

Going Dutch



2017
Jan-Feb

In
this
issue

South Africa

Holiday Bazaar

Women in Need TLC Dinner

American Women's Club of The Hague



**SALON
SPA
STORE**
OPEN 7 DAYS



Location:

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



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

The whole building is powered by solar energy

Going Dutch

January/February 2017



Moms, dads and little monsters filled up the Clubhouse for the Kids' Halloween Party



Our annual Holiday Bazaar wouldn't have been such a success without a strong team of volunteers



Becky Failor shares the highlights of her recent adventures in South Africa

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

- 5 Officers and Chairwomen
- 6 Kids' Halloween Party
- 8 Message from the President
- 9 Spring Kick Off
- 9 February General Meeting
- 10 Letter from the Editor
- 12 Ongoing Activities
- 19 One-of-a-Kind Activities
- 22 Holiday Bazaar Appreciation
- 28 Tours
- 30 Calendar
- 33 Women in Need TLC Dinner
- 34 The Dutch Daily
- 36 Intense Gratitude from Georgia
- 38 AWC and the Arts
- 40 FAWCO Corner
- 42 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dinner
- 44 Friendraiser Happy Hour
- 44 Announcements
- 48 Kids at the Holiday Bazaar
- 50 Adventures in South Africa
- 56 Classifieds
- 57 Index of Advertisers
- 57 Rates
- 58 More Holiday Bazaar



AWC Clubhouse

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

Going Dutch Magazine
goingdutchmag@gmail.com

Clubhouse Hours

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

Editor
Melissa White

Design and Layout
Teresa Mahoney

Cover Photo Voorschoten 2016 by Veronica White

Photography
Greetje Engelsman, Melissa White,
Wikimedia Commons

Advertising
Open

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

Contributors
Mary Adams, Jane Choy, Trena Cormier,
Greetje Engelsman, Roberta Enschede,
Jan Essad, Becky Failor, Eileen Harloff,
Suzanne MacNeil, Seanette Meserole, Mary
Ann Nation-Greenwall, Georgia Regnault,
Anne van Oorschoot

Printer
www.dwcprint.nl

Dues (Effective 2016-2017)
€ 110 per year (€ 66 after January 1)
€ 90 business, professional
€ 55 valid US military id
€ 35 student
Add € 15 new member registration fee

AWC Bank Account Number
ABN-AMRO
43.14.21.757
IBAN: NL42ABNA0431421757
KvK Den Haag
40409274

Deadlines: Submissions are due no later than the last Monday of the month preceding the publication month. For example, for the March issue, submissions are due before Monday, January 23.

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

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.

2016-2017 AWC Officers

President Becky Failor
awcthehague.president@gmail.com

Vice President Trena Cormier
awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com

Treasurer Kathy DeBest
awcthehague.treasurer@gmail.com

Secretary Ellen Bolick
awcthehague.secretary@gmail.com

Club and Community Development
Susan Cave, Mary Ann Nation-Greenwall
awcthehague.community@gmail.com

Clubhouse Administrator
Dominique Duysens
awcthehague.clubhousemgr@gmail.com

Communications Teresa Mahoney
awcthehague.communications@gmail.com

Front Office

Dominique Duysens
Pamela Schellekens
Sue Merrick
Amber Gatewood
Trena Cormier
Becky Failor
Paula Looijmans
Siska Datema

Committee Chairs

Activities Open
Assistant Treasurer Laurie Martecchini
At Home in Holland Becky Failor
Board Advisor Jessie Rodell
Caring Committee Naomi Keip
Community Service Coordinator
Pamela Pruijs
eNews: Suzanne MacNeil
FAWCO Karla Kahn, Julie Mowat
Heart Pillow Jan de Vries
Holiday Bazaar Mary Ann Nation-Greenwall
Library Holly Savoie
Kid's Club Open
Membership Coordinator Shirley Newlin
Newcomer Activities Greetje Engelsman
Parliamentarian Georgia Regnault
Programs Suzanne MacNeil
Public Relations Open
Tennis Molly Boed
The Arts Jane Choy
Tours Jan Essad, Seanette Meserole
Volunteer Coordinator Laurie Martecchini
Webmaster Julie Otten
Website Assistant Open
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.



Halloween



Message from the President

by Becky Failor

At the AWC Thanksgiving Luncheon in Leiden (thank you **Greetje Englesman** for once again organizing this) there was some discussion about writing. Some ladies were saying they do it for a living; some wanted to write more, while others were unsure if anyone would want to read anything they wrote. It reminded me how many of our Members, past and present, are writers.

I have always admired writers and am thankful for how they enrich my life. I read on my Kindle every day. Some writers give me a way to pass the time, while some inform me and others make me think more deeply about a subject. Some writers make me cry and some make me laugh.

It is not only published authors who have enriched my world. My mother's personal, handwritten letters were cherished by people all over the world. Sometimes she wrote more than ten in a day, and her letters always seemed to arrive when you most needed them. Her letters contained simple tales of her life and experiences, word images of the gardens she and my father tended, words of encouragement, and stories about children because she always found joy in children. As she aged and could no longer write, people still were writing to her, and what a joy that was for her. She would hold the letter or card in her hands after they were read to her. You felt she was communing with the person who wrote to her. Can't do that with an email! After her passing, people mentioned that they have saved one or more of her letters, as I have. I do miss writing Mom letters.

Then there's the thank you note: a requirement of my childhood and now, to me, a treasured tradition.

A simple, quick, act of writing. A Member of our Club recently sent me a thank you for my thank you note, saying she would save it. That meant a lot to me.

Some AWC Members are published authors. **Chelsea Wald** is a science writer who has been published in one of my favorite science journals: *Nature*. **Dena Haggerty** writes mysteries; I laughed out loud while reading her *Gray-Haired Knitting Detective Series*. See "First Impressions Ten Years Later" in the November 2016 issue of *Going Dutch* for a sample of her wit. **Cynthia Lardner** writes articles for a variety of sources on political figures and topics, and recently has been published in *E The Magazine for Today's Female Executive*. **Suzanne MacNeil** is a copy editor and, as we know from our October 2016 General Meeting, has contributed to television, not only on-screen but also with her writing skills. Some of our former Members write just for the love of it. Sarah Darnell-McGee delighted us with tales of homesteading in Alaska and stories from her collection of writing. Susan Yates-Brown was delighted with a writers' group she participated in while living here which encouraged her to submit a few articles for publication in *Going Dutch*.

Since joining the AWC some of my favorite reads have been between the covers of our magazine. Honorary Member **Eileen Harloff** brings us "The Dutch Daily" that shares stories from the Dutch news that many of us would otherwise not ever see. Editor **Melissa White's** "Ramblings from the Editor" always make me stop and think. Almost every month we have an article



now, to me, a treasured tradition.

Spring Kick Off

by Trena Cormier

Join us as we "Kick Off" the New Year at the AWC! During our open house format, you can drop in when it is most convenient for you. Stop by to say hello to AWC friends, old and new. Come learn about what is planned for spring, from the new activities and tours that have been organized to help get us out of the house during the cold winter, to community service and philanthropic events that will give you a chance to give back to others. By hosting both evening and daytime hours, we hope to cater to everyone's schedules. Board Members and Committee Chairs will

be on-site to answer any questions. We will provide drinks and nibbles. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Wednesday, January 11

6 – 8 p.m.

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1074384

and

Thursday, January 12

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

AWC Clubhouse

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1074385

February General Meeting

by Suzanne MacNeil and Trena Cormier

The Hague is known as the "City of Peace and Justice" in large part because of the numerous international organizations headquartered in the city. One of these organizations, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), was the recipient of the 2013 Nobel Peace Prize. The Nobel Prize as well as the role of the OPCW in determining whether chemical weapons were used in the Syrian Civil War, have raised the profile of this intergovernmental organization. However, there is confusion about the role of the OPCW in international affairs. Is the organization part of the UN? Which countries are members and which are not? How does the OPCW ensure compliance with the Chemical Weapons Convention? Does the OPCW have peacekeepers like the UN?

In 2013 the OPCW hired its first Science Policy Advisor: Dr. Jonathan Forman, the husband of the AWC's own Trena Cormier. Dr. Forman is charged with translating the recommendations of the OPCW Scientific Advisory Board into language that can be understood by the diplomats representing



the 192 member states of the OPCW. Learn more about the critical role the OPCW plays in world affairs, why the OPCW was founded, its core mission and how international scientists work with the organization to keep the world free from chemical weapons when Dr. Forman joins us as our guest speaker.

Thursday, February 9

Social time: 10 a.m.

Meeting: 10:30 a.m.

AWC Clubhouse

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1084843

Ramblings from the Editor

by Melissa White

It continues to amaze me when a Dutch person seems honestly shocked when I tell them that I love living in their country. It happened again recently while walking my dog when I ran into a young Dutch couple and had an interesting chat. The couple were completely baffled how a California girl could be happy living in their tiny village in their small country. They asked me what brought

You are traveling through another dimension, a dimension not only of sight and sound but of mind. A journey into a wondrous land of imagination. Next stop, the Twilight Zone! ~ Rod Serling

me to the Netherlands in the first place and I explained how Mother Nature had played a cruel trick on our family. When we visited American expat friends living in Wassenaar for ten days in the spring of 2004, the weather was glorious with bright blue skies, perfect temperatures for wearing shorts and cycling to the beach, and not a drop of rain. Strangely enough, our friends didn't bother to mention that this perfect weather was an anomaly rather than the norm; apparently they thought it would be better for us to find that out for ourselves after we moved here in November 2005.


Granted, I assume most of us can agree that the weather is far from perfect here, but hopefully we'll agree that the lifestyle is pretty great. We'll also probably agree that while we might think the grass is always greener on the other side, it's not really. That Dutch couple had spent four weeks driving around California, Arizona, Nevada and Utah and were just amazed by the wide-open landscapes of the Southwest. Of course, it's not surprising that they'd be in love with America after visiting several of its fantastic national parks. It wasn't the first time I've heard Dutch people admire how much space there is in the

US. I couldn't help but mention that there's a downside of not living in a compact village. I told them about how my children had to leave our house in North Carolina (a state with approximately the same population as the Netherlands) to catch a school bus one hour before school started because even though we lived within cycling distance of the school, there were no safe bike paths. I explained that our suburb offered no public transportation of any kind. We used to put our bikes on the back of our car in order to drive them somewhere where we could cycle for fun; it never crossed our minds to try to use our bikes for transportation. And I told them about how most of my friends in the US couldn't wait until their kids turned 16 so they could buy their teenagers cars so the parents could stop playing taxi driver.

At the same time, I explained that my love of their country extends beyond the joys of cycling, running to catch a train or living car-free. Perhaps I live in a bubble, but it's nice not to have to worry that my daughters could get gunned down at school by another student or by a neighbor's kid playing with a loaded shotgun. My daughters have definitely appreciated the freedom to go places with their friends on their own from a fairly young age and how behaving responsibly here has encouraged me to allow them to stretch their wings even further afield.

Of course, I appreciate that it's impossible for me to separate my feelings about living in the Netherlands from the reality that I don't live like a normal Dutch woman. In actuality, I often say I live in the Twilight Zone: no longer truly connected to my home country nor integrated into my adopted country, I live in a make-believe world in between. As my husband edges closer to leaving his job, I'm afraid that we'll be in for some heavy doses of realism. It also means that we'll finally need to buckle down and get serious about learning Dutch after all these years. I hope it's not too painful!


Marcel Vermeulen
jeweler & goldsmith



Handmade white gold ring set with diamonds and one exclusive spinel.

Prinsestraat 5, 070 3453333, info@marcelvermeulen.com

the Art of Seeing



eye examination
prescription sunglasses
prescription glasses
contact lenses
eye pressure

Petros
THE HAGUE

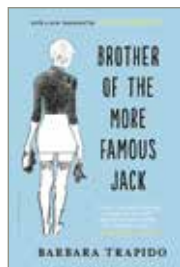
Petros The Hague Bankastraat 1x 2585 EE Den Haag
070 3462503 www.petros-thehague.nl

Ongoing Activities

Book Club: Daytime

The AWC Daytime Book Club is open to all book lovers and is always open to new Members. There is no obligation to attend every meeting or lead a discussion. We take turns bringing a snack. Any questions? Please email **Teresa Mahoney** at awcthehague.bookclub@gmail.com. Happy reading!

The January Daytime Book Club selection is *Brother of the More Famous Jack* by Barbara Trapido:



Winner of the 1982 Whitbread Special Prize for Fiction, this debut novel redefined the coming-of-age genre and continues to influence many current novelists. Dog-eared copies of this long out-of-print book are highly prized and its return to print is cause for

celebration in literary circles. It tells the tale of stylish, suburban Katherine who is 18 when she is propelled into the heart of Professor Goldman's rambling home and his large eccentric family. Inevitable heartbreak sends her fleeing to Rome, but ten years later, older and wiser, she returns to find the Goldmans again.

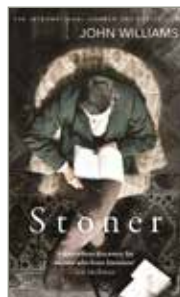
Thursday, January 26

10 a.m.

AWC Clubhouse

FREE

The February Daytime Book Club selection is: *Stoner* by John Williams:



Originally published in 1965, this novel sold fewer than 2,000 copies and quickly went out of print. Nearly 50 years later, this story of an academic whose life is full of disappointments, has become an unexpected bestseller that is praised for its narrative and stylistic value. In 2013, *The New Yorker*

called it "the greatest American novel you've never heard of."

Thursday, February 23

10 a.m.

AWC Clubhouse

FREE

Recap of the November Discussion

The Sellout: Winner of the Man Booker Award for 2016, this novel is a challenge on many levels. Narrated by a young black man simply called "Me," the loosely-structured narrative weaves a satiric tale of one man's attempt to reinstitute segregation and parenthetically, slavery, in a deprived neighborhood of Los Angeles. While the book is hailed by critics as bone-shakingly funny, our readers disagreed; instead, we found it to be clever with extraordinary verbal pyrotechnics. In fact, language and its applications are writ large in the book's questions about what it means to be "black," "separate," and "equal." Author Paul Beatty has said that "race is hard to talk about," and his book postulates questions that explore the limits of what we think we know about racism, its legal remedies, and why they just might not work.

>> 14

Daytime Book Club Planning Ahead:

Thursday, March 23: *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman

Thursday, April 20: *The Last Days of Night* by Graham Moore

Thursday, May 25: *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis* by J. D. Vance

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.

bulthaup
Zoetermeer



Purism. Sensuality. Intelligence.

To see what else bulthaup kitchens have to offer, contact your local retail partner at the Verbreepark, Benthuisen.



Keukenarchitectuur BDZ
Verbreepark 27b. 2731 BR Benthuisen
Tel. 079 3434234

www.zoetermeer.bulthaup.nl

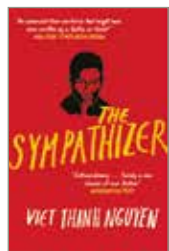
Ongoing Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 12

Book Club: Evening

Calling all readers! The Evening Book Club would love to have you join us this year. We typically meet on the third Wednesday of each month, with some alternative dates when that is a public holiday or school vacation. Whether you come once, or are available to join us every month, you are most welcome. Interested, want to know more, or get on our mailing list? Please contact **Rebecca Fry** at awcthehague.bookclub@gmail.com. Happy reading!

The January Evening Book Club selection is *The Sympathizer* by Viet Than Nguyen:



The author, an American Vietnamese professor at USC, won the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, which is especially impressive considering it was his debut novel. With the pace and suspense of a thriller, it is a sweeping epic of love and betrayal. The narrator, a communist double agent, tells the story of the fall of the South Vietnamese government in 1975, and subsequent events as an exile in Los Angeles. This book offers a new perspective on the war in contrast to the one normally provided by Hollywood.

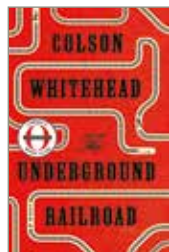
Wednesday, January 18

7:30 p.m.

AWC Clubhouse

FREE

The February Evening Book Club selection is *The Underground Railroad* by Colson



Whitehead:

Join us as we read yet another prize winning novel. The 2016 National Book Award Winner is a magnificent tour de force chronicling Cora, a young slave in Georgia, and her adventures as she makes a desperate bid for freedom.

Evening Book Club Planning Ahead:

Wednesday, March 15: *The Bad Ass Librarians of Timbuktu* by Joshua Hammer

Wednesday, April 12: *Bearskins* by Annie Proulx

Wednesday, May 17: *One in a Billion: The Story of Nic Volker and the Dawn of Genomic Medicine* by Mark Johnson and Kathleen Gallagher

Wednesday, June 14: *Eligible* by Curtis Sittenfeld

While the beginning draws on traditional slave testimonies, there is a major transformation when the author takes the historical metaphor of the Underground Railroad—the network of abolitionists who helped ferry slaves out of the South—and turns it into reality as engineers and conductors operate a secret network of tracks and tunnels beneath the Southern soil. Like the protagonist of *Gulliver's Travels*, Cora encounters different worlds at each stage of her journey, shining a bright light on one of the darkest periods of history.

Wednesday, February 15

7:30 p.m.

AWC Clubhouse

FREE

Recap of the November Discussion

Everybody's Fool: Richard Russo has a unique talent for placing ordinary characters in absurd, wholly believable situations, and he showcases it in this black comedy which does not disappoint. Although it is not necessary to read *Nobody's Fool*, his earlier work about the same cast of characters in fictional Bath, New York, readers already familiar with the characters will enjoy both the inside jokes and perpetual loser mentality of the main characters more. This novel will please both the Russo fan and readers new to his unique style.

Chat, Crafts & Cake

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

Tuesdays

10 a.m. – Noon

AWC Clubhouse

FREE

Dinner Club

The next Dinner Club is scheduled at **Celeste and Jaap Brown's** home in Oegstgeest. It's going to be a fun evening of cocktails and surprises. Please plan to bring your own

January Birthdays

Rebecca Niles-Pourier 1
Karina Talen 1
Bronia Ichel 8
Cynthia Veeger 8
Gail Rowell 9
Emilie van der Vaart 12
Julie Otten 16
Avanti Menon 25
Barbara McConnell 26
Anne van der Steur 26
Emily van Eerten 27
Helene Deguisse 28
Greetje Engelsman-Postma 28

February Birthdays

Mary Bos-Wittschen 2
Rebecca Failor 7
Tove McGrew 18
Christine Zuidwijk 23
Ginny Mees 25
Mary Ellen Schulze 27
Georgia Hodge-Manos 28

>> 16

ASPA 

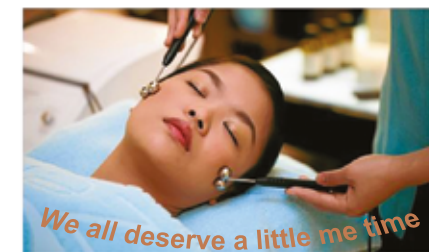
The experts in beauty & fitness

Whether you are looking for a quick de-fuzz or a lovely bit of pampering, why not come down to Aspa!

Beauty Treatments & Fitness

www.aspadirect.com

ASPA, Alexanderplein 2 2585 AZ Den Haag



GET €10 OFF
With this "Come and try us out" voucher!

+31 (0) 70 345 02 15 info@aspadirect.com

Ongoing Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 15

unique cocktail recipe and special ingredients as well as snacks and appetizers. If you would like to RSVP or if you have questions, please email Celeste at celeste@russchenberg-brown.eu.

Saturday, February 25

8 – 10:30 p.m.

Celeste Brown's Home

RSVP deadline: February 22

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1091502

Heart Pillow Project

The AWC is in its 9th year of making heart-shaped pillows to support the arms of breast cancer patients in local hospitals. Each pillow is made with tender loving care, wrapped in a plastic bag tied with a beautiful bow and a message signed by a volunteer. No sewing skills are needed; just the ability to cut, stuff or wrap! What a wonderful way to meet new friends while contributing to a worthy cause. The emails we receive are so touching and show that women are linked everywhere to this terrible disease. We are proud to provide women with something not only practical, but comforting as well. If you can cut fabric, stuff fiberfill, thread a needle or tie a bow, we need you! No sign-up is necessary. For more information, contact **Jan de Vries** at awcthehague.heartpillow@gmail.com.

Tuesdays, January 10, February 14

Noon – 2 p.m.

AWC Clubhouse

FREE

Visitors Welcome



Ladies' Night Out at the Movies

What are your plans on the first Monday evening of each month this Club Year? Joining your fellow AWC Members for a fun night out at the movies, of course! We'll meet in the lobby of the theater (either Pathé Spui, Pathé Buitenhof, or Filmhuis Den Haag) and buy our own tickets. **Rebecca Fry** coordinates this activity, and chooses a movie beginning as close to 7 p.m. as possible. There is no need to sign up, and all are welcome. The time and movie listing for that month will be announced through eNews. Questions? Contact Rebecca at fry_rebecca@hotmail.com.

Mondays, January 9, February 6

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1076853

Out to Lunch Bunch

If you're interested in making new friends and exploring new restaurants throughout The Hague, then this is the group for you! Rather than setting one specific day of the month, we will change our days each month in order to accommodate a variety of schedules. If you have a favorite restaurant in your neighborhood you'd like to share with the group, please contact **Kathy DeBest** at debestjk@comcast.net or **Greetje Engelsman** at greetje.engelsman@gmail.com.

In January, we will dine at MaMa Kelly (www.mama-kelly.nl) in The Hague (near Voorburg and Oud Rijswijk). Specialties of this "urban bistro" are chicken, lobster and *flammkuchen*.



MaMa Kelly is a non-smoking restaurant housed in a smoking setting: the former boiler house of the Caballero Cigarettes Factory. From 1921 to 1995, this factory made non-filter cigarettes sold in a brown package with a picture of a caballero (a Mexican cowboy) on horseback. Caballero was the best-selling cigarette in the Netherlands for many years. Join us for lunch, at your own expense, in this special restaurant. Please RSVP on GroupSpaces or contact Greetje at greetje.engelsman@gmail.com.

Friday, January 20

12:15 p.m.

MaMa Kelly

Saturnusstraat 100, Den Haag

Registration deadline: January 18

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1092361

In February, we will go to Ruiseñor (www.ruiseñorrestaurant.nl), a new restaurant that describes itself as serving "Mexican Emotional Cuisine." Embracing emotions as an integral part of the creative process means that positive as well as negative emotions are transformed into delicate and delightful flavors. Every week there is a new menu; dietary restrictions can be taken into account. We will enjoy a four-course lunch for € 35 (excluding drinks) to be paid at the restaurant. Please contact **Trena Cormier** with questions at awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com.

Wednesday, February 22

12:15 – 2:30 p.m.

Ruiseñor,

Denneweg 120, Den Haag

Minimum 8

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1092313

Pilates

Pilates is a form of exercise developed by Joseph Pilates which emphasizes body development through core strength, flexibility and body awareness. Pilates works the deeper, more stabilizing muscles of the spine and the abdominal wall. Doing Pilates makes you stronger, longer and leaner. **Ineke Latour**, certified STOTT Pilates® Instructor and AWC Member, will teach Pilates classes at the AWC Clubhouse. You will be monitored and corrected to enjoy responsible, safe and effective Pilates training. Email Ineke to sign up for these classes and pay her directly. Bring your own towel; Ineke will supply mats and props. All levels are welcome. Participants should arrive at the Club at 10:15 a.m. so class can start promptly at 10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

€ 15 per class Members

(€ 20 per class nonmembers)

Min 6 / Max 10

Contact: Ineke at

Latour@globalswing.com

>> 18



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 meubelreiniging-fransburgers.nl

Ongoing Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 17

Tennis League

The AWC Tennis Group plays doubles every Tuesday in Warmond. Ladies move up and down the courts according to a ladder tennis system. The emphasis is on having fun! The league is available for all levels except true beginners. If you are interested in being placed on the waiting list to become a regular player or would like to be on the sub list, contact **Molly Boed** at mollyboed@yahoo.com.

Tuesdays

(except specific holidays TBD)

1 – 3 p.m.

Dekker Tennis Courts

Veerpolder 14, Warmond

€ 275 Members (€ 325 nonmembers)

Walkie Talkies

Taking a walk with friends is the perfect way to start your week! Join us for an energetic walk and talk. We meet in front of the Clubhouse each week and then walk to a variety of destinations between the beach, woods and city.



Occasionally, we take longer walks which we announce on the AWC Facebook Group. Sign up for this group on GroupSpaces.com to get email updates or email **Emily van Eerten** at vaneerten@gmail.com or **Greetje Engelsman** at awcthehague.newcomers@gmail.com.

Mondays

9:30 a.m.

FREE

Wassenaar Coffee & Conversation

Do you live in Wassenaar and environs and long for the camaraderie of the AWC without driving to the Clubhouse? One of the Members living north of The Hague will host a casual coffee at her home on the first Thursday of each month for Members and prospective Members. **Suzanne Dundas** will provide information as to the hostess of the month and directions to her home when you sign up.

Thursdays, January 5, February 2

9 – 11 a.m.

FREE

Cancellation Policy

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

One-of-a-Kind Activities

by **Trena Cormier**

Picasso by the Sea

January doldrums got you down? Then inject a little warm Mediterranean color into your life with this private English tour of Picasso's post-1947 ceramics and sculptures at Museum Beelden aan Zee in Scheveningen. This exhibition will display unique examples in ceramics together with exceptional sculptures from the best private and museum collections of Europe. Some works have never been seen before in the Netherlands. We will meet at 10:30 a.m. at the museum café for a coffee (at own expense) and the tour will start at 11 a.m. Afterwards we have the option of enjoying lunch at a local restaurant.



Thursday, January 19
10:30 a.m. – Noon
Museum Beelden aan Zee
Harteveldstraat 1, Den Haag
€ 6 Members (€ 11 guests)
PLUS Museum Entrance Fee (€ 13 or free with Museumkaart)
Minimum 10 / Maximum 20
Cancellation deadline: January 10
www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1078405

Thursday, January 19

10:30 a.m. – Noon

Museum Beelden aan Zee

Harteveldstraat 1, Den Haag

€ 6 Members (€ 11 guests)

PLUS Museum Entrance Fee (€ 13 or free with Museumkaart)

Minimum 10 / Maximum 20

Cancellation deadline: January 10

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1078405

Dutch Products Class

AWC Member and long-term resident of the Netherlands, **Carol Slootweg**, will explain



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

Direct any questions to

awcthehague.activities@gmail.com.

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

Dutch cooking and cleaning products. She teaches cooking classes, so she is an expert in using local products and converting American recipes. She and **Greetje Engelsman** have co-produced a book entitled *Dutch Products* which will be offered for sale for € 10. Join this class and you will never be confused about cooking or cleaning products in the Netherlands again!

If you have any questions, contact Greetje at awcthehague.newcomers@gmail.com

Wednesday, January 25

10 a.m. – Noon

AWC Clubhouse

FREE

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1092594

Mosaic Class

We're all familiar with the beautiful *Porceleyne Fles* from the Royal Delft factory and may have a piece or two at home. Now you can make a mosaic with pieces of Delft Blue ceramics at a three-hour workshop taught by Heleen Kraaijveld at her home-based workspace >> 20



One-of-a-Kind Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 19

in The Hague. Heleen is a talented mosaic artist and will guide you as you create Dutch-themed artwork. She provides the ceramics, adhesives, tools and snacks. Heleen will also grout each piece after the workshop for pick up one week after the class. Since space is limited, Heleen is offering us classes on two different dates.

Friday, January 27

1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

OR

Friday, February 17

1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Home of Heleen Kraaijveld

€ 40 Members (€ 45 nonmembers)

Minimum 4 / Maximum 8

Cancellation deadline: January 20

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1078407

8th Annual Chili Cook-Off

It's time for the 8th Annual AWC Chili Cook-Off! This is serious business as contenders vie for the coveted award of the Best Chili in the AWC. If you think you have the best chili in town, "bring it on!" This is one tasty event you won't want to miss. If you're interested in being a contestant, just let us know mighty quickly (please note that the contestant gets in free, but the spouse still pays). You could be the next to wear the Best Chili Crown! Bring a six-pack of beer or your favorite beverage and a good appetite.

Saturday, January 28

6:30 – 10 p.m.

AWC Clubhouse

€ 10 Members or Spouses

(€ 15 nonmembers)

Minimum 10 / Maximum 35

Cancellation deadline: January 23

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1078416

Tour of Rooftop Urban Farm

Just 2.5 miles (4 kilometers) from Den Haag Centraal Station is an abandoned 1950s office building that once belonged to Philips. Now it houses a modern experiment: Europe's



largest urban farm (www.urbanfarmers.nl). This rooftop farm known as "UF002 De Schilde" stands proudly overlooking the city. Tomatoes, vegetables and trendy "micro-greens" are sprouting in a sprawling 1,200 square meter rooftop greenhouse. Below, on the fishy-smelling sixth floor, is a huge fish farm. The eventual hope is to serve 900 local families plus restaurants and a cooking school with 500 tilapias per week and 50 tons of rooftop vegetables per year. Join us for a tour of this sky farm with its unique 360° experience of real freshness. Further details will be available when registration opens at Kick Off.

Wednesday, February 15

Televisiestraat 2U, Den Haag

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1089325

The Great Escape: A Puzzle Room Adventure

This is your chance to bring out your inner Ethan Hunt or MacGyver! Locked in one of



A Maze's themed rooms, you and your teammates will have 60 minutes to use your best problem solving and team cooperation skills to escape before the clock runs out. Keeping your wits about you, you'll work together to find all the mysteries and secret clues hidden deep in the room and strategize about what will bring you closer to unlocking the door to escape. It's not as easy as you think, but it is sure to be great fun. Meet us at A Maze (www.amaze-escape.com) for a *borrel* of small bites and drinks while we receive our instructions and room challenges. Will you wind up in the Urban Legend, the Crazy Doctor or the Competition room? More importantly will you get out in time? After our challenging escapes we'll enjoy another beverage while discussing our experiences. Sounds like a great way to spend a cold winter evening of inescapable fun.

Saturday, February 18

7:45 – 9:45 p.m.

A Maze Escape

Binckhorstlaan 135, Den Haag

€ 32.50 Members or Spouses

(€ 37.50 nonmembers)

Minimum 12 / Maximum 24

Cancellation deadline: February 5

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1095135

Elections in the Netherlands

Have you ever wondered what the Dutch elections are all about? Curious about who will be elected and how the Dutch system differs from the US system of elections? Find out



what is going to happen when the Dutch vote on March 15 by attending this special class with **Greetje Engelsman** as she explains the huge differences between elections in the Netherlands versus the US.

Wednesday, March 1

10 a.m. – Noon

AWC Clubhouse

FREE

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1092591

Private Dinner on the Hoftrammm

In May 2014, the Hoftrammm rumbled into existence (www.hoftrammm.nl). Once just a regular tram, it is now a culinary tram, complete with a WC, with seating for 44 diners (8 tables for 4 and 6 tables for 2). The Hoftrammm follows a scenic route through The Hague while serving a four-course gourmet meal designed by Dutch celebrity chef Pierre Wind. The Hoftrammm is literally a "moveable feast."

The AWC has reserved the entire Hoftrammm for a special AWC event. Dinner will include an aperitif, bread, appetizers, a main course, dessert and unlimited drinks (wine, beer and non-alcoholic options). A vegetarian option is available if reserved in advance; please note any food allergies when registering.

We will meet at the Grote Kerk at 5:45 p.m. and board the Hoftrammm for a 6 p.m. departure. During our 2.5-hour tour of the city, we will ride through Scheveningen, the Statenkwartier and the Centrum. In order to ensure that Members have a chance to register for this unique experience, registration for nonmembers will not open until January 5. Please note that we have an early cancellation deadline to this activity; after January 20, the fee is nonrefundable unless your spot(s) can be filled from the waiting list.

Saturday, April 1

Meet at 5:45 p.m. for a 6 p.m. departure

Kerkplein, Den Haag

€ 78 Members or Spouses

(€ 83 nonmembers after January 5)

Minimum 22 / Maximum 44

Cancellation deadline: Friday, January 20

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1076636



Holiday Bazaar Appreciation

by Mary Ann Nation-Greenwall

AWC Holiday Bazaar's Perfect Team of 2016

The 2016 AWC Holiday Bazaar held in November was a wonderful event. Both new and seasoned AWC Members shared their fresh ideas in creating a Holiday Bazaar to remember. The beautiful Carlton Ambassador Hotel was transformed into a Holiday Bazaar Wonderland filled with unique treasures. Shoppers found many gift items at 40 vendors' booths that featured high-quality goods from all over the world including handmade jewelry, artwork, scarves, pottery, home decorations, gift items, children's items, fresh baked goods and so much more. This Holiday Bazaar also introduced some new handmade items, unique gift ideas and wellness vendors as well as winetasting at two booths.

The success of this event would have not occurred without my perfect team. So I would like to say a huge thanks to the following people:

I appreciated the advice and guidance of the Holiday Bazaar Committee which included **Jan Essad, Jan de Vries, Teresa Insalaco, Kathy DeBest** and **Marilyn Tinsay**. They attended meetings, helped in the selection and placement of vendors, assisted in the planning,



and so much more. They made the planning and coordinating of this event easy and fun.

A huge thank you to **Jan de Vries** and her volunteers for organizing a dazzling raffle display and selling a massive amount of tickets. The vendors made the raffle exciting this year. We especially appreciated the grand prize from Marcel Vermeulen: an 18CT white gold pendant with a diamond and aquamarine.

Jan Essad and **Pam Pruijs** coordinated and organized a delightful and yummy bake sale along with the AWC Members who baked treats to be sold. The bake sale booth was so tempting that I tried to avoid it due to counting my Weight Watchers' points, yet Jan de Vries' carrot cake called to me.

This year we had a Membership table (wo)manned by AWC Membership Chair **Shirley Newlin** and assisted by **Marilyn Tinsay** and **Bronia Ichel**. In a span of two days, these ladies drummed up lots of interest in the AWC.

The Kids' Corner was organized by **Holly**



Savoie and **Karina Talen** with the assistance of **Natalie Ghafary, Karla Kavanagh** and student volunteers from the International School of The Hague. We had 38 children this year which was more than ever. Activities included: make an Olaf hat; design a Pokémon or Olaf bookmark; create your own holiday scene, mosaic or bracelet; coloring and lots more.

A HUGE thanks to the AWC Communication Team for working so hard getting the word out to our Membership and the community. So thanks to **Julie Otten, Suzanne MacNeil, Teresa Mahoney** and **Melissa White** for assistance with eNews, website promotion and the *Going Dutch* magazine.

I would like to thank **Laurie Martecchini** for coordinating our many AWC volunteers and **Sue Merrick** who supervised the volunteers over the weekend. Behind the scenes, this event would not be successful without the AWC volunteers.

A huge thank you to our Finance Team—**Gail Rowell, Georgia Regnault, Teresa Insalaco** and **Kathy DeBest**—for handling all the

details and transactions so smoothly.

Thank you Bob "Santa" Essad for his annual appearance, both Saturday and Sunday.

Thanks to our face painters **Emily van Eerten** daughters' Silke and Giulia for their help and creativity.

There are no words to express our appreciation to the incredible staff of the Carlton Ambassador Hotel. They went above and beyond to accommodate every request which gave our Bazaar that added special experience. Their warm hospitality, efficient service and "no matter what the request, if it's possible, we'll do it" attitude was truly commendable.

A heartfelt thank you to AWC President **Becky Failor** for helping and supporting prior to the event whenever needed.

Thanks to all the Members of the AWC. Without your participation and informing your friends about the Bazaar, attendance would have been low. When we work together, we make the most perfect team.





Holiday Bazaar Volunteers



Ellen Bolick
Amber Broughton
Kimberly Carlton
Trena Cormier
Kathy DeBest
Jan de Vries
Suzanne Dundas



Bronia Ichel
Teresa Insalaco
Karla Kavanaugh
Naomi Keip
Cynthia Lardner
Sunita Menon
Sue Merrick



Greetje Englesman
Jan Essad
Rebecca Fry
Amber Gatewood
Natalie Ghafary
Sherri Hammond
Lana Heidar





More Holiday Bazaar Volunteers



Julie Mowat
Shirley Newlin
Marlo Pettigrew
Pam Pruijs
Georgia Regnault
Ginnie Rempt
Jesse Rodell



Julie van der Wolf
Emily van Eerten
Jo van Kalveen
Anne van Oorschot
Chelsea Wald
Melissa White
Christine Zuidwijk



Lynn Roukema
Gail Rowell
Holly Savoie
Julie Schipper
Karina Talen
Krishna Thakrar
Marilyn Tinsay



Tours

by Seanette Meserole

RSVP for all tours directly on
AWC GroupSpaces.com.
Direct any questions to
meserolefamily@gmail.com

Overnight Spa Trip

Join us for an overnight spa trip to Thermae 2000 (www.thermae-2000.co.uk), in the hills of Limburg, to drive away those mid-winter blues by relaxing in thermal pools and saunas. In case you're concerned it might be a typical Dutch nude spa...don't worry! Every Tuesday is "swimwear day," so swimwear is required in all wellness areas including the sauna. On Wednesday, the pools will require swimwear, but swimwear will not be allowed in the sauna.

Our package includes an overnight stay at the spa hotel, two days' entrance into the spa, a 2-course dinner, a 25-minute treatment (facial or massage), use of robe and slippers, and breakfast. Transportation is **not** included in the price and will be determined based on confirmed travelers. Any additional treatments to be booked will be paid on your own account.

Tuesday, February 7 – Wednesday, February 8

Thermae 2000

Cauberg 25-27, Valkenburg

Members: € 170 Single Occupancy,

€ 135 Double Occupancy

Guests: € 180 Single Occupancy,

€ 145 Double Occupancy

Maximum: 15 (5 single rooms + 5 double rooms)

Booking deadline: January 13

Cancellation deadline: January 20

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1084883



Polish Pottery and Spa Tour to Boleslawiec, Poland

Are you curious about all the hype surrounding Polish pottery, just can't wait to add some original pieces to your collection at a fraction of the retail cost, or just want to get away with a fantastic group of women for a little bit of shopping, a workshop tour and a spa afternoon? If so, please join us on our three-night trip to Poland.

What makes Polish pottery so special? I didn't really know either, but I jumped on the bandwagon and traveled to the outlet in Nijkerk outside of Utrecht. Completely overwhelmed by the large selection of shapes and patterns, I quickly chose a couple of pieces in beautiful designs, all completely crafted and stamped that they are painted by hand. Suddenly, the food I prepared looked so much fancier and the coffee in my mug somehow immediately tasted better. Along with being extremely durable, it can be used in the oven, microwave or freezer, and is dishwasher-safe. Patterns can be mixed and look beautiful on your dining table or displayed on shelves. I'm completely hooked and am sure you will be, too! We'll have an opportunity to not only shop, but also view the pottery making process and even stamp our own pottery.

We will be traveling by motor coach to the town of Bolesławiec, which is known as *Miasto Ceramiki* or Town of Ceramics. Bolesławiec is in southwestern Poland and just 25 miles (40 kilometers) from the German border. There are more than 40 Polish pottery factories in Bolesławiec, but we are culling through the websites of many of the manufacturers and will visit 5 or 6 of the best and most highly recommended by numerous bloggers and travel sites.

I am pleased to be assisted with planning this trip by **Suzanne MacNeil, Kathy DeBest, Sue Merrick and Bronia Ichel.**



Our proposed itinerary:

Day 1--Travel Day: Lunch and dinner at stops along the way.

Day 2--Bolesławiec: We will shop at a few factories that offer traditional Polish pottery options like those at the Bunzlau Castle Outlet Store in Nijkerk. We'll also visit factories that sell less common patterns, designs and colors such as purple and turquoise. A list of factories and links will be sent before the trip so you can make your wish list. We will have breakfast at the hotel, and lunch and dinner at quaint restaurants.

Day 3--Bolesławiec: You will have a choice of shopping on your own, attending a workshop tour and two-hour pottery class and/or an afternoon at the spa (please note that spa treatments are extra). We will again have breakfast at the hotel, and lunch and dinner at quaint restaurants.

Day 4--Travel Day: Final breakfast at the hotel. Lunch and dinner at stops along the way back to The Hague.

This tour includes: transportation by motor coach, three nights' accommodation in a single room, three breakfasts at hotel, pottery class, spa entrance fee, and drivers' fees and gratuities. We are also hoping to include some group lunches and/or dinners. Please note that the prices shown are estimates based on 15 travelers and are subject to change depending on the final number of travelers. Please check GroupSpaces for current information.



Monday, April 3 - Thursday, April 6

€ 600 Members or Spouses

(€ 650 nonmembers)

Minimum 10 / Maximum 20

Cancellation deadline: March 6

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1083774







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




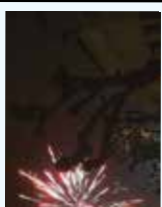
**Happy Critters
Pet Supplies**

**Weissenbruchstraat 63
2596 GB Den Haag
070-7370856
www.happycritters.nl**

JANUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Happy New Year!	2	3	4	5 Wassenaar Coffee and Chat 9 a.m. AWC Board Meeting 10:30 a.m.	6	7
Clubhouse Closed December 17 to January 9						
8	9 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m. Ladies' Night at the Movies 7 p.m.	10 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake 10 a.m. Heart Pillow Workshop Noon AWC Tennis 1 p.m.	11 Pilates 10:15 a.m. Spring Kick-Off Evening 6 - 8 p.m.	12 Spring Kick-Off Daytime 10 a.m - 2 p.m.	13	14
15	16 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m.	17 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake 10 a.m. AWC Tennis 1 p.m.	18 Pilates 10:15 a.m. Evening Book Club 7:30 p.m.	19 Picasso Ceramics Exhibit at Beelden aan Zee 10:30 a.m.	20 Out to Lunch Bunch 12:15 p.m.	21
22	23 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m.	24 Anna Pavlona at Het Loo Palace TBD Chat, Crafts 'n Cake 10 a.m. AWC Tennis 1 p.m.	25 Dutch Products 10 a.m. Pilates 10:15 a.m.	26 Daytime Book Club 10 a.m.	27 Mosaics Class 1:30 p.m.	28 8th Annual Chili Cook-Off 6:30 p.m.
29 Martin Luther King Jr. Tribute and Dinner 5:30 p.m.	30 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m.	31 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake 10 a.m. AWC Tennis 1 p.m.				

FEBRUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Can't Wait for Spring! Apr 1: Dinner on the Hoftrammm Apr 3 - 6: Polish Pottery and Spa Tour to Poland May 13: AWC Red White & Blue Gala	6 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m. Ladies' Night at the Movies 7 p.m.	7 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake 10 a.m. AWC Tennis 1 p.m. Overnight Spa Trip to Limburg	1 Pilates 10:15 a.m.	2 Wassenaar Coffee and Conversation 9 a.m. AWC Board Meeting 10:30 a.m.	3 Guided Tour of 'Hubert de Givenchy: To Audrey With Love' 11 a.m.	4
5 Feel at Home in The Hague Fair 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.	6 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m. Ladies' Night at the Movies 7 p.m.	7 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake 10 a.m. AWC Tennis 1 p.m.	8 Pilates 10:15 a.m.	9 Coffee 10 a.m. General Meeting 10:30 a.m.	10	11 Women in Need TLC Dinner 5 p.m.
12	13 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m.	14 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake 10 a.m. Heart Pillow Workshop Noon AWC Tennis 1 p.m.	15 Pilates 10:15 a.m. Tour of Rooftop Urban Farm TBD Evening Book Club 7:30 p.m.	16	17 Mosaics Class 1:30 p.m.	18 A Maze Escape Room Activity 7:45 p.m.
19	20 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m.	21 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake 10 a.m. AWC Tennis 1 p.m.	22 Pilates 10:15 a.m. Out to Lunch Bunch 12:15 p.m.	23 Daytime Book Club 10 a.m.	24	25 Dinner Club 8 p.m.
26	27 Walkie Talks 9:30 a.m.	28 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake 10 a.m. AWC Tennis 1 p.m.				



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

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, visit 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

Women in Need TLC Dinner

by Pam Pruijs-Bott

As we reflect on bountiful tables overflowing with food, gifts too many to count and fun times with family and friends that we experienced over the holidays, it's good to pause to rejoice and be grateful. Gratitude changes the way we see the world and studies show it even adds years to our lives. I'm thankful for the many contributions of toilettries and the gifts for the children we collected, and the way the AWC reaches out to support those less fortunate and in need.

This past year we've seen major devastation by natural disasters, terrorist strikes, racial violence and wars around the world. As horrendous and heartbreaking as the devastation is, it can seem far away unless it affects people we know or places we love. When these BIG events take place it can help us put our own struggles in perspective but, nonetheless, it is our own personal struggles that keep us awake at night and cause us to fear or lose heart. Trying to pay bills without enough funds, watching a loved one suffer, grieving the loss of a spouse or child, dealing with the collapse of a marriage, battling cancer or other illness, losing a job and struggling to find a new one are "tragedies" which happen very close to home. The truth is any of these hardships could befall any of us at any time. We are all vulnerable, which illustrates one of the values of our AWC community: we are there to support one another.

We want to share a bit of TLC with some women outside or inside our Club who are experiencing personal struggles and could use a *hart onder de riem* (heart under the belt) as the Dutch say. We want to provide an opportunity for women to put their troubles behind them for a few hours and maybe make some new friends, to support one another and make connections. Our goal for this project is to have these women walk away after a relaxing evening and see that the AWC is an organization determined to make a difference in the lives of those around us.

If you know of a woman who you would like to participate in this uplifting and fun-filled evening, please send her name and a bit of her "story" to me by **January 13** at awcthehague.philanthropy@gmail.com and the committee will send out an invitation. If you want to be involved in helping with this event, just let me know. On the night of the event itself, we need the help of six volunteers. We are also looking for musicians willing to donate their services. In addition, all are welcome to help find sponsors for gifts for the guests.

Saturday, February 11

5 - 10 p.m.

AWC Clubhouse

Guests by Invitation Only

Volunteers Needed



The Dutch Daily

by Eileen Harloff

The Party's Really Over Now

A month before the holidays, peace and tranquility returned to the beach at Kijkduin. After a frenzied summer of Pokémania, the seekers departed, the dunes were left to their original purpose of protection against the sea, and it was once again possible to cross the boulevard without being trampled underfoot. The city government is going to make a thorough evaluation of the matter and set up rules for comparable games in the future to avoid the fuss and the fury of last summer's game takeover. Had the city fathers encouraged the chaos by putting up the Pokémon pole and declaring Kijkduin to be the Pokémon capital of the Netherlands? And how much has this all cost the taxpayers of The Hague? Luckily, some good did come out of the affair. The Pokémon pole was given to the Boy Scout Troop "Bush Hunters" who, in turn, are putting it up for auction with the proceeds to go towards the renovation of their troop house. Kijkduin thus begins the new year with a clean slate.



Onward to Scheveningen

While the scene is calming down at one end of The Hague, it is heating up at the other, namely in Scheveningen. Here a new attraction has been added to encourage more visitors. Last summer a giant Ferris wheel was constructed at the end of the pier making it continental Europe's first Ferris wheel over the sea. It is 130 feet (40 meters) high and weighs 200 tons. It has 36 closed gondolas,

each of which holds up to 6 passengers and is equipped with air conditioning and heating. There is also a VIP gondola with a glass floor. A ride lasts around 20 minutes, and operation is stopped when weather conditions are considered to be uncomfortable for passengers (not because the construction is unsafe under such weather conditions). Riders can also enjoy dining as they rotate above the sea. The cost of the ride without food and drink is quite reasonable: € 9 for adults and € 7 for children under 12 (www.pier.nl).

After this dizzying experience, visitors can retire to one of the hotel rooms on the pier's Tower Island, where there are five boutique-style suites that have a Jacuzzi and a private outside space with panoramic views of the sea. Prices start at € 315 per night; eight smaller cabins will be opening later this year on the South Island (www.piersuites.nl). Furthermore, this is not the last of the possible attractions of Scheveningen. The pier has other islands that can be exploited



(in the good sense of the word), for leisure options such as gyms, shops, a bungee jump and perhaps even a *tokkelbaan*, which my online translator tells me is a "zip line."

Treasures of the Sea

The sea and what it holds has been the focus of several recent newspaper articles, and they are indeed gripping stories. In November 2015, for example, an international team

of experts, along with Colombian archaeologists and military personnel, discovered the remains of the San José. This Spanish ship had been sunk off the Colombian coast, with its 600 crew members and passengers, by the British Navy in 1708. It was known to have been carrying the jewel collection of the Governor of Peru, consisting of 115 emeralds, 2 tons of platinum, and gold and silver bullion, valued at over a billion euros. Once recovered, the treasure is expected to be exhibited, along with other items from the ship, in a to-be-constructed museum.

If you've been to Pearl Harbor on Oahu, Hawaii, you have undoubtedly taken a boat into the harbor that halts just above the USS Arizona, a battleship that was sunk, with all its crew aboard, during the Japanese attack on December 7, 1941. This ship and those sunk in other seas and oceans as a consequence of war are considered by the crew members' families and by their governments as permanent resting places that should not be disturbed or desecrated.

The shock was therefore great for 81-year-old Theo Doorman, who traveled to Indonesia last November to visit the site where MS De Ruyter, captained by his father, was bur-



ied along with its crew. The occasion was the 75th anniversary of the Battle of the Java Sea. A plaque was to be attached to the wrecked ship in memory of those who had died on it, and a documentary was to be made. But when the divers went down to attach the plaque, they were shocked that there was no ship to be found—all that was left was the imprint of the ship. Further investigations have shown that the same fate

has befallen several of the other 14 Dutch, American, British and Australian wrecks. It is not known who has removed the wrecks, but it is suspected that it could not be done without the Indonesian government being aware of the activity. Needless to say, the matter will be discussed at the highest levels.

New Information Source

Cooperation between archivists in New York City and Amsterdam will soon make it possible to bring together information that is now in archives in only one city or the other—and to have it in English—via www.archives.nyc/newamsterdamstories. The names of many of the early Dutch colonists are to be found in archives on both sides of the ocean. Before they embarked on their overseas adventure, the colonists would draw up their wills in Amsterdam. While in New Amsterdam, any information involving court cases or financial transactions would be drawn up in the New World. Now it will be possible to easily obtain information from both sides and see it as a whole. The *New Amsterdam Stories* project seeks to bring archival collections to wider audiences and to establish opportunities for greater research, knowledge sharing and storytelling. This unique shared cultural heritage partnership is made possible by grants from Dutch Culture, Dutch Culture USA, and the Dutch National Archives, as well as support from the New Netherland Institute.



Intense Grief – Intense Pride – Intense Appreciation

by Georgia Regnault

If I were to describe the fall of 2016, it was filled with intense pride when I received a *lintje* (Royal ribbon) on October 9, and intense grief when Peter, my husband of 49 years, passed away on November 26 of a devastating illness called Multiple System Atrophy.

For both events, the AWC played an immense role and I shall forever be grateful. The outpouring of love, help, support (and food) once again showed how wonderful and caring the Members of our AWC of The Hague are. Ever since Peter was diagnosed in January 2013, AWC Members have stood by me and provided friendship and support. Since receiving the *lintje*, I was informed that Peter actually tried to be an “instigator” in 2004, but back then a non-Dutch person was ineligible for knighthood. I am so appreciative that it was once again Club Members who persevered in speeding up the process so that Peter, as well as our two sons from America, were able to attend the presentation in October.



Way back in the 1980s when I was AWC President, Peter was asked to write an article for this magazine. Here are some of his words from April 1984:

View from the Sideline

If either of the two halves has a specific responsibility, whether it be business or social, the other half should not only be proud of that activity, but graciously give support whenever possible. The role of Prince Consort (which Peter jokingly called himself) that one should play when one's wife has a chairing function or the role of Charming Princess if one's husband has the gavel in hand can be a fun one if one basically supports the other's activities.

What are some of the do's and don'ts of the—in this case Dutch—husband of the President of the AWC:

- *Not get upset when callers don't give their name on the telephone, asking only, “Is Georgia home?”*
- *When out shopping together, not be surprised when your wife greets or is greeted by all sorts of people you have never met and you can feel yourself being “checked out.”*
- *Give gentle support when another article has to be written for the magazine and that foreboding deadline is oh, so near.*
- *Activities of the AWC are worth being supported by each husband and as far as the Regnault Family is concerned, all five of us can say it has been a most interesting and rewarding experience.*

I dare say he and our children would still feel this same way today. Thank you to each and every one of you and I hope you will remember my Peter as in this photo with me and our daughter Lara.

CARLTON
AMBASSADOR
THE HAGUE

ENJOY LIFE
WITH GREAT FOOD &
LOVELY PEOPLE

CARLTON AMBASSADOR
SOPHIALAAN 2 | 2594 JP DEN HAAG
CARLTON.NL/AMBASSADOR

AWC and the Arts

by Jane Choy

Visit to Palace Het Loo and Anna Pavlovna Exhibit

Paleis Het Loo (www.paleishetloo.nl) in Apeldoorn is presenting *Anna Pavlovna, Colourful Queen*, a major exhibition about one of the most colorful monarchs that the Netherlands has ever had. The exhibition, organized in close collaboration with the Royal Archives, will feature many of her priceless possessions, some never exhibited in public before, including jewelry, table services and furniture.

It has been 200 years since Anna Pavlovna (1795-1865), sister of the Russian Czar Alexander I, married the Prince of Oranje, who would become King Willem II, and moved to the Netherlands. The arrival of the Russian Grand Duchess dressed in quasi-Russian court attire with gold lamé and an abundance of priceless jewels caused quite a stir in this small

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

Protestant country. She brought her own cooks, furniture and even a fully-equipped Russian Orthodox Church complete with priests and cantors. Dutch streets, squares and even a whole village have been named after this colorful Romanov.

Guided tours are not available for this exhibit, but that isn't a problem with the excellent documentation in English that this museum always provides. We can meet at Centraal Station (DHCS) in The Hague and then travel together via public transportation to the Paleis or arrange carpooling depending upon the desires of the group. After viewing the exhibit, we can (at your own expense) have lunch or experience the ultimate treat: a royal high tea in the Koningin Wilhelminazaal, one of the finest rooms in the palace. After lunch, we can wander through the palace itself and, depending upon the weather, visit the gardens. Further details will be available on GroupSpaces.

Tuesday, January 24

Palace + Exhibit Entrance Fee (€ 19 or € 3 with Museumkaart)

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1093945

Guided Tour of Hubert de Givenchy: To Audrey with Love

Givenchy's clothes are the only ones I feel myself in. He is more than a designer, he is a creator of personality. ~ Audrey Hepburn

French couturier Hubert de Givenchy is regarded as one of the leading fashion designers of the 20th century. Although he retired from fashion design in 1995, the Gemeentemuseum has created this prestigious exhibition hand-in-hand with Givenchy himself. This exhibit will give a unique



insight into Givenchy's career. The designer has personally selected many of his favorite creations, some of which have never previously been on display in public. Part of the exhibition will focus specifically on the unique friendship and professional collaboration between Givenchy and actress Audrey Hepburn. Their creative partnership began in 1953 and endured for the remainder of Hepburn's life. Hepburn wore Givenchy's creations in some of her most renowned films, such as *How to Steal a Million* and *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. In addition to wonderful designs by Givenchy, some of which were worn by Hepburn, the exhibition will include design sketches, drawings, photographs and film stills.

Hepburn was not just a pretty face; her heart was in the right place, too. That's why the Gemeentemuseum also worked with the Dutch branch of UNICEF on this fashion exhibition. The aim was to give a well-rounded picture of the legendary actress. Not only was she Givenchy's muse, but she was a woman who remains, even 23 years after her death, both a style icon and an inspiration to many people. From 1988 – 1992, she served as a Goodwill Ambassador for UNICEF, the organization that works to improve the lives of children worldwide. A complete gallery will

be devoted to Hepburn's humanitarian work; the museum will raise funds for UNICEF by donating a proportion of the profits from merchandise sold during the exhibition.

If you don't have a *Museumkaart*, save time by buying your entrance ticket online in advance at www.gemeentemuseum.nl. Lunch (at own expense) will follow in the museum's café for those interested.

Friday, February 3

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Gemeente Museum

Stadhouderslaan 41, Den Haag

€ 10 Members (€ 15 nonmember) PLUS

Museum Entrance Fee (€ 13.50 or free with Museumkaart)

Minimum 12 / Maximum 20

Cancellation deadline: January 19

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1090046

Work in Progress

As we go to press, I am also working on organizing a guided tour of the newly opened Museum Voorlinden in Wassenaar hopefully in March as the grounds start to defrost.



FAWCO Corner

by Karla Kahn and Julie Mowat



Mumbai 2017 FAWCO Conference



Everyone may attend!

March 30 to April 2

Registration deadline: February 15

FAWCO hotel rate can be secured when booked by January 15

Look on the FAWCO website for registration information and special pre-conference and post-conference tour info: www.fawco.org/home/conferences/mumbai-2017

Suitcase Update



Thank you so much for your generous donations. We were able to drop off 48 suitcases and anticipate delivering a few more by the end of the Rutgers' 16 days Against Gender-Based Violence. The suitcases were very much appreciated!

Focus on Education

FAWCO is busy reviewing the Target Program applications with the emphasis on

education. The UN is working hard on the educational needs of the refugees. You can read more about the UN's efforts: www.unhcr.org/57d9d01d0.

There is a lot of information available on FAWCO's website about education grants: www.fawcofoundation.org/our-programs/education-awards-2017.html. Don't forget that you, your kids, or grandkids may be eligible. Applications are due January 27.

Repatriating?

FAUSA is the FAWCO organization for anyone repatriating to North America. They have a virtual network that has an annual meeting as well as local metro events. This year, they met in Scottsdale, Arizona and had a fabulous time. They selected their FAUSA Philanthropic Grant winner: 4Girls (www.inspiration4girls.org) which exists to inspire and empower middle school girls. They also voted in sweeping bylaws and articles of incorporation changes which will allow them to move forward in their quest to become registered as a tax deductible 501(c)(3) organization. The small group raised over \$6,000 at the Getaway Gala Fundraising Dinner. A membership to FAUSA is a great gift for a repatriating friend!



Our Regional 4 Meeting

AWC Antwerp has kindly offered to host next year's Regional Meeting and are already gearing up for the big event. The plan is to hold it the last weekend of September, so mark your calendar for Friday, September 29 to Sunday, October 1. You don't have to be a FAWCO Rep to attend. This meeting is open to any AWC Member. More info to follow.

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



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute and Dinner

by Roberta Enschede

Sunday, January 29 at 5:30 p.m.
Hotel Den Haag – Wassenaar
Zijdweg 54, Wassenaar (off the A-44 at the bridge)
Dinner € 30 (Children under 12 € 15)
Reservations: oarinnl@yahoo.com

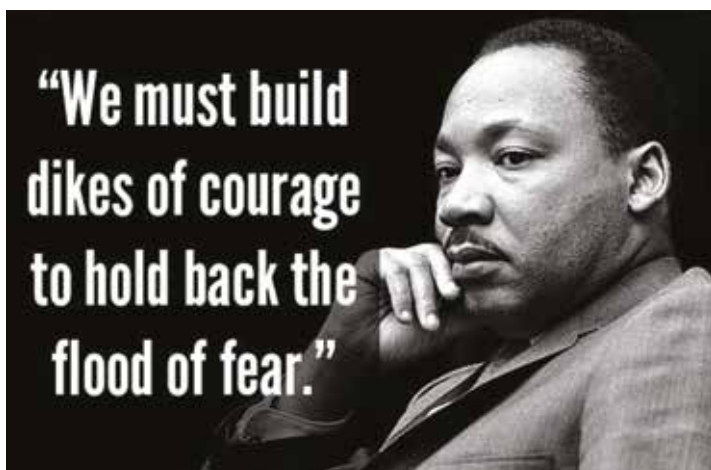
When one thinks about the Civil Rights Movement, there are no words. A people who were enslaved and freed and then forced to live in segregation or de facto segregation said we can be free, we must be free, but the force we use will be “Soul Force.” Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. led that movement and the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

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

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

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

Over the years many people who were part of the Civil Rights Movement have joined us. This year, once more, Reverend Harcourt Klinefelter and Lois Mothershed Pot will share their thoughts and memories. Reverend Klinefelter worked for Dr. King for three years, until his death. After he finished his studies at Yale Theological Seminary, he went down South to



find Dr. King and became his Public Relations Director. He used to sit in the kitchen with Dr. King and his wife Coretta.

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

We hope you will take the time to bring your children to this Tribute to Dr. King. Priscilla Nokoe and a chorale group from the American School of The Hague will sing. There will be music of the Movement: *Let Us Break Bread Together*, *Oh Freedom* and other songs that inspired Dr. King. Jimmy Yarnell, Steve Galloway and another Chicago trombonist will play jazz; Steve played with the Count Basie Orchestra and in the Operation Breadbasket Orchestra, which performed benefits for Dr. King in Chicago in the 1960s. As always, young people, the “Bearers of the Torch,” will speak. Finally, Shawn Crowley, the Chargé d’Affaires of the American Embassy in The Hague, will read President Obama’s final Proclamation for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and share his own thoughts and feelings.

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

Black Lives Matter

Statistics documenting the deaths of young black men and boys remain disproportionate. Furthermore, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and resentment and exclusion of those perceived to be different is on the rise. This year, as we know, thousands of people are asking: How did we come to this? According to a CNN poll, roughly half of all Americans—49%—say racism is a “big problem” in society. Five years ago, only slightly more than a quarter of Americans described racism that way. Racism is higher now than anytime in recent years. Given such facts, some even question why we have a holiday for Dr. King. They say “nothing has changed.” Certainly things have changed, but if there was ever a time we needed this holiday, it is now. The greatest crime of all is the silence of good people.

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

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

Guest speaker to be announced. Look for additional details in eNews.

Sponsored by:

OAR ~ Overseas Americans Remember

Anneke Beeuwkes, Roberta Enschede, Michele Fiszbajn, Tove McGrew and Jessie Rodell

Further information: Roberta Enschede 070 511 8409 or

robertaenschede@yahoo.com

Announcements

DFAS Art Lecture



Helene Kroller-Müller and the breakthrough of Modern Art

Biographer Eva Rovers reveals the forces that allowed Helene Kroller-Müller to succeed in opening one of the first museums of modern art in Europe, despite personal tragedy and a dwindling personal fortune. In 1911, her survival of a dangerous operation prompted Helene to devote the rest of her life to establishing a “monument to culture” in the form of a museum of modern art. The core of her collection consisted of the work of then-unknown painter Vincent van Gogh, whom she recognized as a visionary who would

>>

AWC Friendraiser Happy Hour

by Mary Ann Nation-Greenwall

What is a Friendraiser?

Friendraisers, also called non-ask events or cultivation events, are a great opportunity for the AWC to meet new prospective donors and sponsors in a comfortable and focused setting.

We need your help to identify potential donors and sponsors, thus helping us to expand our contact list of new friends. The AWC Friendraiser will allow beneficiaries, organizations, businesses and AWC friends to connect and continue their partnership. We invite and encourage AWC Members to invite friends and others to join our mission of raising awareness about our beneficiaries and future participation in upcoming events, such as the AWC Gala scheduled for May 13. We are also seeking volunteers to help at the registration table, work the room, make follow-up calls and assist us in organizing this event. If you're interested in helping, please contact me at awcgalainfo@gmail.com.

**Tuesday, February 21
5:30 – 8 p.m.**

AWC Clubhouse

RSVP deadline: February 11

The American Women's Club of The Hague

FRIENDRAISER HAPPY HOUR

Tuesday, 21st February 2017
17:30 - 20:00

Johan van Oldenbarneveltlaan 43
2582 NJ The Hague

This free event allows beneficiaries, organizations, businesses and AWC friends to connect and continue their partnership. We invite and encourage you to invite friends and others to join our mission of raising awareness about our beneficiaries and future participation in upcoming events.

Please RSVP by Friday, 11th February
awcgalainfo@gmail.com (0)70 350 6007

>>

change the course of history. Non-DFAS member fee is € 12. www.dfas.nl

Tuesday, January 10

Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Lecture begins at 8 p.m.

Cultural Centrum Warenar

Kerkstraat 75, Wassenaar

International Literature Festival

Writers Unlimited, an annual international literature festival connecting over 80 authors, poets and musicians from all over the world with each other and with audiences, will take place on January 19 – 22 in The Hague. The

theme of the 22nd edition is “Is This the Real Life?” about what exists but remains hidden, and about that what isn't there but is shown to us. There are programs in English as well as Dutch. For more information, go to www.writersunlimited.nl.



Rotterdam International Film Festival

The 46th edition of the International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) takes place from January 25 – February 5. One of the largest audience and industry-driven film festivals in the world, IFFR offers a line-up of carefully selected fiction and documentary feature films, short films and media art from 60 countries. www.iffir.com

Burns' Night Supper

The St. Andrew's Society extends an invitation to the AWC to attend their annual ceilidh (Scottish country dancing) and dinner in honor of Robert Burns, Scotland's most famous poet. Dinner will include haggis (dispatched with a swirling sword), neeps (turnips) and tatties (mashed potatoes); please note if you'd prefer vegetarian haggis when booking your tickets for € 40 with Marion at maria.janine@ziggo.nl. No dancing experience is necessary as you will be encouraged to join in with step-by-step instructions by a



caller--the dance teacher who walks everyone through each dance. www.standrews.nl

Friday, January 27

Door open at 6:30 p.m.

Prompt start at 7 p.m.

BSN Leidschenveen

Vrouw Avenweg 640, Den Haag

Chinese New Year Festival

There is a lot to see at the official opening of the annual Chinese New Year Festival to celebrate the Year of the Rooster on Saturday, January 28. In and around The

>> 46

Welcome to St James Voorschoten!

We are a vibrant international English-speaking Anglican church serving the Leiden area, offering a spiritual home to people of all ages and from all over the world.

Our main Sunday service is usually held at 10.30am at the BSN Senior School in Voorschoten - check the website for up-to-date information.

St James Voorschoten

Contact:
Rev'd Ruan Crew (Chaplain)
ruan@stjames.nl
071-561 3020
www.stjames.nl
www.facebook.com/stjames.nl

Announcements (cont.)

Continued from page 45

Hague Stadhuis (City Hall), the national celebration is organized with Chinese dragons and lions dancing, fireworks on the Spui and performances by Chinese and Dutch artists in the Stadhuis. There will also be an Asian market in the Stadhuis starting at 11 a.m. For the full schedule, go to www.chineesnieuwjaar-denhaag.nl.

Grab Your Skates

Winter is here and in addition to the chance of skating on natural ice, there are several outdoor rinks that have been set up around The Hague. The seaside resort of Scheveningen offers ice skating in front of the Kurhaus through January 15 (www.cooleventscheveningen.com). Although Leidsenhage, the large shopping center with free parking in Leidschendam, is largely under construction, its large rink is once again open daily until 10 p.m. through early March. This rink is occasionally closed for private parties, so be sure to check the calendar before heading there so the kids won't be disappointed (www.iceparadise.nl).

Feel at Home in The Hague Fair



The Feel at Home in The Hague Community Fair is celebrating its 10th anniversary. Whether you are new to The Hague and its surrounding area or have lived here for a while, you shouldn't miss the biggest international community event in the region. There will be an International Food Court and more than 150 exhibitors providing information on every

aspect of life in and around The Hague as well as shows and displays from local attractions, schools, theater groups, musicians and sports teams celebrating everything The Hague region has to offer. Be sure to stop by the AWC table. Free tickets are offered online in advance: www.feelathomeinthehague.com/registration

Sunday, February 5

11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Den Haag Stadhuis

Spui 70, Den Haag

www.feelathomeinthehague.com

Art Fair in Rotterdam

The 18th edition of Art Rotterdam, an international art fair for contemporary modern art, takes place from February 9 – 12 in the Van Nelle Factory. This factory produced tobacco, coffee and tea from 1930 to 1995. It is an iconic example of the Modern Movement in the Netherlands and has been nominated for inclusion on the UNESCO World Heritage List. This is an excellent opportunity to visit this unique site in addition to browsing around an art fair known for discovering up-and-coming talent. Discounted tickets are available online: www.artrotterdam.com.



44th ABN AMRO World Tennis Tournament

Over 100,000 spectators are expected at this annual indoor tennis tournament from February 13 – 19 at the Ahoy Rotterdam. The event offers men's singles, men's doubles and the World Wheelchair Tennis Tournament.

Ladies' Day will be on Tuesday, February 14 featuring tennis of the very highest standards. Tickets for Kids' Day on Wednesday, February 15 can only be purchased through the Ahoy Box Office. For more information, go to: www.abnamrowtt.com.

DFAS Art Lecture

Gold of the Gods and the Search for El Dorado

Gold in South America had a spiritual importance with its brilliance evoking the Sun—the golden disk that nourished the Earth. In Peru and Colombia, goldsmiths made some of the most spectacular treasures of the ancient world. Cast and hammered, gold was transformed into sacred offerings for tombs and temples. Europeans, by contrast, saw gold as a commodity—the ultimate symbol of wealth. For hundreds of years, treasure hunters and historians alike have searched for El Dorado, the lost city of gold. Although many golden treasures were melted down for bullion, magnificent works of art remain preserved in the museums of Peru and Colombia. Lecturer Chloe Sayer BA is a freelance specialist in Latin American art and culture. Non-DFAS member fee is € 12. www.dfas.nl

Tuesday, February 14

Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Lecture begins at 8 p.m.

Cultural Centrum Warenar

Kerkstraat 75, Wassenaar



Blues Festival Delft

Delft is home to the Netherlands' biggest indoor blues event on February 17 – 19. More than 70 Dutch and foreign bands perform at more than 30 cafés and restaurants throughout the city during this free festival. If you love Chicago and Texas blues, blues

rock and acoustic Delta blues, you'll feel right at home. To see the program, visit: www.delftblues.nl.

Pickleball

Weekly pickleball games will continue in the New Year at the courts at Sporthal Houtrus. AWC Member **Krishna Thakrar** encourages other Members to join her for a few games to try this fast-growing and fun sport. The fee is € 6.50 per session, but first timers are free. Paddles and balls are provided. Contact: Krishna at kthakrar2000@yahoo.com

Fridays

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Laan van Poot 22, Den Haag

Harry Potter: The Exhibition

Here is your chance to step inside the famous wizard's world. Since its world premiere in Chicago in April 2009, the exhibition has received more than four million visitors. This international travelling exhibit will make its next stop in Utrecht from February 11 – June 30. Visitors will be able to enjoy dramatic displays inspired by the *Harry Potter* film sets and see the amazing craftsmanship behind authentic costumes, props and creatures from the films. The exhibition features settings from the films' most popular locations, including the Gryffindor common room and dormitory,



classrooms like Potions and Herbology, and the Forbidden Forest. There are also several interactive elements: guests can toss a quaffle ball inside the Quidditch area, pull their own mandrake in the Herbology classroom, and sit in Hagrid's giant-sized armchair in a recreation of his hut. www.harrypotterexpo.nl





Adventures in South Africa

by **Becky Failor**

When we lived in California, traveling to South Africa had many hurdles, the first of which was apartheid. I remember being so proud when, during the apartheid period, all California state retirement funds were withdrawn from investments in any South African business or associated businesses. The second hurdle was the distance of over 10,000 miles. Even with a direct flight, we would arrive jet lagged, which did not appeal.

It has now been almost 30 years since the end of legalized apartheid. From Schiphol it

is still a long flight but one nice thing is there is no time change, which also means no jet lag. So while we live here, we are including South Africa in our travel plans.

Planning our first trip to South Africa, we started making the classic mistake of thinking we could see everything in one trip. This is a big country with so much to see that we decided we would make two separate trips. On our first trip, we visited Johannesburg, Kruger National Park, Botswana's Okavango Delta and Victoria Falls. On our trip in November 2016, we enjoyed the southern coastal area. We really appreciated the itinerary that the American Travel Center (ATC) designed for us; they are loyal supporters of the AWC, advertisers in *Going Dutch*, and great travel agents. Their knowledge of this part of South Africa took us to some great spots with fabulous rates on lodging. I knew they were able to provide excellent service for this area in particular after AWC Member **Jo van Kalveen** described the trip ATC planned for her family; she was especially pleased how they factored in the needs and interests of her two young sons.



Cape Town is one of those great cities of the world whose splendor is thanks in part to the beauty of the location. With Table Mountain dominating the landscape and blue waters and white sand beaches along the Atlantic Ocean, we found Cape Town just lovely.

While in Cape Town, we did a few excursions. Conditions on Table Mountain can change quickly so it was important to take advantage of clear skies to go to the top via the cable car. The cloud cover is called "the tablecloth." Our first day was crystal clear and we enjoyed viewing Cape Town from this perfect perch. While we were up on the Table Top, the moist warm air from the Indian Ocean brought mist and views would come and go.

We are longtime admirers of Nelson Mandela, so a trip to Robben Island where



Mandela spent 22 of his 27 years as a political prisoner was a must. An enjoyable boat ride, with views of breaching right whales, brought us to the long, low island. Looking away from the island gives magnificent views of Cape Town and Table Mountain, but looking around Robben Island gives a desolate feel. It has been a place of pain and heartache for centuries, beginning in the 1600s when

>> 52



Thinking of your next holiday?
Why struggle on the Internet when we
can do it for you? You get your dream
customized holiday without the hassle,
for a competitive price. We are your
one-stop service to the world!

Your one-stop service to the world!

American Travel Center

Travel4U@americantravelcenter.net / tel. +32 61 234901 / www.americantravelcenter.nl

Adventures in South Africa (cont.)

Continued from page 51



the Dutch imprisoned one of the indigenous chiefs who protested the taking of land from his people—sounds familiar to how early white settlers treated the Native Americans. Tours are given by former political prisoners; in the 20th century, only men were imprisoned on Robben Island. Our guide was known as a “terrorist” and admitted planting bombs to disrupt the apartheid government actions. Today, he is viewed as a “freedom fighter,” which really made me think. A former prison warden, Christo Brand, who was one of Mandela’s guards, now works at the island’s gift and snack shop; he wrote the book *My Prisoner, My Friend*, which I can recommend. Knowing all that Mandela and others endured here makes the “Truth and Reconciliation” approach to governing in post-apartheid times even more commend-



able. As you depart the island, you walk along the same path that Mandela took when he was moved from the island. It is known as the *Long Walk to Freedom*, after the title of Mandela’s autobiography.

One day we took a trip to the Cape of Good Hope peninsula. While not the southernmost tip of Africa, it is close to it and is very beautiful. We were delighted to see the cute African Penguins that frolic in the warmer waters on the Indian Ocean side of the Cape peninsula.

It is relatively inexpensive to live the good life in Cape Town. So walks along the coastal promenade were almost required to work off the good food, beer and wine. Art objects are scattered along the way, including an image based on a time when Mandela stood at the coast looking out at Robben Island and took off his sunglasses to wipe the tears from his eyes.

In South Africa they drive on the left side of the road, like in the UK. Hugh is great driving this way, so we rented a car to explore further afield. The paved roads are in very good shape and the signage is quite good. We were aware that there are safety issues in this country, so we were vigilant; luckily, just like our previous visit, we had no problems.

Our next destination was the wine country. First, we stopped at the winery for our chosen house wine—Kleine Zalze—that we buy in Holland at Sligro. We then drove to our lovely villa in the charming town of Franschhoek. What a beautiful area! For our next day of winetasting, we used the Wine Tram that combines buses and an old tram to visit eight wineries for tasting, food and



scenic views. We looked at real estate prices as this is one more place in the world that we could see ourselves settling.

Soon we were off for more exploring. The N2 Highway is called the Garden Route as it winds along the southern coast. Grand coastal and forest vistas delight the eye. It would be easy to spend two weeks just in this area. At a stop for lunch at Plettenberg Bay, we were entertained by dolphins playing in the surf. ATC booked us a fabulous place not far from Knysna with a walkway from our room right down to the beach. Again, another place we wanted to stay for a few days and chill.



Our previous two trips to sub-Saharan Africa were focused on safaris. This time we had a few nights at three different private game reserves, which is a slightly different approach to game viewing than being at the Serengeti or Kruger National Parks. I can bore any of you who are interested with hours of animal pictures: lions, elephants, rhinos, giraffes, kudu, oryx, zebras, cape buffalo, tortoise, impala ... Since *Going Dutch* is not *National Geographic*, I’ve limited myself here.

Staying at these game reserves was by no means roughing it. Our lodging included

>> 54



Adventures in South Africa (cont.)

Continued from page 53



an exquisitely appointed tent suite with a very private outdoor shower, a lovely thatched-roof cottage with our own dunk pool, and a cabin perched on a hillside with a view of the watering hole. One afternoon, a baby nyala (a spiral horned antelope) decided it was warmer to sleep against the wall of our quarters. She stayed there quite a while before mama came by and they both left. The service at each reserve was impeccable. The temperatures were cool, so it was nice returning from din-

ner to find the bed heater turned on. Once we returned from our evening game drive to find candles throughout the suite and the Jacuzzi filled creating quite a romantic mood. The food was always very good. We found ostrich steaks to be one of our favorite meats and would be curious to find where we can buy it in Holland. We loved the stops during the game drive for coffee and cakes in the morning or afternoon *borrel* (cocktails and nibbles). The guides always ensured we were safe and liked to add a bit of excitement by having some game around.

One of the things this trip reminded us is that we need to slow down a bit—we will still get where we are going and may enjoy the journey more. This was brought home by a tortoise we saw outside our tent. He was on the move and we found out he had made it up to the lodge at the top and was headed over to the “day trippers” facility about a kilometer away. Slow and steady made it.



Message from the President (cont.)

Continued from page 8

about someone's travels, and I really love to read travel articles. To mention a recent few: **Celeste Brown** opened my eyes about the beauty of India; **Anne van Oorschot** took me back to Beijing; and Melissa astounded me with her trekking adventure. And who wasn't impressed by **Ellen Bolick's** tales from working at Windsor Castle!

And that brings me back to the table on Thanksgiving and the advice given by some of our more experienced writers to a hesitant writer, “Write something for *Going Dutch*! Your experiences here would be fun to read.” Yes, write something for *Going Dutch*. Melissa appreciates well-written articles on a wide range of topics. She gives articles written by our Members first priority. Keep in mind that if your topic is too controversial or the article is too long, there might be some push back. The knowledge, life experiences, and wit of our Members always delight me. So often one of you gives me a glimpse into your broader life, past, or life struggles, and I often think “I want to hear more about that.” I am sure I am not the only one. So I hope that **Marlo Pettigrew** does send us that article about her short time here in the Netherlands when she moves back to Texas.

Former Member Kristine Racina is the Director of the Expatriate Archive Centre, which collects and preserves life stories of expatriates worldwide for future research. The Centre's collection contains life writings, photos, letters, digital material and more, from the late 19th century to the present day, describing the ups and downs of living abroad. On their website at www.xpatarchive.com/

collection you can see that they collect diaries and journals, letters and emails, articles and essays, audio and video files, photos, scrapbooks, tickets and invitations. They even collect packing lists, certificates, awards, programs, school reports, membership cards and inventory lists, which can help to give a broader picture about living abroad. So even if you do not want to publish your writing, do think about contacting the Expatriate Archive Centre before you throw away your personal notes.

In the near future the AWC Board will be sorting and reorganizing “stuff” at the Clubhouse. We will invite an archivist from the Expatriate Archive Centre to review some of the material prior to disposal. Who knows what gems they may find in our rubble.

If you are so inclined, spend a moment writing. For example, if you have gotten this far in this article, write to me and tell me what you think of my President's Messages, or AWC life, or anything you want. I'd love to read whatever you decide to write.

On that Thanksgiving Day that sparked my thoughts about writing, I was thankful for many things. I am thankful for joys from AWC friends and activities. I am thankful for writers and thank each of you who write to me. I wonder if we should start a writers' group at the AWC? Please let me know if you would be interested.

Best wishes,

Becky

Happy New Year!

The Clubhouse will reopen on Tuesday, January 10

Classifieds

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

Walkie Dog: Dog Walking and Boarding Service

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

Here's Holland

Simply the best guidebook to the good life and living in the Netherlands By expats for expats. 9th edition. Amusingly written with comprehensive information, practical advice, useful contacts, and countless tips for great trips for family and visitors.

Here's Holland will make your stay

From bookshops (ISBN 978-9059721418)

AWC Front Office special price of € 17.50

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.

Support Fellow AWC Members

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

Going Dutch is Available Online

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

Event information, suggestions or comments for eNews?

New email account

Please send all eNews information to awcthehague.eneeds@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.

Index of Advertisers

ACCESS page 32	Bulthaupt Zoetermeer page 13	Frans Burgers Tapijt page 17	Marcel Vermeulen Jewelry page 11
American Travel Center page 51	Carlton Ambassador page 37	FRITSTAXI Airport Service Inside cover	Petros Eyewear page 11
ASPA page 15	Desert Diamonds page 39	Happy Critters page 29	St. James Church page 45
Aveda Lifestyle Salon Inside Cover	Elite Renovations Back Cover	Intraco Inside cover	Wassalon Weissenbruch page 32
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.			
			Your Cleaning Service page 32

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 Lynn at awcthehague.membership@gmail.com.

Rates

Classified Mini-Ads:

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

AWC Member Rates:

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

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

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



**More
Holiday
Bazaar**



Creating a comfortable Home



Design lighting
Outdoor lighting
Electrical engineering
Central heating
24 hours service

Security installation
Intercom installation
Camera installation
Internet
House automation



De Ruyterstraat 10, 2266 KT Leidschendam
Telephone 070-3833869 Email: intraco-nl@xs4all.nl
Website: intraco-nl.nl



FRITSTAXI
AIRPORT SERVICE
WWW.FRITSTAXI.NL

Specialists in Taxi Airport Transfers to Schiphol and Rotterdam Airports

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 a free quote from other cities or for bookings contact us on **+31 (0)622 395536** (07.00 to 22.00)
or email us at **fritstaxi@msn.com** All major credit cards accepted

FOR SHELL PEOPLE WE DRIVE WITH SHELL RULES

WHEN GOOD HAS TO BE PERFECT....

....WE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Renovating your house, a kitchen or bathroom, or restyling your living room are always beautiful dreams. To turn these dreams into reality you need a professional contractor. A contractor who is reliable, has the knowledge, can provide good advice and can make these dreams come true.

In the building industry this can sometimes be hard to find. On top of that most contractors work with sub contractors. This means, for example, with a bathroom installation, that you have to deal with multiple people in your home, which for you, as the client might not always be a pleasant experience.

We will take complete control of the situation and assure you that any work we carry out will run smoothly which will leave you with nothing more than good memories.

If you would like to know what we mean with "When good has to be perfect" and how we would like to achieve this together with you, please feel free to contact us. We would gladly be of service with professional advice and create an obligation free quotation, in clear language, without any snags.



Elite Renovations B.V.

**ALMOST 30 YEARS
EXPERIENCE**

Graafdijk West 25
2973 XD Molenaarsgraaf
Mobiel +31(0)6 83 40 00 69
info@eliterenovations.nl



www.eliterenovations.nl