Going Dutch
2017
Jan-Feb

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American Women’s Club of The Hague
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
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.
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 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.

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 thankful for how they enrich my life. In November 2016 issue of Going Dutch she would hold the letter or card in her hands after they were read to her. You felt she 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

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

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
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 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.

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!
**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:

![Brother of the More Famous Jack](image)

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:

![Stoner](image)

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 reintroduce 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.

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**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.
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

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

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.

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 Down of Genomic Medicine by Mark Johnson and Kathleen Gallagher

Wednesday, June 14: Eligible by Curtis Sittenfeld

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.

Wednesday, March 15
7:30 p.m.
AWC Clubhouse
FREE

Wednesday, April 12
7:30 p.m.
AWC Clubhouse
FREE

Wednesday, May 17
7:30 p.m.
AWC Clubhouse
FREE

Wednesday, June 14
7:30 p.m.
AWC Clubhouse
FREE

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 Deguise 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

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Ongoing Activities (cont.)

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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 friends while contributing to a worthy cause.

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.

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/AWCThe Hague/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/AWCThe Hague/item/1092361

In February, we will go to Ruiseñor (www.ruisenorrrestaurant.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/AWCThe Hague/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. Making 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

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065.156.0982 fransburgers@ziggo.nl meubelreiniging-fransburgers.nl
Ongoing Activities (cont.)

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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.

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.

Tuesdays
(except specific holidays TBD)
1 – 3 p.m.
Dekker Tennis Courts
Veerpolder 14, Warmond
€ 275 Members (€ 325 nonmembers)

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

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

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 sculptures 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
Hartvelstraat 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/1092594

Dutch Products Class
AWC Member and long-term resident of the Netherlands, Carol Sloatweg, will explain 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 Porcelain Flies 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.
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 grant 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 to 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
Binnhuisstraat 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 dinners (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 appetizer, 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
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 (w)omanned 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 Martechini 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 Prujs
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
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, € 135 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.

Our proposed itinerary:
Day 1–Travel Day: Lunch and dinner at stops along the way.
Day 2–Boleslawiec: 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–Boleslawiec: 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.

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 Boleslawiec, which is known as Mieasto Ceramiki or Town of Ceramics. Boleslawiec is in southwestern Poland and just 25 miles (40 kilometers) from the German border. There are more than 40 Polish pottery factories in Boleslawiec, 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.
### January 2017

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<td><strong>Happy New Year!</strong></td>
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**Clubhouse Closed December 17 to January 9**

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<td></td>
<td>Wassenaar Coffee and Chat 9 a.m.</td>
<td>AWC Board Meeting 10:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Chat, Crafts’n Cake 10 a.m.</td>
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<td>Spring Kick-Off Daytime 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.</td>
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<td>Ladies’ Night at the Movies 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Heart Pillow Workshop Noon</td>
<td>Evening 6 - 8 p.m.</td>
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<td>Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Chat, Crafts’n Cake 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Pilates 10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Picasso Ceramics Exhibit at Beelden aan Zee 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Out to Lunch Bunch 12:15 p.m.</td>
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<td>Ladies’ Night at the Movies 7 p.m.</td>
<td>AWC Tennis 1 p.m.</td>
<td>Evening Book Club 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Anna Pavlona at Het Loo Palace TBD</td>
<td>Dutch Products 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Daytime Book Club 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Mosaics Class 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>8th Annual Chili Cook-Off 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ladies’ Night at the Movies 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Chat, Crafts’n Cake 10 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Luther King Jr. Tribute and Dinner 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Chat, Crafts’n Cake 10 a.m.</td>
<td>AWC Tennis 1 p.m.</td>
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### February 2017

**Can’t Wait for Spring!**

Apr 1: Dinner on the Hoftramm Apr 3 - 6: Polish Pottery and Spa Tour to Poland May 13: AWC Red, White & Blue Gala

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<td>Pilates 10:15 a.m.</td>
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<td>Wassenaar Coffee and Conversation 9 a.m.</td>
<td>AWC Board Meeting 10:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Guided Tour of Hubert de Givenchy: To Audrey With Love’ 11 a.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Feel at Home in The Hague Fair 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Chat, Crafts’n Cake 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Pilates 10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Coffee 10 a.m.</td>
<td>General Meeting 10:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Ladies’ Night at the Movies 7 p.m.</td>
<td>AWC Tennis 1 p.m.</td>
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<td>Women in Need TLC Dinner 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Chat, Crafts’n Cake 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Pilates 10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Mosaics Class 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>A Maze Escape Room Activity 7:45 p.m.</td>
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<td>Ladies’ Night at the Movies 7 p.m.</td>
<td>AWC Tennis 1 p.m.</td>
<td>Out to Lunch Bunch 12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Daytime Book Club 10 a.m.</td>
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<td>Dinner Club 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Chat, Crafts’n Cake 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Pilates 10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Daytime Book Club 10 a.m.</td>
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<td>AWC Tennis 1 p.m.</td>
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**Spring Kick-Off**

**Spring Kick-Off Daytime**

6 - 8 p.m.

**Spring Kick-Off Evening**

6 - 8 p.m.

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**Overnight Spa Trip to Limburg**

Clubhouse Closed December 17 to January 9

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**Can’t Wait for Spring!**

Apr 1: Dinner on the Hoftramm
Apr 3 - 6: Polish Pottery and Spa Tour to Poland
May 13: AWC Red, White & Blue Gala

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Happy New Year!
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 toiletries 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, nevertheless, 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 awcethehague.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, 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).

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 Sun 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 buried 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.
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.
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 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 Wilhelminzaal, 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.

RSVP for all Arts Activities directly on AWC GroupSpaces.com.
Direct any questions to jechoy@me.com

AWC and the Arts
by Jane Choy
**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.
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 ideological. 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 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.iffr.com

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 Hague, there is a lot to see and do during the festival. The official opening will take place on Saturday, January 28, at 10:00 a.m. at the Chinese Cultural Centre. Afterwards, there will be a parade through the streets of The Hague, ending at the Chinese Cultural Centre. The festival will continue all day with various activities for children and adults.

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

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

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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.chinesenieuwjaar-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 Leidsenaghe, 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.

Blues Festival Delft
Delft is home to the Netherland’s 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, 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

46 GOING DUTCH JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2017
Kids at the Holiday Bazaar
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 call “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...
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 commendable. 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 Franschoek. 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...
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 dinner to find the bed heater turned on. Once we returned from our evening game drive to find candelles 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 horrel (cocksails 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 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

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

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 Guilde at iaminholland@yahoo.com.

GOING DUTCH is Available Online
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<th>Per Issue</th>
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<th>For 25 Additional Words</th>
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Non-Member Rates:

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

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

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