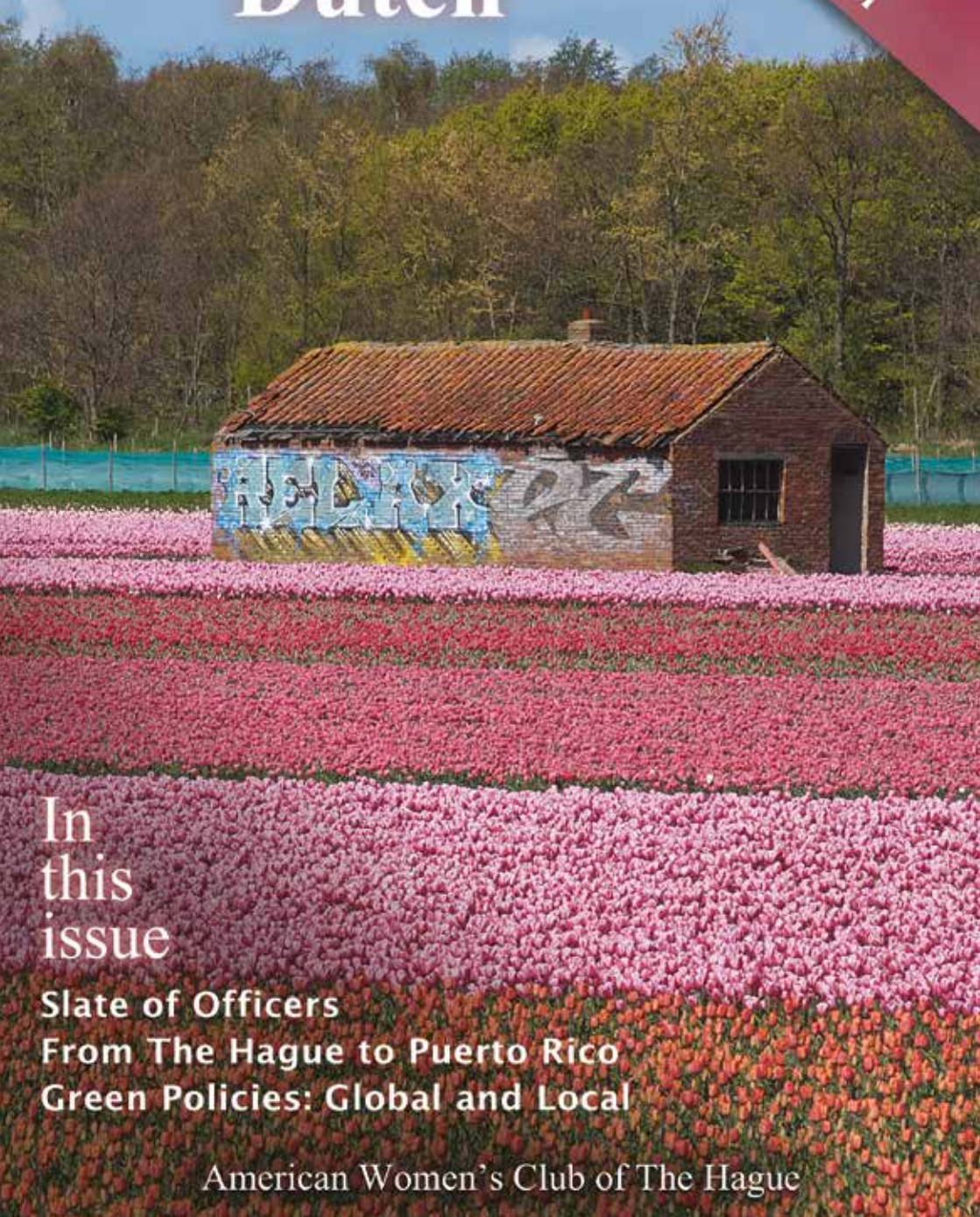


# Going Dutch

2018  
April



In  
this  
issue

Slate of Officers

From The Hague to Puerto Rico

Green Policies: Global and Local

American Women's Club of The Hague



# WELCOME

In our I.P.L Permanent Hair Removal Studio



## SUPER DEAL

Full legs, only €99,00

One time payment treatment until satisfied!

**MED  
COS**  
IPL METHODE



Book your free intake online at,  
[www.lifestylesalonthehague.nl](http://www.lifestylesalonthehague.nl)

Location:

Denneweg 56,  
2514 CH The Hague  
Tel. 070 - 345 8442

[www.lifestylesalonthehague.nl](http://www.lifestylesalonthehague.nl)



With a listening and caring team  
we strive to be your daymaker!

The whole building is powered by solar energy

## Going Dutch

April 2018



21

Have a hankering for Dutch jenever? Tour the Van Kleef Distillery and have a taste.



32

We've got a plan in place to aid Puerto Rico's recovery.



44

Into Africa. Live vicariously through Tammy Kirk's dream journey.

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

- 5 Officers and Chairwomen
- 6 March Activity Collages
- 8 Message from the President
- 9 April General Meeting
- 10 Letter from the Editor
- 12 Membership
- 13 Walkie Talkies: Special Outing
- 14 Ongoing Activities
- 20 One-of-a-Kind Activities
- 22 Slate of Officers
- 26 Summer Beach Barbeque Benefit
- 28 April Calendar
- 31 AWC and the Arts
- 32 Puerto Rico Fundraiser
- 34 FAWCO Corner
- 36 The Dutch Daily
- 39 TLC Dinner Appreciation
- 40 Environmental Needs
- 43 Dutch-American Friendship Day
- 44 Into Africa
- 48 Announcements
- 52 Classifieds
- 53 Index of Advertisers
- 53 Ad Rates
- 54 Proost! Questionnaire





**AWC Clubhouse**  
 Johan van Oldenbarneveltlaan 43  
 2582 NJ Den Haag  
 Tel: 070 350 6007  
[info@awcthehague.org](mailto:info@awcthehague.org)  
[www.awcthehague.org](http://www.awcthehague.org)

**Going Dutch Magazine**  
[goingdutchmag@gmail.com](mailto:goingdutchmag@gmail.com)

**Clubhouse Hours**  
 Tuesday and Thursday  
 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
 Monday, Wednesday and Friday Closed

**Dues** (Effective 2017-2018)  
 € 110 per year (€ 66 after January 1)  
 € 90 business, professional  
 € 55 valid US military ID  
 € 35 student  
 € 35 Outside the Netherlands (*Going Dutch* magazine not included)  
 Add € 15 new member registration fee

**Deadlines:** Submissions are due no later than the last Monday of the month preceding the publication month. For example, for the May/June issue, submissions are due before Monday, March 26

**Please Note:** Articles submitted to *Going Dutch* will be published subject to space limitations and editorial approval. All rights reserved; reprints only by written permission of the Editor. Please email to: [goingdutchmag@gmail.com](mailto:goingdutchmag@gmail.com)

**Legal Notice:** Articles in *Going Dutch* express the views and opinions of their authors alone, and not necessarily those of the AWC of The Hague, its Members or this publication.

**Editor**  
 Suzanne MacNeil

**Design and Layout**  
 Teresa Mahoney

**Cover Photo**  
 Relaxing in the Bulb Fields, April 2017 by  
 Melissa White

**Photography**  
 Laurie Brooks, Sue Cramp, Heather DeWitt, Greetje Engelsman, Jan Essad, FAWCO, Amber Gatewood, Marsha Hagney, Sheila Karman, Tammy Kirk, Suzanne MacNeil, Sunita Menon, Julie Mowat, Rebecca Niles, Melissa Rider, Luis Rios, M.D., Laura Suttles, steamys.org, Anna Lena Thuren-Vogel, travelgluttons.com, Melissa White

**Proofreaders**  
 Ellen Bolick, Celeste Brown, Donna Cleland, Jane Gulde, Diane Schaap, Debbie van Hees

**Contributors**  
 Laurie Brooks, Jane Choy, Sue Cramp, Heather DeWitt, Roberta Enschede, Jan Essad, Audrey Goodman, Dena Haggerty, Marsha Hagney, Eileen Harloff, Sheila Karman, Tammy Kirk, Suzanne MacNeil, Sunita Menon, Julie Mowat, Rebecca Niles, Melissa Rider, Karen Rudin, Laura Suttles, Melissa White, Emily van Eerten, Anne van Oorschot, Anna Lena Thuren-Vogel, Melissa White

**Printer**  
[www.dwcprint.nl](http://www.dwcprint.nl)

AWC Bank Account Number  
 IBAN: NL42ABNA0431421757  
 KvK Den Haag  
 40409274

## 2017-2018 AWC Officers

**Honorary President** Diane Hoekstra

**President** Dena Haggerty  
[awcthehague.president@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.president@gmail.com)

**Vice President** Dena Haggerty  
[awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com)

**Treasurer** Melissa White  
[awcthehague.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.treasurer@gmail.com)

**Secretary** Mallery van der Horst  
[awcthehague.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.secretary@gmail.com)

**Club and Community Development**  
 Laurie Brooks  
[awcthehague.community@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.community@gmail.com)

**Clubhouse Administrator**  
 Dominique Duysens  
[awcthehague.clubhousemgr@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.clubhousemgr@gmail.com)

**Communications** Teresa Mahoney  
[awcthehague.communications@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.communications@gmail.com)

## Front Office

Siska Datema-Kool, Dominique Duysens,

Amber Gatewood, Paula Looijmans,

Melissa Rider, Holly Savoie, Chelsea Wald

## Committee Chairs

**Activities** Dena Haggerty

**Archivist** Ellen Bolick

**Assistant Treasurer** Teresa Insalaco

**At Home in Holland** Open

**Board Advisor** Jessie Rodell

**Caring Committee** Naomi Keip

**Chat, Craft & Cake** Suzanne Dundas

**Community Service Team** Open

**eNews** Amber Gatewood

**FAWCO** Julie Mowat

**Heart Pillow** Jan de Vries

**Holiday Bazaar** Open

**Library** Ellen Bolick

**Membership Coordinator** Melissa Rider

**Newcomer Activities** Holly Savoie

**Parliamentarian** Georgia Regnault

**Programs** Open

**Public Relations** open

**Social Media Coordinator** Ginny Mees

**Social Media Recruitment** Ceci Wong

**Tennis** Molly Boed

**The Arts** Jane Choy

**Tours** Open

**Volunteer Coordinator**

Laurie Martecchini

**Webmaster** Julie Otten

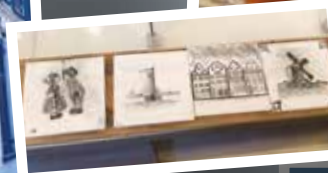
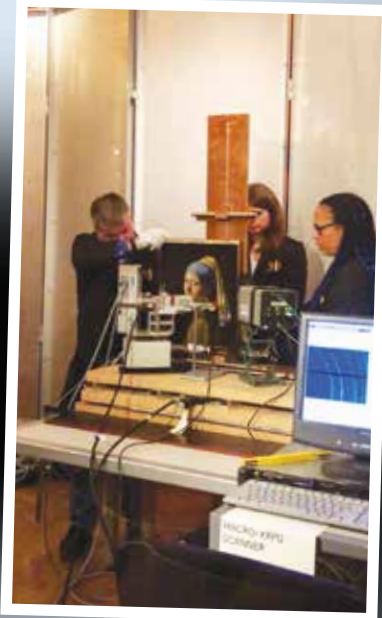
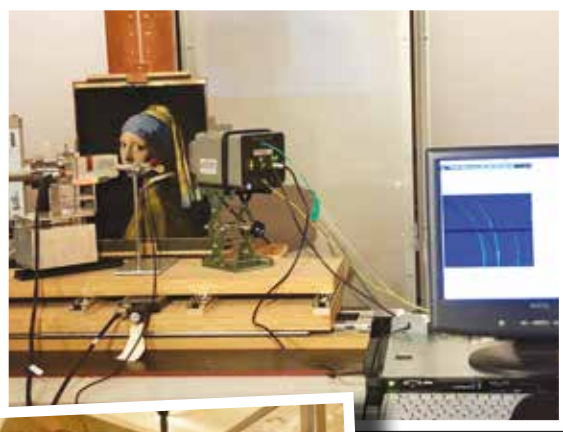
**Women with Dutch Partners** Open

## AWC Mission Statement

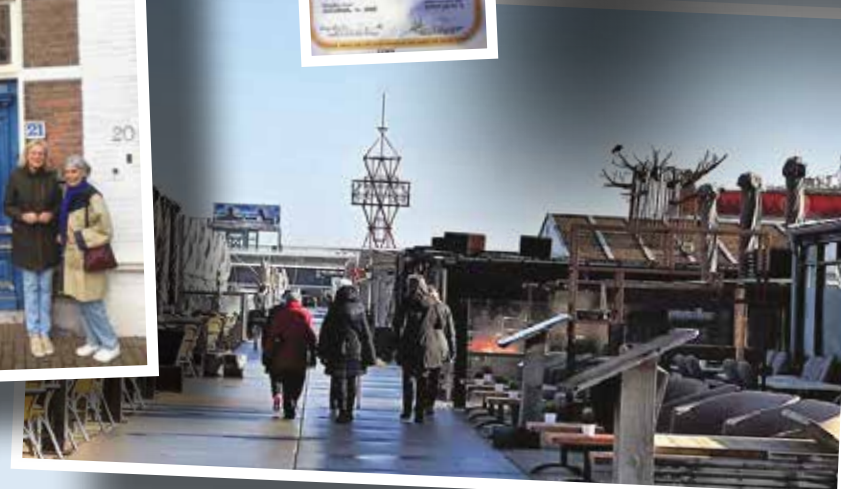
The AWC is an association formed to provide social and educational activities for American women living in the Netherlands and to promote amicable relations among people of all nations, as well as acquiring funds for general public interest. Membership in the club is open to women of all nations who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



## Girl with a Pearl Earring



## Spring Activities





# Message from the President

by Laurie Brooks

Last month my co-president, **Dena Haggerty**, wrote a poignant article about Members who leave us and the impact they can have on our lives, even if they are only in them for a short time. I wrote an article intended for this month's president's column about those who have left, only to return to us later and bring back some joy we had forgotten. It was about folding them back into our AWC family and providing support they had missed from us while away.

However, as I sit in New York City ready to attend the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 62), I decided to change my article and instead write about something that gives me strength, courage, and conviction. It's the reason I joined the AWC, the reason I became interested in FAWCO, and the reason I agreed to be on the boards of both organizations: **Women helping women.**

My first experience with the AWC of The Hague was the 2016 Gala. I had recently joined the Club and as I sat at Nieuwspport watching the presentations given by the charities that were benefitted by the Gala, I recognized the appreciation not only in their words, but in their voices and faces when they spoke. I knew then I wanted to do more to help.

That appreciation was echoed more recently by the attendees of the TLC Dinner that was held in February at the Clubhouse. As some of the women got up to tell their stories, they talked about how overwhelmed they were

by our generosity. So many of those ladies came up to hug the volunteers before they left and told us we had created a memory they would cherish. And these

were Dutch ladies. Hugging isn't usually their thing!

My original article talked about the support we provide for our Members and I've heard from some who have left and said they miss us. They don't just miss individuals (though that's true, too), but they miss the whole Club and all it does for the community. Some of our Members continued philanthropic work after leaving, even if they weren't involved in that before coming to the AWC. Others began work with FAWCO or the FAWCO Foundation. We have Members on boards of charities, and many, many who organize activities and support for our own Members.

For me, this is what it's all about. The time, effort, frustration, and hard work are all worthwhile when we see the impact it makes on the lives of others. I want to extend my sincerest thanks to all who volunteer for the AWC. Your efforts are appreciated more than you know.

Here at the UN CSW, the scale is a little bigger. I heard this morning at a kickoff event that there are nearly 10,000 people involved in this one conference. However, the sentiment is the same. Women helping women. Women appreciating the help of women. Whether it's at the global level, the national level, city, or even more local, the desire of so many to help make the world a better place is a big part of what gives us hope.



*Laurie*



# April General Meeting

by Dena Haggerty

## Board Election and Guest Speaker Arthur Philip Lieuwen NAIL and Air Traffic Management

As we do every April, AWC Members will vote on the Slate of Officers for the 2018-2019 Club Year (turn to page 22 to meet the candidates). If you are a Member but unable to attend this meeting, please submit a proxy ballot via email, available by request from the Front Office prior to April 10.

When we've completed the election, our guest speaker will be Arthur Philip Lieuwen who will discuss two topics: the Netherlands America Institute Limburg (NAIL) and air traffic management. Following World War II, the Netherlands-America Institute (NAI) was created in Amsterdam. The Limburg chapter of the NAI wished to place more focus sustaining the robust friendship between the U.S. and Limburg, which resulted in the establishment of a more independent branch of the NAI, the Netherlands America Institute Limburg (NAIL), in

1952. Mr. Lieuwen will explain why NAIL is still going strong.

In addition to his discussion about NAIL, Mr. Lieuwen will share tales from his 18 years working as an air traffic controller for the Maastricht Upper Area Control Centre (MUAC), which operates under EUROCONTROL. MUAC oversees the upper airspace of Belgium, northwest Germany, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands.

We invite everyone to join us after the meeting for lunch. Please indicate your choice of sandwich or salad in advance. Lunch choices will be shown to you when you RSVP on GroupSpaces. Payment can be made at the Clubhouse prior to the meeting.

**Thursday, April 12**

**Coffee: 10 a.m.**

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

**Luncheon: Noon**  
**AWC Clubhouse**



Arthur Philip Lieuwen (far right) with L-R Sabine Crowley, Roberta Enschede, and Sean Crowley



# Letter from the Editor

by Suzanne MacNeil

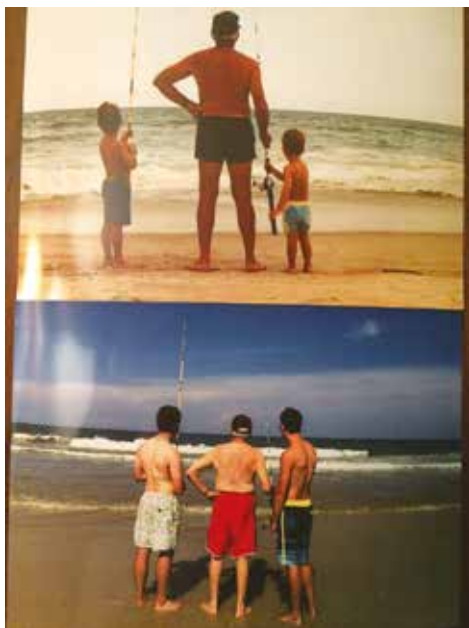
Each Club year, as stated in our constitution, Members vote on a new Board in April, and that vote is scheduled for the General Meeting on Thursday, April 12. If you're not able to join us for the meeting, please submit a proxy ballot. Many thanks to **Sunita Menon** and her team on the nominating committee for their months of work putting together the slate of candidates. Read about each candidate starting on page 22.

In last month's *Going Dutch*, three of our Members shared stories about their travels and included advice about planning a trip to each location they visited. The fourth travel story, written by **Chelsea Wald**, offered advice about travel insurance, which is especially important given the many travels many of us are able to experience because of our proximity to such diverse countries and cultures in Europe.

For this month's magazine, **Tammy Kirk** graciously wrote about her recent African safari, a trip that's near the top of my bucket list. Her story includes the process she and her husband went through to decide not only which country to visit, but also which tour company to use to make the most of their almost two weeks traveling. If you've thought about traveling to Africa, Tammy's story, and beautiful pictures, may jump start your planning. Turn to page 44 to appreciate Africa's bounty and cute baby animals!

On a personal note, thank you to my dear friends in the Club who called and sent notes while I was in Florida, and returned home, after my father was diagnosed with metastatic bladder cancer. February was not a fun month for my family and me, and I can't tell you how much it means to open my email or read a Facebook post from such lovely women. As expats living away from our families, it is the reality we face when someone we love is ill and living on another continent, and not an easy drive or flight away. I know some of you have experienced what I did

and I appreciate your wisdom and love. My Dad may have been 92, but he still worked, played poker with my brother and his friends every Wednesday night, snarled when the Jacksonville Jaguars lost a football game, and loved his family with his big heart.



The photos of my dad with my boys are my favorites. The top one was taken in 1992 when Max was three and Cameron was five. My dad loved fishing and was thrilled to teach the boys how to cast and to wait patiently for a nibble. The lower photo was taken in 2014 when the family celebrated my parents' 60th wedding anniversary.

Many thanks to **Melissa White** who stepped in to help produce this edition of *Going Dutch* while I was with my family.

Tot ziens,

*Suzanne*

Marcel Vermeulen  
jeweler & goldsmith



Handmade 18CT white gold ring set with rare untreated spinel and brilliant cut diamonds.

Prinsestraat 5, 070 3453333, info@marcelvermeulen.com

*the Art of Seeing*

eye examination  
prescription sunglasses  
prescription glasses  
contact lenses  
eye pressure



Petros The Hague  
070 3462503

Bankstraat 1x 2585 EE Den Haag  
www.petros-thehague.nl



# Membership

by Melissa Rider

With 45 new Members joining the AWC since our Fall Kickoff in September 2017, it's interesting to note a statistic about the population of this new group. There were eight women who were born after 1980, thus doubling our demographic in that age group for our Club in just six months. These new, and younger, Members are a testament to our outreach efforts and the events and activities we offer to all Members. Let's keep up the good work!



## 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)

## April Birthdays

Una Mulvihill	1
Donna Kirby	3
Melanie Roders	4
Julie Jones	4
Mallery van der Horst	6
Michele Thompson	8
Pandora Hartman	9
Krishna Thakrar	25
Sue Cramp	26

## Welcome New Members!

Heather DeWitt
Joyce Hoovers
Demetra Koelling
Deana Kreitler
Debra Nadler Broek
Nancy Novick
Laura Suttles
Jessica Vaccaro

# Walkie Talkies Special Outing

by Emily van Eerten

## Special Walkie Talkies: Outing to Sassenheim-Warmond-Voorhout

Following the success of our 2017 walk from Woerden to Oudewater, the Walkie Talkies have planned another long-distance walk. The 14.5 km walk will start in Sassenheim, continue to Warmond, and finish in Voorhout. Walkers will take the sprinter train from Den Haag Centraal to Sassenheim. From there, we will walk to and around beautiful Warmond, ending at the station in Voorhout for our train journey back to The Hague. Our path will take us:

- Through the Warmont nature area and along the castle Huis te Warmont
- Along the 19th century stork's nest on the Oostergeest estate (after 125 years, still an active nest!)
- Onto the recreational Kuidenhoorn island on 't Joppe lake, one of the Kagerplassen

- Lunch in Warmond, perhaps at the Grand Café Restaurant Het Paviljoen on Kuidenhoorn
- Along the Klinkenbergerplas, currently being transformed into a biodiverse recreation area, with a special swallow wall expecting its first inhabitants in April
- Along the Haarlemmertrekvaart (the canal connecting Haarlem and Leiden)
- Along the polder windmill *Hoop Doet Leven*

Please email me to confirm your participation in the walk or if you have any questions. [vaneerten@gmail.com](mailto:vaneerten@gmail.com)

**Wednesday, April 25**

**(Rain date: Wednesday, May 2)**

**Meet at Den Haag Centraal time TBD**

**Train fare and lunch at your own expense**





# Ongoing Activities

## Book Clubs

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

## Daytime Book Club



*My Absolute Darling*, the debut novel by Gabriel Tallent, is the disturbing story of 14-year-old Turtle and her isolated life with Martin, her paranoid, survivalist father in the wilds of Mendocino County in Northern California. After her first experience with

real friendship and a teenage crush, Turtle becomes motivated to escape, using the very survival skills her father devoted himself to teaching her.

**Thursday, April 26**  
**10 a.m.**

**AWC Clubhouse**  
**FREE**

## Daytime Book Club Recaps

**January:** Sarah Perry's *The Essex Serpent* is set in London and Essex in the 1890s when paleontology, geology, and Darwinism were all the rage. A newly-widowed Cora Seaborne leaves London after the unmoored death of her husband to pursue her interest in the sightings of a prehistoric monster called the Essex Serpent. In addition to a varied cast of sympathetically treated characters and lyrical landscape prose, Perry touches on the many varieties of love, proto-feminism, natural science and religion, and the boundaries of friendship in an incident-packed

narrative. Although critically acclaimed, our readers recommend this book with a caution that it would best suit readers who like historical fiction and the slower pace of Victorian-like novels.

**February:** The dystopia of the very near future that Margaret Atwood created in *The Heart Goes Last* felt familiar to us—not comfortable exactly, but not so far-fetched that we couldn't envision ourselves there. That's why it's so terrifying. In this "speculative fiction" (a term Atwood prefers to "dystopian"), people gratefully trade their freedom in exchange for safety. And that safety becomes a darkly oleaginous slope of moral compromise eventually leading to killing babies for the youth-giving properties of their blood. Atwood's gift is how she gets us there—one step at a time and with surprising humor. This book can be read as quasi-slapstick satire involving Dutch-designed sex robots, Elvis impersonators and ersatz Marilyn Monroes. For our group it fueled a more than two hour discussion on the flaws of utilitarianism, how control of information is key to controlling behavior, and how bodily and mental security are essential to both freedom of personal choice and a functioning society. We didn't think this was Atwood's greatest work, but it's certainly thought provoking.

## Daytime Book Club Reading List:

Thursday, May 24: *Notes on a Foreign Country:*

*An American Abroad in a Post-American World*  
by Suzy Hansen

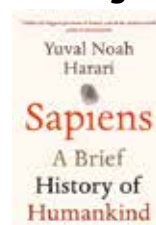
Thursday, June 28: *A Midwinter Break* by  
Bernard MacLaverty

Thursday, July 26: *Revolution Song* by  
Russell Shorto

Thursday, August 23: *A Gentleman in*  
*Moscow* by Amor Towles

Thursday, September 27: *Days Without*  
*End* by Sebastian Barry

## Evening Book Club



*Sapiens* by Dr. Yuval Noah Harari (who has a PhD in History from the University of Oxford) tells the groundbreaking history of humankind from the very first humans to walk the Earth to the radical breakthroughs of the Cognitive, Agricultural, and Scientific Revolutions. Wide-ranging and provocative, he challenges everything we thought we knew about being human: our thoughts, actions, power and future.

**Wednesday, April 18**

**7:30 p.m.**

**AWC Clubhouse**  
**FREE**

## Evening Book Club Recap

Even if you have zero interest in surfing, we enjoyed and recommend William Finnegan's *Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life*. Finnegan's writing style moves the story of

## Evening Book Club Reading List:

Wednesday, May 16: *The Fisherman* by

Chigozie Obioma

Wednesday, June 13: *Miss Burma* by

Charmaine Craig

his life along beautifully, and it's hard not to be infected by his crazy, all-consuming passion for surfing. Certainly, he often selfishly prioritized surfing above all else, with disastrous consequences for others, but the lens of time seems to have lent Finnegan some insight and perspective. This biography is well worth a read.

## Chat, Crafts & Cake

Are you a crafter? The AWC has space large enough to spread out a king-sized quilt, a spot to organize a scrapbook or photo album, or just to sit and chat while you work on a project. **Chat, Crafts & Cake** members

>> 16

## ASPA BEAUTY



## Come experience our wide range of treatments, including:

- facials
- massages
- manicures
- pedicures
- waxing
- eyelash extensions
- and much more!

In our beauty salon we use natural, organic, sustainable and fair beauty products.

We are proud to stock the brands:

Margaret Dabbs London, Aromatherapy Associates, Mr. Smith, The Refinery, Cult51, CND Shellac, CND, Vinylux, Smith & Cult, Jane Iredale mineral makeup, Lycon Wax, Alpha-H, EmerginC, SachaJuan, Oilixia.

*Visit us at our City Spa & Beauty Store*

Antonie Heinsiusstraat 60  
2582 VV Den Haag

T 06 - 511 376 56  
T 070 - 345 02 15

[www.aspadirect.nl](http://www.aspadirect.nl)  
[info@aspadirect.nl](mailto:info@aspadirect.nl)



# Ongoing Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 15



welcome you to join the group, maybe pick up a few tips, and get ideas and suggestions about your project from a fresh set of eyes. Each week a different Member will bring a cake made from a never-before-tried recipe for tasting and critiques. Babysitting is not available, so we can't accommodate children. Questions? Please contact **Suzanne Dundas** at [awcthehague.crafts@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.crafts@gmail.com).

**Tuesdays**

**10 a.m. – noon**

**AWC Clubhouse**

**FREE**

## Heart Pillow Project

This Club year marks the tenth year that Members work together at the Clubhouse to make heart-shaped pillows designed to help support the arms of recent mastectomy patients. Each pillow is made with TLC, wrapped, and comes with a note signed



by an AWC volunteer. No sewing skills are needed, and you can cut, stuff, or wrap the heart pillows. We are proud to provide women and men with something both practical and comforting, and we know our work helps because we often receive thank-you notes and emails from patients who received a heart pillow. For more information, please contact **Jan de Vries** at [awcthehague.heartpillow@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.heartpillow@gmail.com).

**Tuesday, April 10**

**Noon – 2 p.m.**

**AWC Clubhouse**

**FREE**

**Visitors Welcome**

## Ladies' Night at the Movies

Who doesn't like going to the movies with friends and a bucket of popcorn! The first Monday of the month marks Ladies Night at the Movies and the film

### 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.

is chosen based on what's playing at area theaters. **Rebecca Fry** coordinates each month's outing. For more information, please contact her at [fry\\_rebecca@hotmail.com](mailto:fry_rebecca@hotmail.com) or (070) 213 9222. We will not be meeting in April due to Spring Break, but look for future dates in the next issue.

## Out to Lunch Bunch

Please join us for another *gezellig* lunch at La Cantina, located on the widest part of the beach between the hustle and bustle of Scheveningen and Kijkduin. The specialty



is fresh fish, caught every morning and delivered directly from the boat. They also have an extensive wine list. An especially cozy and attractive pavilion where you can enjoy the sun, sea and beach in peace. La Cantina is easily reached by public transport, bike or moped. There is also a car park that is free of charge until 6 p.m.

If you have a favorite restaurant in your neighborhood you'd like to share with the group, or if you have questions, please contact **Greetje Engelsman** at [greetje.engelsman@gmail.com](mailto:greetje.engelsman@gmail.com).

**Monday, April 16**

**Noon – 2:30 p.m.**

**Strandpaviljoen La Cantina**

**Houtrustweg 600 (behind the**

**Zuiderstrandtheater)**

**Please sign up on *GroupSpaces***

**>> 18**

### Upcoming Out to Lunch Bunch Dates and Locations:

Thursday, May 24: Restaurant Oogst, Denneweg 10 B, Den Haag



**Everything you need  
for your beloved pets!**

**Happy Critters  
Pet Supplies**

Weissenbruchstraat 63  
2596 GB Den Haag  
070-7370856  
[www.happycritters.nl](http://www.happycritters.nl)

**Julie's American  
Cookies**

**Do you miss them?**

Soft, delicious, melt-in-your-mouth American cookies.

**Don't wait another minute!**

Order your box or party tray of fresh cookies today!



12 large Cookies	€18,00 One dozen
24 large Cookies	€32,40 Two dozen
36 large Cookies	€45,00 Three dozen

**[www.JuliesAmericanCookies.com](http://www.JuliesAmericanCookies.com)**

**Tel: 06 14672242**

*Free delivery in The Hague for 36+ cookies  
\* Please give us at least 48 hours notice. \**



# Ongoing Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 17

## Thirsty Thursdays

Thirsty Thursday is quickly becoming an AWC tradition. Come join the fun. This month we are visiting a neighborhood favorite. De Lof der Zoetheid is a beloved restaurant in the Benoordenhout region of The Hague—just a few minutes from the center. Don't miss a chance to have a relaxing evening with new and old friends. There's no need to RSVP. Just come on by when it suits you. Stay for a drink or two—it's all up to you! It's € 15 for two drinks and bites. Individuals pay for their own consumption.



**Thursday, April 19**

**6 – 9 p.m.**

**de Lof der Zoetheid**

**Breitnerlaan 84, Den Haag**

## Wassenaar Coffee & Conversation

If you live in or around Wassenaar, join your neighbors for a once-a-month morning gathering without going to the Clubhouse. One Member living north of The Hague will host a casual coffee at her home on the first Thursday of the month for Members and prospective Members. **Suzanne Dundas** coordinates the meeting place with each hostess and will send directions once you sign up on *GroupSpaces*.

**Thursday, April 5**

**9 – 11 a.m.**

**FREE**

## Walkie Talkies

Whether you count your steps or just want to walk with friends, the Monday morning **Walkie Talkies** is a fun and healthy way to start the week. The group meets in front of the Clubhouse before heading out to walk to various destinations in the area, usually racking up 10,000 steps along the way. Sign up on *GroupSpaces* to receive email updates

or contact **Emily van Eerten** at [vaneerten@gmail.com](mailto:vaneerten@gmail.com) or **Greetje Engelsman** at [greetje.engelsman@gmail.com](mailto:greetje.engelsman@gmail.com).

**Mondays**

**9:30 a.m.**

**FREE**

**AWC Clubhouse**



Please join us for our April AWC  
**THIRSTY THURSDAY**  
Thursday, 19 April 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

DE LOF DER ZOETHEID DEN HAAG

Breitnerlaan 84, The Hague

The American Women's Club organizes a monthly networking event in the evening for members to connect, especially those who work. € 15 for two glasses of wine or beer and bites.

25

www.brilmode.com

brilmode  
**VERHEY VAN WIJK**

Weissenbruchstraat 44 070 3245218 's-Gravenhage



# One-of-a-Kind Activities

by Dena Haggerty

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

## Behind the Scenes at the Flower Parade

Spring in the Netherlands is synonymous with flowers! Each year over one million visitors flock to the Keukenhof Gardens to marvel at the colorful floral displays. One of the most crowded days is when the annu-



al Flower Parade of the Bollenstreek travels through the towns along the route. This year the parade will roll from Noordwijk to Haarlem on Saturday, April 21. Would you like to take a peek behind the scenes and find out how these floats are made? In the three days before the parade, the floats will be "pierced," that is to say, covered and decorated with bulb flowers. Many hundreds of volunteers will be busy for days with the piercing or pinning of thousands of hyacinths, tulips and daffodils to the floats. This unique event can be admired at the hall of DeLeeuw Flowerbulbs in Sassenheim.

We will travel from Den Haag Centraal (DHCS) by train and bus for approximately 45 minutes (check GroupSpaces for starting time) to the tennis club converted into a warehouse for floats. We will join

a 30-minute guided tour that will include a short presentation about the history of DeLeeuw Flowerbulbs and an explanation on how these magnificent floats are made. After the tour, we will linger in the hall to watch the volunteers transform these floats into fragrant works of art.

**Wednesday, April 18**

**Meet at DHCS at 12:20 p.m.**

**DeLeeuw Flowerbulb**

**Rijksstraatweg 52, Sassenheim**

**€ 5 Members (€ 10 nonmembers)**

**Includes admission, tour and coffee/tea**

**Minimum 5 / Maximum 20**

**Cancellation deadline: April 11**

**[www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1164685](http://www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1164685)**

## Van Kleef Distillery Tour and Tasting

Join us for a tour of the Van Kleef Distillery and a tasting of various Van Kleef drinks. The Hague was once an important distillery city in the Netherlands. Founded in 1842, Van Kleef is the sole surviving jenever and liqueur distillery still operating in The Hague. We will start our afternoon with a private English tour of the 19th century distilling equipment. We will hear stories of the history of Van Kleef, the distills, and the surrounding area of the old city center. After this hour-long tour, we will do a tasting of six Van Kleef jenever and/or liqueurs. The



tasting includes: oven-fresh bread, two different homemade spreads (one vegetarian), fresh olives, roasted nuts and unlimited tap water. Any additional drinks such as beer, wine or soft drinks are an additional cost.

**Saturday, April 21**

**2 – 4 p.m.**

**Van Kleef Distillery**

**Lange Beestenmarkt 109, Den Haag**

**€ 20 Members or Partners (€ 25 non-members)**

**[www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1162783](http://www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1162783)**

## 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.

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



## Frans Burgers

Professional Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning Service

Nearly forty years of professionalism, experience and quality!

- We are quick, flexible (i.e. day and night), thorough and affordable
- Only the best equipment and cleaning products are used
- We are happy to show you our skills free of charge!

For further information, please call, email us or visit our website:

065.156.0982 [fransburgers@ziggo.nl](mailto:fransburgers@ziggo.nl) [meubelreiniging-fransburgers.nl](http://meubelreiniging-fransburgers.nl)



# Slate of Officers 2018-2019

We are pleased to introduce the candidates for the 2018-2019 AWC The Hague Board. The election of Officers will take place during the General Meeting on April 12. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please submit a proxy ballot.

**President – Suzanne MacNeil:** I have been a Member of the AWC since early 2014. I moved to The Hague just months after remarrying in November 2012 when an American company offered my husband a job in Europe. I've served this Club year as editor of *Going Dutch* magazine. The previous Club year I managed eNews and researched and arranged for speakers for the General Meetings. I'm a native of Miami and went to Florida State University in Tallahassee where I earned my bachelor's degree in mass communications. I launched my broadcast news career at the ABC station in Tallahassee and worked as a TV news reporter, anchor, host, and producer in numerous U.S. markets. After being in front of the camera for more than 15 years, I turned to producing and writing network shows, including six seasons of a cooking show on HGTV, shows on the Travel Channel, a documentary that aired nationwide on PBS, and programs on CBS, CMT, and numerous other networks. My career took another turn when I moved to Nashville and worked for Nissan Americas in the internal communications department and then moved on to my most fulfilling role, manager of internal and external communications at Goodwill Industries of Middle Tennessee. At Goodwill, I combined my writing, producing, and reporting skills, telling the stories of the employees and clients who needed a helping hand, not a handout, to return to the workplace. Having sat on the board of two women's shelters, one in Cincinnati and the other in Columbia, South Carolina, I will bring my passion for nonprofit organizations to our AWC to continue the legacy of the many women who came before me.



**Vice President – Marsha Hagney:** I was born in Rockford, Illinois but lived in Chicago for 25 years before moving to the Netherlands. I graduated from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. With the exception of a few years with a telecommunications start-up, I worked in either the public or not-for-profit sectors, with the bulk of my career being in association (professional/trade associations) work. I spent much of my professional life working with volunteer/membership-driven organizations. More than my work experience, I found my greatest gratification through volunteering. In September 2012, I met Jan Kasten in the U.S. and joined him in the Netherlands in March 2013, and we married in March 2015. I served as Secretary for the AWC in 2014-15. The Club has been such an enormous part of my ability to transition to life in The Hague. I expected to only meet the women who were 'passing through' as expats when I arrived and was grateful to meet others who are here permanently. With that said, I think each woman who lives this life away from our original 'home' exhibits a certain courage. Each tends to possess



an open heart and mind that brings us together as a family of sorts. I hope I can continue to serve the Club in the manner of the many great women who have volunteered in so many ways over the years. I'm so proud of the legacy and history of the AWC, not only within in the expat community, but also because of our generosity and philanthropic spirit within our communities, in our "home away from home."

**Treasurer – Sheyla Karman:** I was born in Panama, then lived and studied in New York for 17 years where I obtained my bachelor's degree in accounting from Long Island University and CPA licensure. I began my public accounting career in 1987 with Price Waterhouse in New York City, which then took me to Curacao and then the Channel Islands. In 1998 I returned to the U.S. and changed career paths, entering the private sector as a financial reporting manager for Ocwen Financial Corporation, a publicly traded entity. In 2001, I switched career paths again, this time to fulfill the desire to start a family and become a full-time mother. Over the course of the past 17 years, along with motherhood, I've applied my professional skills and experiences to diverse volunteer work opportunities; as Treasurer for the AWC of Brussels, Fellowship Committee Chair at the American Protestant Church of The Hague, account reviewer for the AWC of The Hague, and pursued my passion for hospitality as an events planner and caterer. I've lived in The Hague since 2005, am married to a Dutchman, and I have two teenagers. I look forward to bringing my experience to the position of Club Treasurer and to continue to meet and forge friendships with the diverse group of ladies who make up the AWC of The Hague.



## Secretary – shared by Heather DeWitt & Laura Suttles

**Heather DeWitt:** I was born in Louisiana and became a Third Culture Kid at the age of seven when my family moved to Saudi Arabia. Living there and traveling the world was a wonderful way to grow up. Moving back to northern California for high school and southern California for university, I met my husband Mike at a drive-in movie. With Mike's evolving career I've lived across the U.S.: California, Colorado, Pennsylvania, and Texas. With each move, I've reinvented myself; as a graphic artist, teacher, interior decorator, and marketing production assistant, but my favorite job has been as a mom. I've volunteered for many school, sport, church committees, and groups over the years supporting my children Skyler and Logan, most recently, as a key member of the St. Richard Appalachian mission trip. This trip is an annual event were 40 adults and 80 high school youth travel to West Virginia and perform work on homes, similar to the work done by Habitat for Humanity. It is always an amazing week to work with the youth. The projects have helped me improve my DIY skills tenfold, including HVAC, drywall framing and how to plumb a shower! Travel has always been on my bucket list, and now as a trailing spouse I'm excited to make new friends and explore the Netherlands and the surrounding countries.



**Laura Suttles:** I was born in South Dakota and raised in Phoenix, Arizona where I met and married my husband. Then came our two children, Max (23) and Emily (21). In 2000, my husband, Corey, accepted a position with Aegon and we moved the family >> 24



# Slate of Officers (cont.)

Continued from page 23

to Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Once our children started school, I enjoyed volunteering in their classrooms and working with the other students. I then took a position within the Cedar Rapids school district working with students with behavioral disorders and eventually working as a building secretary. In addition to working, I made sure to stay involved with my children. I was a Brownie troop leader and a team mom for their high school cross country teams. During that time, I was also the high school booster club secretary. To maintain my sanity while raising two children, I took up running with a few neighbors. I've trained for, and completed, two full marathons and 20 half marathons over the past 10 years. We arrived in the Netherlands in June of 2017 and have enjoyed this new adventure with my family. I am looking forward to all that the AWC has to offer and being able to give back to the Club.



## Club and Community Development – Anna Lena Thuren-Vogel:

I was born and raised in a small coastal city just outside of Helsinki, the capital of Finland. I studied nursing and teaching and worked in both fields at home and abroad. Before leaving Finland, I worked as the director of a private preschool. In 2003, I met my husband and he literally swept me off my feet when we began our 'world tour' as I like to call it! In 2005, we moved to Hamburg, Germany and then it was off to Houston till 2015. We've lived in The Hague since then. I have come to love the city, especially the women of the AWC who have made my life content. My passions are travel and experiencing new cultures. I'm a total foodie and like to cook and host guests, but most of all I love life and to have the courage to make the most out of each day. Someone once wrote, "Life isn't a journey to the grave with the intention to arrive safely in a well-preserved body, but rather to skid sideways, chocolate in one hand, wine in the other, body totally worn and screaming, 'woohoo, what a ride!'" I want to concentrate on this opportunity to work with Members determined to help others.



## Clubhouse Administrator – shared by Jan Essad & Sunita Menon

**Jan Essad:** I was born in Albuquerque, but have known the expat life ALL my life, growing up in a military family, and then marrying Bob who served in the U.S. Air Force for 29 years. I took advantage of the military lifestyle as an opportunity to do many different things. I've worked as a hospital administrative assistant, dental assistant, substitute teacher, and owner of a small pottery business. Since arriving in The Hague eight years ago, I've been an active Member in the AWC serving on the board as Secretary, organizing two Holiday Bazaars, serving on activities and tours committees (I'm very proud that the Walkie Talkies I started are still going strong!), serving on six Gala committees, Heart Pillow Project, and participating in many of the Club's ongoing philanthropic activities. Outside the Club, I do fundraising for Stahili and am also an active member of Redeemer Church, enjoying out-

reach for asylum seekers and the welcome team. Bob and I have two grown children, Grant living in Wisconsin, and Natalie, her husband Babak, and five-month-old Myra Grace who all live here in The Hague. How lucky is that as an expat? I'm looking forward to serving with such talented ladies as it will surely be an enriching experience as we continue the legacy of this wonderful Club.



**Sunita Menon:** I was born in New Delhi, India and educated in various cities all over the country. After completing my master's in biology, I met and married Mohan and moved to the United States in 1991. We lived in New York and Seattle, and I taught pre-med at the State University in New York, and was also a science educator at a middle school for several years. The family moved to the Netherlands in 2007, and in 2008 I started my business, The Acer Company, specializing in product brokerage and business development. My first AWC event was as a guest at an evening wine tasting and I enjoyed my time so much that I became a Member shortly thereafter. Since joining the AWC, I've been a part of six Gala teams and served as the AWC Philanthropy Chair from 2013-2015. In 2015, I joined the AWC Board as Secretary and served until 2016. Today, I'm a board member and active volunteer at the Stahili Foundation, an organization that helps reunite children with families in Kenya. I also volunteer at the Lighthouse School, a special needs school for English-speaking children in The Hague and Ipse de Bruggen, a Dutch support center for handicapped children and adults. I also trained as an Indian classical dancer for 18 years and love to cook, travel, and learn languages (and I speak five!). We live in The Hague with our grown children, Avanti and Ajay.

**Communications – Rebecca Niles-Pourier:** I've been a Member of the AWC since 2007 and look forward to using my professional skills to add to the great work we are already involved in throughout The Hague and the Netherlands. My background includes project management and communications and I plan to use my expertise in these areas to grow our online presence and explore new opportunities to share the work we do both within the Club and with our partners in the community. I am excited to join the Board and work together with the amazing women in the AWC. In the 11+ years I've been a Member of our Club, I've realized the AWC is truly a home away from home. In addition to the AWC, I'm also a baseball and softball mom and wife. I'm married to Urvan Pourier and have a teenage daughter, Lorena. Urvan coaches Lorena's softball team and also plays baseball and softball.



*Did you know that any woman who speaks English is eligible to join the American Women's Club?*

*Invite your English-speaking friends, wherever they're from, to join us today!*





# Summer Beach Barbeque Benefit

by Dena Haggerty

Slip on your flip-flops, a dressy beach dress, and be prepared for a night of the AWC version of America's favorite trivia show, *Jeopardy!* The Summer Beach Barbeque Benefit is set for Saturday, June 2 at the Strandpaviljoen Sport in Wassenaar. For € 60 you get an all-you-can-eat barbeque dinner and all the wine and/or beer you can drink, quizzes, and music. There will also be a silent auction for Perspektief, a multi-tiered organization that supports and counsels domestic abuse victims, the homeless, and other at-risk folks, as the evening's beneficiary. Included in the silent auction will be pieces made by Perspektief clients in its woodworking class. There is limited seating for the event, so please sign up on *GroupSpaces* ASAP.

**Saturday, June 2**  
**5 p.m. – Midnight**  
**Strandpaviljoen Sport**  
**Wassenaarslag 29, Wassenaar**  
**€ 60 per person**  
**Dress code: Dressy Beachwear**



## PERSPEKTIEF



# Summer Beach Barbeque BENEFIT

The AWC is organizing a Summer Beach Barbeque Benefit on the Wassenaar beach to raise funds for Perspektief.

For just €60, you will enjoy an all-you-can-eat barbeque and all-you-can-drink beer and wine before 10:30 p.m. In addition to the proceeds from a silent auction, 25% of the ticket price will benefit Perspektief. The night will also include a fun quiz (with prizes for the winners!) and musical entertainment.

**Tickets are limited, so sign up now!**

<http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1163063>



**Where:** Strandpaviljoen Sport  
Wassenaarseslag 29,  
Wassenaar

**When:** Saturday, June 2nd

**Time:** 5:00 p.m. — Midnight

**Cost:** €60, plus the cost of any  
silent auction items you win.

**Dress Code:** Beach Dressy

Located in Delft, Perspektief is dedicated to supporting and counseling victims of domestic abuse, the homeless and other at-risk individuals.

PERSPEKTIEF

[www.perspektief.nu](http://www.perspektief.nu)



# APRIL 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1       Easter	2  Walkie Talkies <b>9:30 a.m.</b>	3  Chat, Crafts & Cake <b>10 a.m.</b>  AWC Tennis <b>1 p.m.</b>	4	5  Wassenaar Coffee and Conversation <b>9 a.m.</b>  AWC Board Meeting <b>10:30 a.m.</b>  Holland's Golden Age Revealed! <b>7:30 p.m.</b>	6	7
8	9  Walkie Talkies <b>9:30 a.m.</b>	10  Chat, Crafts & Cake <b>10 a.m.</b>  Heart Pillow Workshop <b>Noon</b>  AWC Tennis <b>1 p.m.</b>	11	12  Coffee <b>10 a.m.</b> April General Meeting <b>10:30 a.m.</b>  Buddy Check 12  	13	14
15	16  Walkie Talkies <b>9:30 a.m.</b>  Out to Lunch Bunch <b>Noon</b>	17  Chat, Crafts & Cake <b>10 a.m.</b>  AWC Tennis <b>1 p.m.</b>	18  Behind the Scenes at the Flower Parade <b>12:20 p.m.</b>  Evening Book Club <b>7:30 p.m.</b>	19  Thirsty Thursday <b>6 p.m.</b>    Dutch - American Friendship Day	20	21  Van Kleef Distillery Tour and Tasting <b>2 p.m.</b>
22    Earth Day	23  Walkie Talkies <b>9:30 a.m.</b>	24  Chat, Crafts & Cake <b>10 a.m.</b>  AWC Tennis <b>1 p.m.</b>	25  Walkie Talkies Special Outing <b>TBD</b>	26  Daytime Book Club <b>10 a.m.</b>    Holland's Golden Age Revealed! <b>7:30 p.m.</b>	27       King's Day	28
29	30  Walkie Talkies <b>9:30 a.m.</b>		<b>Save the Dates!</b> May 17: Installation of Officers May 24: Out to Lunch Bunch June 2: Summer Beach BBQ Benefit			





**Wassalon Weissenbruch**  
 Weissenbruchstraat 25  
 Tel.: 070 - 324 83 16

**Do you love clean  
 ironed sheets?**  
 Let us do them for you!

**Opening Times**

**Monday to Friday 8.00 - 17.00**  
**Saturday 9.00 - 13.00**

**YOUR  
 CLEANING  
 SERVICES INC.**

**079 - 342 40 58**  
**Free estimates given in your home**

WE will clean: tubs & sinks,  
 mirrors, toilets, counter tops.  
 Plus: vacuum, dust, mop, load dishwasher,  
 change sheets, wipe appliances & canisters,  
 wipe out microwave, shampoo carpets and  
 polish your wood floors.

**ALL FOR ONE LOW PRICE**

**YOUR CLEANING SERVICE INC.**  
**Personalized Service**  
**Satisfaction guaranteed**

Fax/Phone: 079 - 342 40 58 Mob.: 065 - 317 17 07  
 Email: info@yourcleaningservice.nl www.yourcleaningservice.nl

**Free estimates**

**DO GOOD THINGS!**

Visit The FAIRCOT 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.FAIRCOTFOUNDATION.ORG/BACKINGWOMENBOUTIQUE](http://WWW.FAIRCOTFOUNDATION.ORG/BACKINGWOMENBOUTIQUE)

**ACCESS**  
 SERVING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

ACCESS is a volunteer not-for-profit  
 organisation that serves the needs  
 and interests of the international  
 community in the Netherlands.

**We can help you!**

Call us on 0900 2 222 377 (€0.20 ct/min),  
 email us via [helpdesk@access-nl.org](mailto:helpdesk@access-nl.org),  
 visit [www.access-nl.org](http://www.access-nl.org) for your answers,  
 or attend our info mornings to find out how you  
 can help others. Check website for dates.

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

# AWC and the Arts

by Jane Choy, AWC Member and Mauritshuis Docent

## Holland's Golden Age Revealed! Introduction to the Art of Seventeenth Century Holland

We will conclude our five-part lecture series this month about the Golden Age of Dutch Art in my 17th-century home in Voorburg. The Golden Age was a period in Dutch history, roughly spanning the 17th century, in which the Dutch were a major world power and leaders in trade and science, and also in art. The paintings produced by Dutch artists are considered some of the greatest works of art in the world. This series of lectures will not only introduce you to the art of this dynamic period, but will also explain the history and culture that brought this art to fruition and give us a deeper understanding of the country in which we now live. We have already covered *Intimacies and Intrigues: History Painting, Who's Who? Portrait Painting and Reality Show or Illusion! Genre Painting*.

## Thursday, April 5, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. Session 4: Mirrors of Reality! Landscape Painting

The development of landscape painting in Holland must be counted among one of the most prominent contributions to the history of European art. In fact, the Dutch are considered to have started the naturalistic landscape style.

## Thursday, April 26, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

## Session 5: Objects of Desire! Still life and Architectural Painting

These two specialties of Dutch 17th-century art with their attention to the representation of different textures and illusionism are some of the most admired works of this period.

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

Showing the originality of Dutch painters, we will also explore the symbolism and the ability of art to triumph over nature.

Please sign up on *GroupSpaces*. For more information, please contact me at [jechoy@me.com](mailto:jechoy@me.com) or 070 3872606.

Parking is free in the neighborhood although it is a blue zone with a two-hour limit. My house is easily accessible by public transportation: Bus 23, 46 or 45 or the sprinter train from Den Haag Centraal.

**Jane Choy's home in Voorburg**  
**€ 15 Members per lecture**  
**(€ 20 nonmembers)**  
**Tea, coffee and snacks will be served**  
**RSVP on *GroupSpaces***



View of Delft by Johannes Vermeer, Mauritshuis



# Helping Puerto Rico

by Roberta Enschede

Right after Hurricane Maria destroyed much of Puerto Rico, and left our fellow Americans without the most basic needs, I called **Mary Ann Nation-Greenwall**, the former President of our AWC and asked, "What can we do? We have to do something!" Mary Ann immediately agreed.

We started to look for a credible project the AWC could support. After rejecting several possibilities, Mary Ann and I were talking at the January evening *borrel* meeting. On an impulse, I called the office of my congressman, Luis Gutierrez from the 4<sup>th</sup> District in Illinois. Congressman Gutierrez is a Chicagoan whose parents were born in Puerto Rico.

The Friday after the hurricane hit, he traveled to San Juan. "It was worse than I had imagined," he wrote. "The landscape was altered as rivers flowed where there had been no rivers and lush forests and jungle land lay barren and brown. Everywhere you saw damaged cars, ruined houses, and dead animals lying by the road."



Credit-latinovations.com

When we spoke to the congressman's office we were referred to the Puerto Rican Cultural Center in Chicago. The center is coordinating the aid efforts for organizations and individuals who reach out to



Credit-GoFundMe.com

Rep. Gutierrez. Fortunately, I had planned a trip to Chicago at the end of January and told Mary Ann I would visit the center and report back. I did exactly that.

I have a very positive impression of what it means to be a Puerto Rican American after visiting the center—the paintings on the walls, the photos of Puerto Rican performers, the pictures of families, the photos of Puerto Rican Americans who served their country, all of whom are heroes, and the books on display. I spoke with a woman who is a liaison with the community, and I also met a young director from the Urban Theatre whose company raised \$10,000 for hurricane relief the weekend before I arrived.

Finally, I met with the executive director, Professor Jose Lopez, a small white-haired man who has written extensively about the political and social reality of Puerto Ricans in the U.S., while serving as executive director of The Puerto Rican Cultural Center, which he co-founded in 1973.

Professor Lopez is an adjunct instructor at Northeastern Illinois University, Columbia College, and the University of Illinois at Chicago. He explained to me exactly what the center is doing to help Puerto Rico and its people. He said the aid is threefold: rescue, relief, and rebuild.

We agreed that focusing on relief is the best choice since it tackles immediate needs. Relief consists of such projects as buying generators, solar lights, water filters, mattresses, cots, medicine, medical

equipment, and many other essential items. With that in mind, we talked about villages without clean water, electricity, beds, vital drugs, and much needed hypodermic

*"No man is an island  
entire of itself; every man  
is a piece of the continent,  
a part of the main."*

~John Donne, Meditation 17

needles. For Professor Lopez, as with Congressman Gutierrez, the crisis in Puerto Rico is very personal. It is worthy to note too that he, and everyone I spoke to at the center, were very moved to know that Americans living in the Netherlands are thinking about the people in Puerto Rico.

I have spoken to our board and am gratified that the AWC is once more committed to helping those in need. The board has pledged € 2,500 to help the people of Puerto Rico and will match up to € 1,000 from Members' donations. Once we've reached our goal, we'll then contact the center to discuss how our funds will be distributed.

People from the Puerto Rican Cultural Center visit Puerto Rico regularly and the center also has trusted local contacts with whom they work, so if the AWC chooses to buy generators or solar lights, we will know and, perhaps, even receive photos of those whose lives we change for the better. Thank you for your help for Puerto Rico.



Credit-chicagomag.com





# One Billion Rising

by Mary Adams and Julie Mowat, AWC The Hague FAWCO Representatives

While Valentine's Day is often associated with hearts and flowers, it's also the day when thousands of people around the world come together to RISE and demand an end to violence against women. The movement started in 2013 when One Billion Rising (OBR) issued a call to action based on the staggering statistic that 1-in-3 women in the world will be beaten or raped during her lifetime. With the world population at seven billion, this adds up to more than one billion women and girls. As an activist organization, OBR encourages governments around the world to develop any type of event that unites people to rise up in solidarity against the exploitation of women. This year, approximately 1,000 events were staged in Australia, Asia, Africa, Europe, and North and South America. About 300 of those events involved dancing.

This past Valentine's Day, almost 20 FAWCO Club Members from AWC The Hague and AWC Amsterdam joined Webster University faculty and students to RISE UP against violence to women and girls by uniting in Leiden and dancing to break the chain.

Why dance? Many people find dancing liberating and empowering. Fueled by dancing, One Billion Rising has had a remarkable impact. The selected song is *Break the Chain* and choreography is available in online tutorials, but improvisation is welcomed. Did you know that the Fonty Dance Academy in Tilburg created choreography in 2014 that became an international sensation and the



standard dance for One Billion Rising? This year the Netherlands held five events, two of which were dancing flash mobs in Tilburg and Leiden. The other events were performances of the play *The Vagina Monologues* at the United World College campuses in Maastricht and at the Leiden University campus in The Hague.

Webster University is a key stakeholder in a research and intervention project called Bridge2Hope that treats and supports survivors of human trafficking and sexual exploitation. We were honored to have Dr. Sheetal Shah as a featured speaker at the 2016 FAWCO Symposium, STAND UP Against Human Trafficking, so when Dr. Shah contacted AWC The Hague to join her flash mob event in Leiden this year, and let us know that proceeds of t-shirts and chocolates went to support Bridge2Hope, we were ready to dance! We then contacted our sister club, AWC Amsterdam, to join us, and we welcomed our AWCA friends. We welcome you to visit [onebillionrising.org](http://onebillionrising.org) and [bijlmerproject.com](http://bijlmerproject.com) to learn more about One Billion Rising.



# FAWCO Update

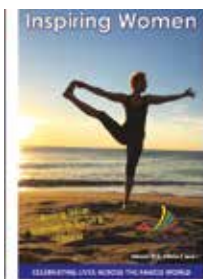
by Julie Mowat



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)

Have you read FAWCO's latest *Inspiring Women* magazine?

Two of our own AWC The Hague's members, **Krishna Thakrar** and **Laurie Brooks**, are featured in the Spring Issue: Women in Sports and Fitness. Go to <https://www.fawco.org/about/publications/inspiring-women> to read Krishna and Laurie's stories.



## 50/50 Day

On April 26, join a global conversation on the second "50/50 Day" about how to get to gender parity. On the first 50/50 Day, there were more than 11,000 events and this year, more than 20,000 events are scheduled globally. FAWCO encourages our Club's Members to watch the short 50/50 film which I found to be inspiring. It can lead to a great discussion! The film link is <http://www.letitriple.org/films/50-50/5050-day>



## FAWCO Youth Cultural Volunteers

Applications are now open for the 2018 FAWCO Youth Cultural Volunteers Program. This year's program will take place in Berlin, Germany from June 23-30. The program is open to FAWCO teens, ages 15-18. Participants will be housed

by AWC Berlin members and will visit various cultural and historical locations, and will also have the opportunity to volunteer at local nonprofits. If requested, they can receive community service credits for school or IB programs. For more information and to download an application, visit the FAWCO website <https://www.fawco.org/global-issues/youth-program/cultural-volunteers> or contact the FAWCO Youth chairs at [fawcoyouth@fawco.org](mailto:fawcoyouth@fawco.org). Several children of AWC The Hague Members have participated in this program in past years and found it an eye-opening and worthy experience. The deadline for applications is April 30.

## 2018 U.S. Elections

Are you an American? Are you registered to vote in 2018? In November of this year, the entire U.S. House of Representatives and a third of the senate seats are up for election, along with dozens of state and local offices. Every American living overseas needs to register to vote for the 2018 elections, which you can do by going to FAWCO's dedicated site <https://fawco.overseasvotefoundation.org>





# The Dutch Daily

by Eileen Harloff

## Royal Delft Celebrates

It was 365 years ago that Royal Delft ([www.royaldelft.com](http://www.royaldelft.com)) began producing plates, vases and home decorative items. As the only remaining factory of the 32 earthenware factories that were established in Delft in the 17th century, it has been declared a national monument. Such an event calls for special attention, which the factory has dubbed the *Royal Dutch Experience*. Visitors can view the process from start to finish, with particular attention being given to the artistic aspect of production. In its heyday, the factory employed 120 painters who worked in separate men's and women's rooms. At present there are 13 painters, with 2 being master artists that have been there for 40 years. At each painter's work station, there is a Delft Blue tea towel, a stone plate on which the cobalt oxide paste is mixed with water, a cotton ball with wood ashes, pencils made from marten and squirrel hairs, and a brush



of black ostrich feathers. The hand-painted earthenware items are baked daily. During this jubilee year, each day a visitor will be invited to paint a tile. At the end of the year all the tiles will be added to a tableau that will go on display in the museum. What an honor this will be for a visitor to contribute to such an historic occasion.

## Craft Academies

There is a new initiative by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment that gives hope to citizens over 50 years of age who

have lost their jobs and have little chance of finding another. The *Ambachts Academies* (Handicraft and Trade Schools) have been set up in cities around the country. One can be found on the Molenstraat in the city center of The Hague. There, the old-fashioned teacher/apprentice manner of learning is helping people find new careers as well as reviving old crafts and trades that are in danger of dying out. The Molenstraat Academy is located in a shop that was set up in 1989 by twin sisters, one of whom had studied at the fashion academy in Almelo. Their shop was originally designed for tailoring and repairing of clothing, selling of fabric and teaching sewing. Their initiative is now being broadened to include a variety of other trades and crafts, whose teachers are pleased that they are passing on their skills to a new generation. Not only are the apprentices learning a new trade—from window glazing to watch repairing, to goldsmithing, roof



thatching, piano tuning and shoe repairing—but they are also learning how to set up their own businesses. For those willing to take on the challenge, there can be a brighter future.

## Some Dutch Roots

It is interesting to note that the text of the American Declaration of Independence, adopted by the Second Continental Congress meeting in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776, has a Dutch ancestor. This is the *Plakkaat van Verlatighe*—Declaration of Independence—that dates back to July 26, 1581, and states

that a number of provinces of Habsburg Netherlands have resolved to end their allegiance to their monarch, the King of Spain, due to the King's lack of respect for their rights. This invaluable document can be found in the National Archives in The Hague and was shown to former President Obama when he visited the city in 2014. Recently, via a television program, viewers were asked to name their country's most important symbol. To the surprise of many, the most votes went to the *Plakkaat* and not to Rembrandt's painting *The Night Watch*. Since then there have been discussions on just where the Dutch Declaration should be kept. It is currently in a cupboard next to a cloakroom in the National Archives. In Washington, the 1776 Declaration of Independence is on the wall of the rotunda of the National Archives and Administration building and is permanently guarded by two Marines in full uniform. Is it not now time for the *Plakkaat* to be displayed in a public place for all to see, such as a wall in the Second Chamber of Parliament? Only time will tell.

## Helping the Blind to See

An invention that can help the visually impaired "to see" comes from Israel where it was originally developed for the car industry as a means of recognizing traffic signs and people at street crossings. Now it is being adapted to help blind and partially sighted people. The OrCam MyEye ([www.orcam.com](http://www.orcam.com)) has recently come on the Dutch market at a cost of € 4,000; it is not yet available in health insurance packages. It includes a lightweight camera to be affixed to a pair of glasses, a speaker, and all the computing power it needs to operate as a self-contained unit—you don't need to connect to the

>> 38



Sligro The Hague Forepark is the perfect fit for you as entrepreneur. We inspire and support you with our products and services, that will help you with your business. Our people are always there for you with professional and tailored advice.

**sligro.nl**  
**Linge 2, The Hague**



Groots in genieten



# The Dutch Daily (cont.)

Continued from page 37

Internet or a smartphone for it to work. It reacts when the user points to text. The camera takes a photo and instantly whispers the text into the user's ear. It can also recognize up to 100 faces, 150 products, and currency in real time. In a restaurant, the menu can be scanned and read to the user. In the home, emails and texts can be read out loud, which could also be handy for those with reading disabilities. As further development of the OrCam results in a reduction in its cost, the visually impaired can look forward to a more independent lifestyle.

## In Short

**Ice Age Times:** In 2003 a Dutch fishing boat found a bone fragment which has only now been identified as a piece of a human skull. In 2005, a decorated bone of a bison was found here on land. Both of these bones are now considered to be unusual remains from the Ice Age. The human skull is approximately 13,000 years old, while the bison bone is thought to be 500 years younger. Both are thought to be from the end of the last glacial period when the sea level was some 200 – 260 feet (60 – 80 meters) lower than it is today. In place of much of the North Sea was a flat landscape inhabited by elands (antelopes), bison and red deer, which were hunted for food and clothing by the early human population.

**Fetal Research:** The Academic Medical Center in Amsterdam has recently established a biobank for fetuses resulting from miscarriages and abortions as well as babies that died during or after birth. Often doctors and other medical personnel have been asked by parents if they could help advance science and now they can. As soon as parents give their permission, the fetus or stillborn baby is taken to the laboratory where the research begins. The research has two directions. One focuses on congenital abnormalities, which is often the reason that the pregnancy is aborted or ends prematurely. The other focuses on studying development in healthy fetuses.

**Madurodam Expands:** In The Hague, land is a precious commodity, especially so because the availability of land to build on has become increasingly scarce. Over the recent years, Madurodam, the miniature city, has broadened the scope of what it wishes to provide visitors and has asked the city council for land for expansion. However, the people living in the vicinity are fiercely protective of their local park space, and so the contest continued over who gets what land. Last summer, The Hague City Council voted to give the miniature village 0.6 hectares of the surrounding forest in which to expand its attractions.

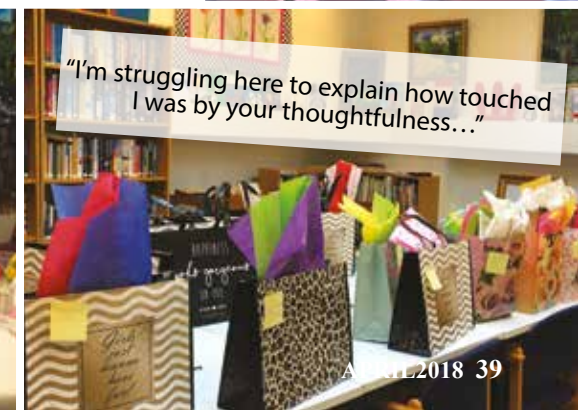
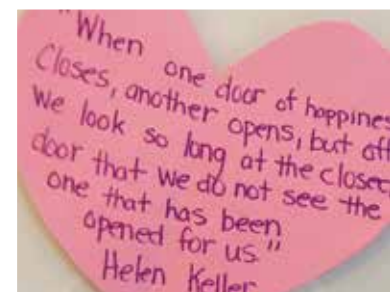
A recent new attraction is a simulated ocean voyage on the *De Vergulde Bever* (Gilded Beaver) from Amsterdam to New Amsterdam (New York City). Seeing the name of the ship reminded me of an incident I experienced many years ago when my husband and I were at Madurodam. After walking around, we sat down at the café on the banks of a canal over which was spanned a train bridge. What fun to see the train puffing along, but what was in front of it? Ah, it was a rat who appeared to be running for its life as it could not get off the tracks unless it fell into the water. When we excitedly brought it to the attention of the waiter, he shrugged his shoulders and said that this, unfortunately, was not unusual in a place where there was water and food. I trust that such an incident would not occur these days, but who knows as there still is water and food. Can rats be far behind?



## TLC Dinner Appreciation

by Laurie Brooks

The third annual TLC Dinner was held in February and women from throughout the area were guests at the Clubhouse for dinner, entertainment, and lots of tender loving care. The women, some of whom are current or recent cancer patients, others from an area shelter, and several who are going through life struggles, were nominated by Members, staff at Haaglanden Medisch Centrum (HMC), and Stichting Perspektief. The dinner was organized by Holly Savoie with the gracious help of the many volunteers who made certain the invitees had a night to remember. The notes of thanks from our guests say it all.





# Incompatibility of Environmental Needs and Corporatocracy

by Karen Rudin with introduction by Anne van Oorschot

As many of you may know, as a member of FAWCO, our Club is part of a global network of American and International Women's Clubs which tries to make a difference in our communities and the world. As co-chair of FAWCO's Environment Team, I work with a group of talented and passionate women who care deeply about the environment! We work together to increase awareness of FAWCO club members of the environmental challenges we face today. Karen Rudin, a member of AWC Zurich, is an extremely knowledgeable and well-read member of the team. She wrote the article that follows and gives serious food for thought on how to tackle the problem of climate change. (By the way, if you would like to automatically receive the monthly Environment Bulletins, just email me at [anne\\_warwick2000@yahoo.com](mailto:anne_warwick2000@yahoo.com) and I'll add you to the list of subscribers.)

A few years ago, a Canadian journalist named Naomi Klein wrote a book entitled *This Changes Everything*. The title alone is provocative: what is the "this" that is powerful enough to change "everything?"

"This" is climate change, and "everything" is commercial life, energy production and use, globalization, rule by the free market, our attitude toward nature, plus our whole culture, society and lifestyle as well. Everything!



Before we get into the reasons for this drastic necessity, we should pay homage to those members of society who have been acting for years to ameliorate environmental disaster, from the recycling housewife to the producers of solar cells. The problem is that these practical measures are no longer enough to prevent disaster. We need to dig down to the deep root causes of environmental catastrophe: free market ideology, lack of regulation, money in politics, and unfettered hypergrowth. Corporatocracy, in other words, is a good name for what is not only rule by corporations but a threat to democracy as well. For example, world trade organization agreements now being written include provisions for corporations to sue governments for enacting legislation meant to protect the environment, if corporation profit should suffer as a result. For short-term, selfish, egregious thinking, these clauses rank near the top of the list and can be seen as slogans of the capitulation of society to corporate greed. Rather millions of environmental refugees than interference with the bottom line.

The situation was summed up effectively on April 18, 2017, in the *Summary of the advisory opinion of the International Monsanto Tribunal* in The Hague:

*The Tribunal clearly identifies and denounces a severe disparity between the rights of multinational corporations and their obligations.*

## Corporate Practices versus Needs of the Environment

How ever did we get into this mess? Books can and indeed have been written on this question; we need to go down to a yet deeper level to compare present corporate practices and corporate ideology to the needs of the environment and society as a whole:

- The laws governing incorporation

require increase in shareholder value and steady growth and expansion, while the environment needs contraction of our profligate use of resources.

- The corporate world lives by competition; the human community needs co-operation.
- Agreements meant to protect corporations are legally binding; agreements meant to protect the environment are unenforceable, weak, and tenuous.
- Extractivism as practiced by the fossil fuel companies sees nature as currency; the laws of nature are such that it must be seen as capital.
- For hundreds of years we have seen man as master over nature; now we must acknowledge that man has to be a responsible partner of nature.
- Global concerns interpret freedom as a lack of regulation, so that freedom becomes rapaciousness; man's freedom in nature requires responsible, cooperative behavior.
- A small minority, thinking in terms of short-term earnings, rules the economy, political process and media; nature and society need long-term solutions.
- Our prevailing philosophy in well-off countries is rampant consumerism; we need to make the change to a philosophy of "enoughness."

## Possible Solutions

Considering solutions to our environmental and societal ills, we see immediately that corporations cannot be in control of these solutions. Beyond needing "green" government policy with clout, we need control in the hands of communities:

- Make low-carbon choices affordable for everyone, which would involve both government policy and community control.
- Change the tax structure radically. The wealthiest should be taxed more heavily, for instance.
- Consider a basic annual income for everyone. Technology is taking over more and more jobs as it is; wasteful jobs could be dumped.
- Enact policies that combine climate change action with social action: clean



- water, healthy food, etc.
- Stop subsidizing fossil-fuel companies. The most successful companies in all time are rolling in money; their subsidies should go to renewables.
- Stop thinking of "externalities" as external! Companies should be made to pay for the pollution they cause.
- Utilities should be in the hands of the community, which has its own interests at heart, not those of a company's stockholders or a small elite group. Profits would be returned to the community and jobs would remain as well. Community cooperatives are also more responsive to their members than are corporations.
- Think cyclically! Upcycle and recycle so that there is almost no waste. Nature operates this way; it has no trash cans. Think, for instance, of a garbage can as a "nutrient rest stop."
- Enact legislation encouraging regenerative farming: agroecology.
- Oppose globalization, which puts enormous power in the hands of international companies, pollutes heavily by long-distance transport and subjugates the developing world to outside control.
- Realize that the most important conservation today is keeping carbon in the ground. The fossil-fuel age is finished. After all, the stone age did not end because we ran out of stones. Compensate governments that conserve this way; the whole world benefits.
- Radically change political systems that operate on huge contributions from corporations in exchange for

>> 42



# Environmental Needs (cont.)

Continued from page 41

pro-corporate votes; a sort of legalized bribery. Introduce publicly financed elections.

- Make ecocide a crime. It is already responsible for millions of deaths annually.
- Respect natural rhythms rather than subjecting nature to our engineering. Stop thinking of the natural world in mechanical terms. Follow the example of indigenous peoples, who have been able to inhabit “wilderness” for thousands of years without destroying it.

All this is such a tall order that it is immediately clear that it cannot be achieved

in the present political system. Extremely powerful interests want to keep the system as it is: friendly to the fossil fuel industry and other powerful corporations. Hope for change resides in communities—certain towns and states, NGOs, citizens groups, and indigenous peoples. These must make it clear that while the capitalist economy may end as a result of very expensive necessary environmental measures, the world may end through capitalism’s environmental disasters. Once one gets over the shock, it is really a no-brainer: “Rules for living in the world: take only your share, clean up after yourself, keep the house in good repair for those who come after.”



## Sources

David Abram: *The Spell of the Sensuous*  
Neil Gunningham: *Corporate Environmental Responsibility*  
Jared Diamond: *Collapse: how societies fail or succeed*  
Michael Braungart and William McDonough: *The Upcycle*

Gus Speth: *The Bridge at the Edge of the World*  
Sallie McFague: *Life Abundant*  
Sallie McFague: *Blessed are the Consumers*  
Naomi Klein: *This Changes Everything*

# Dutch-American Friendship Day

by Roberta Enschede

Two hundred thirty-six years ago, on the 19th day of April, the United Provinces recognized the independence of the United States of America. On October 8th of that same year, the U.S. and the United Provinces signed the Treaty of Amity and Commerce, the longest standing treaty to which the U.S. is a party. The Dutch then loaned us money to sustain the American Revolution.

Who we are and what we have become are rooted in our Dutch heritage. John Adams, our second President and first ambassador to the Netherlands lived in The Hague. In fact, the very first embassy building our country ever owned was located at Fluwelen Burgwal 18 in a house he purchased and said was “suitable for a Hotel Des Etats-Unis.” Now it is the site of a city parking garage.

Prior to President Adams, the pilgrims lived in Leiden for 11 years from 1609 to 1620. They were granted religious and press freedom and from there began their voyage to the vast continent they said “was fruitful and fit for habitation.” On Thanksgiving, we sing a Dutch hymn we *think* is American: *Wilt Heden Nu Treden*, which translates to *We Gather Together*.

Our sixth President, John Quincy Adams and his brother Charles Francis attended Leiden University “to pursue their studies of Latin and Greek under the excellent masters.” Presidents Martin Van Buren, Theodore Roosevelt, and Franklin Delano Roosevelt directly trace their ancestry to the provinces of Gelderland and Zeeland.

Other Americans who have shaped, and continue to shape our country, also have roots in the Netherlands. The Presidents Adams, Bush and Obama are descended from the Leiden Pilgrims. Walt Whitman, poet; Herman Melville, novelist; Thomas Alva Edison, inventor; Humphrey Bogart, Henry, Jane and Peter Fonda, actors; Bruce

*There are no friends more faithful than they.*

~John Adams



Springsteen, singer-songwriter; Walter Cronkite, newsmen; Eleanor Roosevelt, human rights activist, and General (retired) David Petraeus can trace their ancestry to the Netherlands.

To honor the contributions of the Dutch nation to the American nation, we submitted a resolution of Dutch-American Friendship on the occasion of the Bicentennial of Dutch-American Relations in 1982. Congress passed it as joint resolution, HJ 410, and created a Day of Dutch-American Friendship. (*A copy of HJ 410 hangs in the AWC.*)

In 2006, on the 225th anniversary, we re-submitted that resolution and it was passed as HR 89 under the sponsorship of our current ambassador Pete Hoekstra who was then a congressman (R-MI) and Chris Van Hollen (D-MD). HR 89 ensures that Dutch-American Friendship Day is an ongoing commitment.

Each year, Overseas Americans Remember (OAR) commemorates Dutch-American Friendship Day and honors the contributions of the Dutch nation and people to our heritage. We will celebrate this month in cooperation with the U.S. Embassy. We encourage Americans to reach out to the Dutch people and create your very own Dutch-American Friendship Day.





Growing up during the *Daktari* (1960s television show) and *National Geographic* era, I dreamed of going on safari in Africa. Last year we received a flyer about an alumni trip to Tanzania which opened the door for discussion, especially since we are so much closer to Africa living in Holland. Immediately, questions arose: Which country was safest? When would be the best time of year to go? How much were we willing to spend? And how to select a tour operator, which was hard for us, as we are normally DIY travelers. We chose Tanzania over Botswana, Kenya, Zimbabwe, and South Africa because it is considered to be the “ultimate safari country” (especially for first-timers), the sheer number and variety of wild animals, its political stability, a direct KLM flight, and some knowledge of the Serengeti and The Great Migration.

The next question we faced was when to go? Some say to go in the African winter (the dry season) when water is scarce and animals congregate at the few watering holes. Others say, summer is best because of the calving of the wildebeest during The Great Migration and that the parks are not as crowded, thus making prices less, but it is also the rainy



season and so the animals may not be as easy to find. Everything we read about the migration convinced us that this was one of those things not to be missed, so the end of January it was. Next, a tour operator—not an easy task as there are over 1,500 companies running safari trips in Tanzania.

Using a variety of sources, including recommendations from AWC Members, we requested itineraries and quotes from three companies. All three quotes seemed outrageous (averaging about \$700 a day per person), but once you figure in all the costs involved—guide, transport, activities, park fees, lodging and meals—it didn’t seem quite as inflated as we initially thought. Eventually, we selected an American/Tanzanian company called Access2Tanzania (A2T) because we were able to personalize our trip through multiple phone calls with their planning representative in the U.S. who listened to our desires and budget, advised us on lodging and activities, and coordinated everything in Tanzania, plus it was a private tour for the same price. We were going on safari! And in just six weeks! We needed to get visas (I recommend getting them in The Hague, although you can do it in-country), inoculations, and malaria medicine.

Our nine-day itinerary included visits to Tanagire NP, Lake Manyara NP, the Ngorongoro Conservation Area and Crater,



and the renowned Serengeti NP. We chose to stay in well-appointed “mobile” tented camps in the middle of the bush—complete with flushing toilets, bucket showers and “bush TV” (the view from our tent)! Nearly every morning and afternoon we opted for a game drive in search of the Big Five

>> 46

From classic beach to classic culture  
(and everything in between)  
Holidays and travel customized just for you.

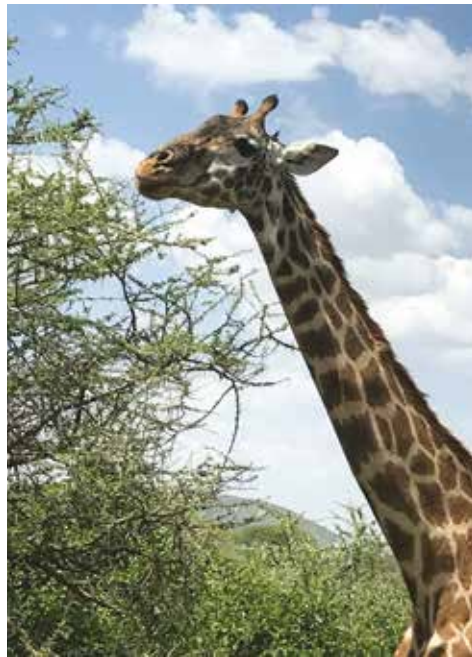
**American Travel Center**

Travel4U@americantravelcenter.net/www.americantravelcenter.nl/tel. +3261234901



# Ambo! (cont.)

Continued from page 45



(lions, leopards, rhinos, cape buffalos, and elephants) as well as giraffes, antelopes, cheetahs, hippos, monkeys and baboons, birds, and scavengers. Combine those with the over three million wildebeest and 400,000 zebras in the migration, and we were always shifting from one side of the Land Cruiser to the other.

One of my concerns was that the animals would be so far away that they would just be



specks in the distance. Much to my delight, they are so accustomed to the vehicles, they did not hesitate to cross the road right in front of us.

In some of the parks, like the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, we were able to go off-road and actually drive within a “reasonable” distance of a lion kill, to sit parked amongst the wildebeest and zebras, and to eat our lunch un-



der the acacia trees that giraffes were munching on above us. We were fortunate to see so many of the different traits that make each species unique—the speed of a cheetah chasing a group of antelopes; the grace of a tower (group) of giraffes; the circle of life with the predators; and the symbiotic relationship between the wildebeests and their protector-friends, the zebras. I am so glad that we made the decision to go during the rainy season (luckily for us, it only rained twice and both times were during the night), because of the abundance of baby animals and the beauty of the scenery. We saw wildebeest calves running alongside their mothers within minutes of birth, lion cubs practicing their fighting skills, brown-striped baby zebras, a newborn hairless olive

baboon, and an elephant calf nursing.

The vast landscapes were lush and green, plus the dust was minimal—unless the wildebeest were passing through. Probably the most beautiful sight was the Ngorongoro Crater. This 100 square-mile unfilled volcanic caldera, with its grasslands, marsh, forest and savannah habitats was such a spectacular scene, truly a photographer’s delight. While the majority of our days were spent driving in the bush, we did schedule a few extra activities which

enriched our experience. We went on a guided bush walk with an armed ranger; explored Olduvai Gorge where early hominids were discovered by the Leakeys; were supposed to visit a Maasai village (which we had to miss due to an already full day); and a sunrise hot air balloon flight. Although I do struggle with heights, the sensation of quietly floating above the beauty of Serengeti immediately calmed any fears and made this once-in-a-lifetime experience even more magical.

Looking back on our African adventure, I can honestly say that I wouldn’t change any of the choices we made. It was all that I had dreamed it would be! Tanzania will always hold a special place in our hearts—and maybe someday in yours too!





# Announcements

## National Museum Week

For more than 30 years, over 400 museums across the country have offered a special weekend with free or discounted entrance including free films, slide shows, tours, demonstrations and workshops. The fun has been expanded to an entire week from April 9 – 15 with the theme of *Our Real Gold*. For more information and to see which museums are participating, visit [www.national-museumweek.nl](http://www.national-museumweek.nl).

## Art Lecture Jane Austen's Interiors

Two hundred years after her death, Jane Austen's novels still give great pleasure and are repeatedly filmed. This lecture will show us the late Georgian interiors where the heroines of her novels lived, such as Mansfield Park, Northanger Abbey, Barton Park and



Rosings in London and Bath. Diana Lloyd is a freelance lecturer specializing in ceramic, glass and the history of interior decoration in Europe and the Americas. Non-DFAS member fee is € 12. [www.dfas.nl](http://www.dfas.nl)

**Tuesday, April 10**

**8 p.m. (doors open at 7:30 p.m.)**

**Cultural Centrum Warenar  
Kerkstraat 75, Wassenaar**

## Expat Archive Exhibit

The Expatriate Archive Centre (EAC) is hosting an exhibition this month in celebration of its 10th anniversary. EAC is



an independent foundation with a mission to preserve the life stories of expats who leave home, family and everything they know behind. *Saudade* is a Portuguese word evoking nostalgia for someone or something absent and beloved. Ten artists from around the world have come together to gather inspiration from the EAC's collection and create art pieces that will fit in an antique suitcase donated by a founder of the EAC. [www.xpatarchive.com](http://www.xpatarchive.com)

**Wednesday, April 11 – Sunday, April 15**

**Twelve Twelve Gallery  
Prinsestraat 53, Den Haag**

## Rings Beside the Sea

You have until April 12 to visit the ever-changing beach landscape on Scheveningen Beach featuring 20 sand rings measuring approximately 500 by 1,000 feet (150 by 300 meters). The rings were created using 2 excavators and represent 200 years of seaside culture in Scheveningen.



## The Hague Shakespeare Fringe Festival

Hosted by The English Theatre from April 19 to 22 at the Koninklijke Schouwburg, the theme for this year's festival is *Shakespeare Unexpected*. For adults, *Cry Havoc* is the personal story of a war veteran reintegrating after military service and suffering PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) interwoven with Shakespeare's timeless verse in a thought-provoking and funny performance. For families there are matinees of *A Midsummer's Night Dream* featuring



five actors, live music, dance, puppetry and audience participation. There is also an Interactive Shakespeare Workshop for children over five. [www.theenglishtheatre.nl](http://www.theenglishtheatre.nl)

## Scottish Country Dancing Potluck

The St. Andrew's Society of the Netherlands invites the AWC to a Potluck Ceilidh (Scottish country dancing). There is no previous experience needed. Similar to American squaring dancing, there is a "caller" who walks everyone through each dance before the music starts and then calls out the moves throughout. Dress code is smart casual or kilt. Entrance to the dance with refreshments is € 10 plus a potluck item for the buffet. [www.standrews.nl](http://www.standrews.nl)

**Friday, April 20**

**7:30 – 10:30 p.m.**

**British School of the Netherlands  
Diamanthorst 16, Den Haag**

## Bonfire Beach Fest

Celebrate the official opening of beach season at this festival that will put Scheveningen on fire. On Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21, the beach changes into a large



# Announcements (cont.)

Continued from page 49

open and free festival area. Young and old will be entertained with cultural, musical, culinary and sport activities. Next to the Pier there will be a stage for musical performances and on the Zwarte Pad there will be campfire sessions by singer-songwriters. [www.bonfirebeachfest.com](http://www.bonfirebeachfest.com)

## Flower Parade



On Saturday, April 21 at 9:30 a.m., the 71st edition of the annual Flower Parade will leave Noordwijk to travel its 25-mile (40-kilometer) route along the main roads to arrive in Haarlem around 9:30 p.m. The procession will be comprised of 20 large floats with the theme of *Culture* and more than 30 decorated luxury cars, interspersed with marching bands. There will be plenty of space on the roadside for the hundreds of thousands of spectators who always congregate along the route. The Flower Parade passes Keukenhof around 3:30 p.m. If you miss the parade, you can see the floats on view in Haarlem on Sunday, April 22 until 5 p.m. There will also be an illuminated parade in Noordwijkerhout on Friday, April 20 at 9 p.m. To see the schedule of the route, go to [www.bloemencorso-bollenstreek.nl](http://www.bloemencorso-bollenstreek.nl).

## Life I Live Festival

Starting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 26, The Hague city center will be transformed into a free open-air music festival to kick off the celebration of the King's birthday and con-

tinuing on Friday, April 27 for King's Day itself. During these two days, 50 local bands and DJs will perform next to international acts on 9 stages scattered around playing a variety of musical styles: soul, funk, hip hop, blues, indie pop, garage, punk, psychedelia, jazz and dance tunes. [www.thelifeilive.nl](http://www.thelifeilive.nl)

## Tulip Festival



This festival celebrates the famous tulip and ensures it blooms all over Amsterdam each spring. In 2015, nearly 550,000 tulip bulbs were planted in beds and pots around the city for the first festival. Additional bulbs have been planted each year, moving towards the goal of one bulb for every inhabitant of Amsterdam. All through the month of April, colorful and rare tulips can be seen at 80 locations scattered among the gardens of museums, private homes and other city institutions. A festival guide and route map showing the participating locations is available for € 2 at the information points. [www.tulpfestival.com](http://www.tulpfestival.com)

## Jan Steen's Histories

The Mauritshuis is exhibiting a selection of 21 of Jan Steen's finest history paintings through May 13 showing that Steen was a versatile and ambitious artist with a keen eye for amusing stories and anecdotes. This 17th-century artist from Leiden is best known as a painter of chaotic and disorderly scenes of everyday life, which gave rise to the popular Dutch proverb: *a Jan Steen*



**The Mocking of Samson**, Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp

*household*. Over the last few years, the Mauritshuis has conducted a technical examination of Steen's work to gain a better understanding of his painting technique and the chronological development of his work with the initial results appearing in this exhibition.

## Abandoned Bikes in The Hague

After conducting a successful test in eight neighborhoods to remove abandoned bikes, the policy will be expanded citywide so that municipal enforcement teams will patrol the streets checking for abandoned bicycles in all of The Hague's neighborhoods starting on April 1. So far nearly 1,500 abandoned bikes have been removed from the test areas and brought to the Bicycle Depot Haaglanden. Less than 2% of these bikes have been collected by their rightful owners indicating that the bikes were no longer in use and were dumped.



Credit-denhaag.nl



**Pathways to Safety**  
INTERNATIONAL

Empowering victims of interpersonal  
& gender based violence abroad

Serving Americans who become victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, and forced marriage while working, studying or visiting outside of the United States. Pathways is the only U.S. agency offering immediate crisis intervention through an internationally toll-free hotline and crisis email. Visit our website for more information and dialing instructions.

**GET HELP NOW.**

[www.PathwaysToSafety.org](http://www.PathwaysToSafety.org)

[crisis@pathwaystosafety.org](mailto:crisis@pathwaystosafety.org)

**833-SAFE-833**



# Classifieds

## Attorney

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

## Seaside Apartment for Short-term Rental

Overlooking the pier and the North Sea at Scheveningen beach, this 6th floor apartment sleeps 3 comfortably, with 1 king bed and 1 single futon. € 65 per night, with a 3-night minimum, plus deposit. Contact AWC Member **Jane Gulde** at [iaminholland@yahoo.com](mailto:iaminholland@yahoo.com).

## Blossoming Health and Beauty

Looking for a professional, licensed acupuncturist? Contact **Linda Chen** at 06-37315840. With a background in leadership development by Shell, Linda graduated with Cum Laude in TCM Acupuncture. She is a registered member of the professional association ZHONG. Insurance reimbursement of the fee is possible.  
[www.blossoming-healthbeauty.com](http://www.blossoming-healthbeauty.com)

## Counselling International

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

## Bijoux-dor Gold & Silversmith

Professionally trained gold and silversmith specializing in handmade and custom jewelry, and repairs. AWC members are eligible for a 10% discount on custom work. Visit my atelier at Noordeinde 47, 1st floor, The Hague or call 0687598566 for an appointment or send an email to [meriemoukil@hotmail.com](mailto:meriemoukil@hotmail.com).  
[www.meriem-dor.com](http://www.meriem-dor.com)

## Pippa's Friendly Pilates

I am a certified Stott Pilates Instructor offering private matwork and reformer lessons in a comfortable setting at my home studio in central Den Haag. Please contact me at [pippahillstrathy@gmail.com](mailto:pippahillstrathy@gmail.com) or 06 82529931 for more information.

# Index of Advertisers

ACCESS page 30	Beacon Financial Education back cover	Julie's American Cookies page 17	VERHEY VAN WIJK brilmode page 19
American Travel Center page 45	Frans Burgers Tapijt page 21	Marcel Vermeulen Jewelry page 11	Wassalon Weissenbruch page 30
ASPA page 15	FRITSTAXI Airport Service Inside back Cover	Petros Eyewear page 11	Your Cleaning Service page 30
Aveda Lifestyle Salon Inside Cover	Happy Critters page 17	Sligro page 37	

## Members: eNews Distribution

A weekly electronic newsletter is sent to all AWC Members via *GroupSpaces.com*. If you have not been receiving your eNews, please contact Melissa at [awcthehague.membership@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.membership@gmail.com).

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.

## Event information, suggestions or comments for eNews?

\*\*\*New email account\*\*\*

Please send all eNews information to [awcthehague.eneews@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.eneews@gmail.com) no later than end of day each Friday for the following week's eNews.

## Member Privacy

Please be reminded that the AWC Membership List is for AWC Member reference only and use of this information in any communication other than AWC official business is strictly prohibited. Members may not share the list with anyone other than another AWC Member in good standing and never to any third party.

The AWC takes care to protect Member information and adherence to this policy is critical to maintain Member privacy. Members are asked to report suspected misuse of the list to any AWC Board Member.

# Rates

## Classified Mini-Ads:

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

## AWC Member Rates:

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

## Non-Member Rates:

	For 45 Words	For 25 Additional Words
Per Issue	€ 15	€ 8
Eight Issues	€ 110	€ 55

## How to Submit Your Ad:

Email your ad to: [goingdutchads@gmail.com](mailto:goingdutchads@gmail.com)

## Payment Information:

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

## By Bank Transfer:

ABN-AMRO  
43.14.21.757  
IBAN: NL42ABNA0431421757

## Display Ads:

For full, half, third or quarter page commercial display ads, email our magazine staff at [goingdutchads@gmail.com](mailto:goingdutchads@gmail.com)



# Proost! Questionnaire

by Sue Cramp

## Why are you living in the Netherlands?

We moved here last August for my husband's job with Shell, our second posting overseas.

## Give us a quick wrap-up of your family.

We are from a small village in Dorset in the UK and have two children, a son aged 21 currently at university in the UK, and a daughter aged 18 currently on a gap year. We also have two dogs who have had to adapt to city life!

## What or who is the greatest love of your life?

My family, my dogs, and champagne (not always in that order!).

## What was your career outside the home (if any) before moving to NL? If you're working outside the home now, what are you doing?

Worked in hospital administration in the UK.

## What is the quality you most like in a friend?

A great sense of humour!

## Why did you join the AWC?

Having lived in Texas for four years and been part of a British Club there, I knew it's such a great way to get to meet people to help with the settling in process.

## What do you consider the most overrated virtue of being an expat?

Tax-free living. There's no such thing in the Netherlands!

## Who are your favorite writers?

I have recently enjoyed *The Hiding Place* by Corrie ten Boom set in Haarlem, the Netherlands that is!

## What is your idea of perfect happiness?

Walking or skiing in the mountains.



## Which talent would you most like to have?

To be good at languages!

## What's your hobby?

I love walking, cycling, most things outdoors.

## What is your greatest travel extravagance?

Large suitcase and all my favourite clothes.

## Which travel experience made you the happiest?

Last summer's holiday to Costa Rica. Amazing country, people, coffee, zip wiring, and whitewater rafting.

## What is your favorite travel purchase?

Opal earrings from Australia.

## Which locations haven't been ticked off your bucket list?

New Zealand and Sri Lanka.

## Where would you most like to live?

Somewhere warm in the winter and in the UK in the summer, when it's hopefully warm!

Specialists in Taxi Airport Transfers to Schiphol and Rotterdam Airports

# FRI-TS TAXI



**Flat Rates from The Hague Region**

**Schiphol Airport** Drop off € 62,- Pick Up € 67,-  
**Schiphol with Van** Drop off € 75,- Pick Up € 80,-  
**Rotterdam Airport** From € 35,-

**For Shell people we drive with Shell rules**



**Schiphol**  
Nederlandse Spoorwegen  
Amsterdam Airport Schiphol



For free quote from other cities or for bookings contact us on  
**+31 (0)622 395536** (07.00 to 22.00)  
email us on [Fritstaxi@msn.com](mailto:Fritstaxi@msn.com) or visit us on [www.fritstaxi.nl](http://www.fritstaxi.nl)





BEACON FINANCIAL  
EDUCATION

## WE'RE EXPATS TOO!

At Beacon Financial Education we offer fundamental financial education knowledge, as well as tools for the sophisticated investor looking for options in today's expanding global market.

Our Mission is to empower Global Mobility through Financial Freedom for Expats no matter where they are, today or tomorrow.



**HAVE YOU LIVED OR WORKED IN  
MULTIPLE COUNTRIES?**

**HAVING TROUBLE INVESTING IN  
THE NETHERLANDS OR EUROPE?**

**ARE YOU TRYING TO RESOLVE  
FATCA AND PFIC ISSUES?**



Contact us today for a **free consultation**  
with an independent financial advisor!

**[www.beaconfinancialeducation.org/  
freeconsultation](http://www.beaconfinancialeducation.org/freeconsultation)**

**YOUR WEALTH. YOUR FUTURE.  
SEAMLESS SERVICE.  
WHEREVER IN THE WORLD YOU RESIDE.**

**[www.beaconfinancialeducation.org](http://www.beaconfinancialeducation.org)  
[info@beaconfinancialeducation.org](mailto:info@beaconfinancialeducation.org)**



Beacon Financial Education does not provide financial, tax or legal advice. None of the information should be considered financial, tax or legal advice. You should consult your financial, tax or legal advisers for information concerning your own specific tax/legal situation.