great trip with some special family time. Despite attending seven admission sessions, each was different and managed to hold my interest. The styles of architecture and campus settings were varied and picturesque. While I’m not thrilled about having my daughter half a world away, I just love that we have friends in other cities that would help look after her.

Of course, the decision isn’t just hers to make. First, she has to be accepted. After our visit, Northwestern remains at the top of Veronica’s list. She will be applying “early decision,” so should know before Christmas if she is accepted. Apparently the warnings of the nasty Chicago winters didn’t scare her away. Sounds like hell to me!



## Announcements (cont.)

Continued from page 33

### Antique and Art Fair



PAN Amsterdam, the Netherlands’ premier art and antiques fair, is renowned for its high-quality, international offerings of more than 10,000 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 80 experts for authenticity, artistic quality and condition. Prices range from € 500 to € 500,000. Over 50,000 visitors, from museum curators to private art enthusiasts, are attracted to this fair every year. A free app is available on their website.

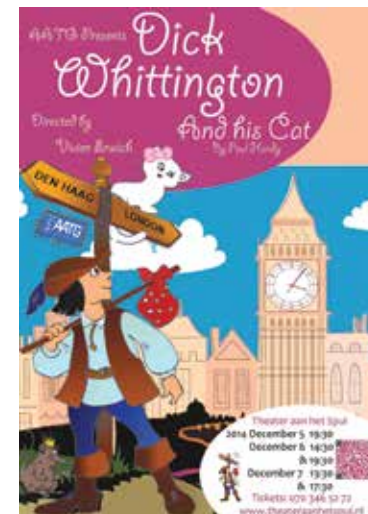
**Sunday, November 23 through Sunday, November 30**  
**Amsterdam RAI Parkhal, Europaplein**  
[www.pan.nl](http://www.pan.nl)

### 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-style dancing to live music for all abilities. Bringing a dance partner is uniquely unnecessary! The € 99 ticket includes a highland banquet, wine with dinner, and dancing throughout the evening. Kilts are not obligatory! Tickets are on sale until November 21 through Marion at [maria.janine@ziggo.nl](mailto:maria.janine@ziggo.nl) or 065 117 3229. If you want to practice a few dances before the ball, you are welcome to join the Reel Club which meets every Friday in the British School on Diamanthorst in The Hague from 8 – 10 p.m.

**Saturday, November 29**  
**6:30 p.m. – 1 a.m.**  
**Crowne Plaza Hotel, Den Haag**  
[www.standrews.nl](http://www.standrews.nl)

### Dick Whittington & His Cat, the Pantomime



Distinctively British, a panto is a popular form of family entertainment incorporating song, dance, slapstick comedy, cross-dressing and audience participation. This holiday season, the Anglo American Theatre Group (AATG) presents a musical version of the ultimate zero to hero adventure story that’s paved in gold. Come cheer, hiss and sing along as the hero and his loveable Kitty travel to exotic lands and mystical worlds seeking fame and fortune. Will the hero defeat evil King Rat and his terrible sidekick Rata2? Will he win the love of beautiful Alice and find the fortune he’s after? With laughs served up by Dame Sarah Stroopwafel and a sprinkling of magic dust from good Fairy Bow Bells, *Dick Whittington & His Cat* is a mewsical extravaganza that’s purrrfect for the whole family!  
**Friday, December 5 – Sunday, December 7**  
**Theater aan het Spui, Den Haag**  
[www.aatg.nl](http://www.aatg.nl)

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## Celebrate Thanksgiving at the Hilton

with



*The American Netherlands Club of Rotterdam (ANCOR) invites our sister clubs, AWC The Hague and AWC Amsterdam, plus their guests to join us for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.*

*Dinner is a three-course feast with all your favorites: Pumpkin soup, turkey with the trimmings, dessert, coffee/tea and bonbons. We will give an update on Free the Girls, but will NOT be doing any fundraising during the evening.*

- Adults € 36.50 each
- Children (12 and under) € 18.25 each



**What are you thankful for this year?**

*Take a picture and send it to us with your registration to win a prize! Include a paragraph about how the picture shows your gratitude. Each person can submit up to 3 photos.*

**Saturday, November 22 from 4:30 p.m.**  
**Hilton Hotel Rotterdam, The Coolsingel Suite**  
**Kruiskade 12, Rotterdam**  
**Reservation deadline: Friday, November 14**

Out-of-towners: You can stay overnight at the Hilton for € 99. Please inform us if you are interested. We are happy to help you with a Sunday family itinerary!

Please register with Sabine Peterink [s.peterink@gmail.com](mailto:s.peterink@gmail.com) and then make a bank transfer to ANCOR IBAN: NL81INGB0005489053. Please include: Thanksgiving, name and number of guests.



serving overseas Americans and  
the international community since 1931

## Announcements (cont.)

*Continued from page 49*

### **Exhibition: The Future of Fashion is Now**

The latest generation of fashion designers is actively in search of ways to redefine the concept of fashion. Aware that our consumer society's demand for new trends every six months is totally unsustainable and given the huge developments in technology and materials, these designers adopt a new approach to what fashion can be. This exhibition features futuristic designs that occupy the border between fashion and art by more than fifty fashion designers from around the world, including Viktor & Rolf from the Netherlands. Six designers were commissioned to make new pieces exclusively for the exhibition. See technological innovations such as the jacket from the Wearable Solar Project that

can recharge a mobile phone.  
**Through January 18, 2015**  
**Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen**  
**Museumpark 18, Rotterdam**  
[www.boijmans.nl](http://www.boijmans.nl)



## Message from the President (cont.)

*Continued from page 8*

On November 27, Overseas Americans Remember ~ OAR will host their annual interdenominational Thanksgiving Service at the Pieterskerk in Leiden (see page 31). This very warm and moving yearly event is a time to remember how very lucky we are and to give thanks for our good fortune.

November ends with our annual AWC Holiday Bazaar which will be held on Saturday, November 29 and Sunday, November 30 at the Carlton Ambassador Hotel in The Hague. Please take a look on page 22 for more details. It is definitely the best holiday bazaar in The Hague, having a wonderful selection of local and international quality items for sale. It is an important fundraising event for the AWC and I truly hope that everyone will join us at this high-energy event where we can all socialize and shop, as well as taste many of the cookies, cakes and other very special treats there. It will definitely start you off with the holiday feeling and spirit! Please bring your friends, relatives and children.

As always, Santa will be on hand to greet everyone!

I want to close my November President's Message with a Thank You to all AWC Members for your great energy, for your commitment to this wonderful Club, for your enthusiasm, for your volunteerism and dedication to philanthropy, which makes the American Women's Club of The Hague special and appreciated by our host country. I give my Thanks this month for being an integral part of the AWC, for having the privilege of being able to serve as your President for one more year and for having the pleasure of having met so many amazing women whom I now call "my friends."

All the best and *tot ziens*,

*Linda*

# Classifieds

## An Introduction to Dutch Language Learning

Learn Dutch from a practical, concise bilingual study/workbook which especially focuses on the expat and fits in every handbag. Would you be interested? Please email author Imke Hoefnagels at [ihoeftnagels@hotmail.com](mailto:ihoeftnagels@hotmail.com). A free Dutch class will be given by Imke on Wednesday, November 12 at the AWC (see page 12).

## 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](http://www.counsellinginternational.com)

## Ardite for Conscious Living

Counselling, energy healing and Zhineng Qigong training to improve mental and physical health, self-awareness and balance. Counselling for adolescents focuses on school- and learning-related problems. Please contact me for further information and personal advice. Karina Grijzen, Developmental Psychologist 061 406 0798 [www.ardite.nl](http://www.ardite.nl)

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.

## 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](mailto:chiropractienoordzee@gmail.com) [www.chiropractienoordzee.nl](http://www.chiropractienoordzee.nl)

## Support Fellow AWC Members

Find links to a large variety of businesses owned by AWC Members at [www.awcthehague.org/site/newcomers/business-links](http://www.awcthehague.org/site/newcomers/business-links)

## 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](http://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](mailto:awcthehague.membership@gmail.com).

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**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.

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

## Non-Member Rates:

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