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Going Dutch March 2017



Our AWC ladies were all smiles as they headed to the Cologne Christmas markets with sister club AWC Amsterdam



Celeste Brown opened up her home to the Women with Dutch Partners for another great holiday party



See just a sample of how many activities the AWC hosted in the fall

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

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AWC Clubhouse

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Going Dutch Magazine goingdutchmag@gmail.com

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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.











Cologne Christmas Markets











Message from the President

by Becky Failor

"Change is hard in the beginning, messy in the middle, and gorgeous in the end" is a quote I like by Robin Sharma. I am sure that most Members of the AWC have change quotes that they like, because in moving from wherever we started to living here has meant change. For some of us it has been a short time, almost like a long vacation, when we are trying to both adjust and absorb all the experiences we can. For others, the time has been longer and with "going back" always in the future. For many of our Members everything changed when they decided that the Netherlands is their permanent home. No matter where you are in your Netherlands experience, I hope you will find that it is "gorgeous in the end."

Change is easier for me when I focus not on what I am giving up, but rather focus on what I have to gain. Life in the Netherlands brings so many opportunities and new experiences that it is easy to feel that I have truly gained a great deal. The AWC helped me gain so much from our life here in The Hague. It helped me with all the change required by retiring and moving here. From Carol Slootweg's Dutch Products Class, to Jane Choy's art history lectures and museum tours (see page 31 to learn about two tours this month), to activities that helped me explore this beautiful area where we live.

Now the AWC is changing. I am grateful to **Suzanne MacNeil** for agreeing to chair the Nominating Committee who will bring us a slate of new officers. The committee mem-

bers include: Celeste
Brown, Mallery
Clarke, Marsha
Hagney, Julie
Mowat, Mary
Ann NationGreenwall,
Shirley Newlin,
Holly Savoie,
Chelsea Wald
and Melissa White.

This great team of ladies will bring us a slate of officers for our elections on April 13 that will lead the changes in our Club for the future. Please give them your support, including a YES if they ask you to serve.



Frankly, the AWC is always changing. Some changes are big. For example, selling the old Clubhouse and moving to our current location, and giving greater rights to our Associate Members, such as the ability to vote and serve on the Board. Some changes are not seen by most Members, but are important for our future. For example, the Board authorized investing funds for greater returns to bring more income to cover the costs of running the Clubhouse. Other changes, like the new online library check-out system—THANK YOU Holly Savoie—make it easier to take advantage of your Membership benefits (see page 34 to learn more). Additional bonuses to AWC Membership include access to Hanos and a discounted membership at the Crowne Plaza Health Club.

"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened." I had to say that again to myself when Melissa called to tell me that she no longer would be serving as Editor of our acclaimed *Going Dutch* magazine. I have never known *Going Dutch* without Melissa as the Editor and **Teresa Mahoney** as the Design and Layout Manager (thankfully Teresa has volunteered to continue doing the layout for next year). Please read Melissa's "Ramblings from the Editor" on page 10 to learn more about her difficult decision to step down. I can't help but wonder about the changes we will see when **Suzanne MacNeil**, our new Editor, starts working on *Going Dutch*. >>47

March General Meeting

by Suzanne MacNeil

To the Moon and Beyond! A Woman's Place is in the European Space Agency

What does it take to put a woman or man in space? Bérengère Houdou is working to develop European space travel and make it more competitive so more Europeans can explore beyond our home planet. Houdou, who is French, has a Master of Science in Aeronautics and Astronautics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), where she worked in the Man Vehicle Laboratory on training systems for astronauts. She lives in The Hague and her CV boasts that she has worked as a system engineer on many projects for human and robotic space flight at the European Space Agency (ESA).

While at MIT, Houdou used virtual reality as a countermeasure for the disorientation that astronauts experience working in microgravity, and helped design and test 3D training systems for astronauts. As a perk, she took advantage of getting free rides in the lab's centrifuge. Once she became familiar with NASA, Houdou was fortunate to find a spot at ESA that fit her extensive experience and returned to Europe to help grow the continent's role in the field of space.

Houdou joined ESA in 2003 as part of the Human Spaceflight Directorate. As a trainee, she took part in the development of an experiment for a new life support technology for Russia's Foton-M2 capsule. Reflecting on her opportunities at the beginning of her career, "I was very fortunate to participate in such an adventure when I was just 27 and, at that moment, reaching space became a reality to me." Her contributions to human spaceflight include working as a Life Support Engineer during the assembly and verification of the Tranquility module connected to the International Space Station (ISS).

Today Houdou is the head of the Lunar Exploration Office at ESA, and is responsible for developing Europe's lunar landing mis-



sions. She also heads related technological, scientific and mission activities. In a BBC article about the feasibility of establishing a permanent base on the moon, Houdou is quoted as saying, "We have an ambition to have European astronauts on the moon."

Houdou's works with a dedicated team in the Future Exploration Systems Section at ESA. In addition to working with her ESA team, Houdou enjoys mentoring the next generation of space explorers. "I also believe that it is part of my job to attract young men and women to work in aerospace, and more generally in technical and scientific areas. Likewise, the technological challenges for a European moon lander present interesting challenges for young engineers who join our team. I hope to give them the taste to go on working in the space sector, while they keep me on my toes."

Don't miss the March General Meeting when Bérengère Houdou shares her passion for space, science and her work on the lunar project, an especially important discussion as there is a push to open opportunities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) for women.

Thursday, March 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

Teresa Mahoney and Becky Failor and now share with you my decision to step down as Editor of *Going Dutch* after completing my eighth year in this position in May. In fact, tears are now flowing down my face and I suspect this article will take me much longer to write than any previous one.

Perhaps it's best to start with a little background. In May 2008, Teresa and I were recruited by former Member Susanne Bomhard, whom we knew from the AWC Book Club, to assist with the updating of *At Home in Holland*, the 11th edition of the AWC's guide to living in the Netherlands. Although we both came from accounting backgrounds and had

moving back to the US after completing just three issues at the end of 2009, Teresa quickly volunteered to make the switch from editing to designing and laying out the magazine. She was able to apply her years of scrapbooking and computer experience to take over from Meg, and found that not only did she excel at layout, but that she really enjoyed it. We've been an awesome twosome ever since!

Another twist of fate occurred when our printer went out of business in August 2010. Teresa and I were both on vacation at the time, so Leslie took charge of finding a replacement. What a great surprise when she informed us that she'd found a printer that would do the job in full-color while costing

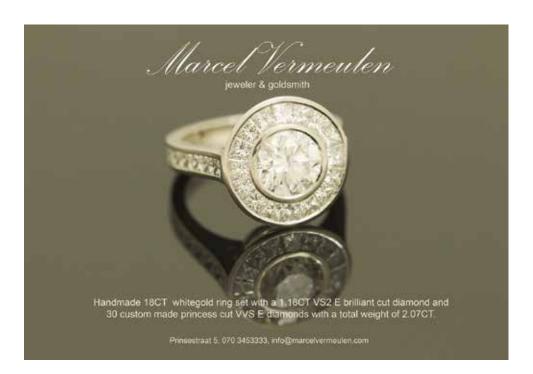
New beginnings are often disguised as painful endings. ~ Lao Tzu

no experience in editing or writing a book, we jumped right in with both feet and made a great team. After the book launch in February 2009, Leslie Collingridge, the Editor of *Going Dutch* who was about to transition to AWC President, asked us to take over as Co-Editors and, without much hesitation, we agreed. In a bit of a fluke of fate, we met former Member Meg Tufano that May at Leslie's Board Installation and impulsively asked her to be our Layout Manager.

Meg became determined to transform the then glorified newsletter into a full-fledge magazine (as many of you may know, my number one pet peeve is hearing someone call our beautiful magazine a "newsletter"). After hearing my husband James mention that the software the AWC was using had become obsolete, she updated our software and introduced cloud-based tools for our team of three to communicate. It was a difficult first few months as we experienced growing pains and personality clashes, but it was exciting too as we saw how our hard work started to pay off. When Meg announced that she'd be

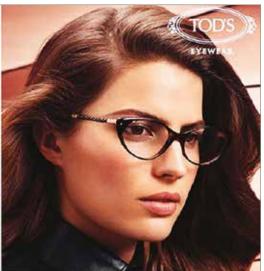
less! Instead of having one cover for the entire year, we were able to change covers for each issue and I recruited James to do artwork with photos either taken by myself or our daughter Veronica. Some of you might have found the items that he occasionally hid in the covers; my daughters' favorite was the bikini top he placed on a man walking along the boardwalk at Scheveningen.

I am very proud of my work as Editor and still love my job, but it's time to step away. I need to concentrate on learning Dutch as we make the transition from expats to locals. In addition, I find that I'm losing my patience more often with those submitting articles, so it's probably time for a mental health break anyway. Other than being a mother for close to 20 years, this is the longest job I've ever had, and the most difficult to leave. Luckily for the AWC. Teresa has agreed to continue doing the excellent job that she does with whomever takes over my position. I do intend to continue writing, and hopefully when Suzanne MacNeil takes over as Editor, she will occasionally publish my musings.



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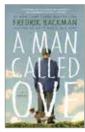
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Ongoing Activities

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 March Daytime Book Club selection is *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman:



A million-copy bestselling phenomenon, this debut novel by a Swedish blogger is described as quirky, bittersweet, heartwarming, heartbreaking and outrageously funny. At first sight, 59-year-old Ove is likely the grumpiest man you'll ever meet. He's

referred to as "the bitter neighbor from hell." Despite the protagonist's cranky exterior, this is an uplifting tale of love and community.

Thursday, March 23 10 a.m. AWC Clubhouse FREE

Recap of the December Discussion

Everybody's Fool: We met for our annual Christmas Luncheon to discuss the December selection. The sequel to *Nobody's Fool*, the

Daytime Book Club Planning Ahead:

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

novel updates us on the lives and fortunes of characters introduced earlier: Sully and Rub, Ruth and Janine, Zack and Rob, among others, and showcases the town's policeman as the main protagonist. Richard Russo's characters are fully developed, and even the minor ones have a detailed life. Relationships are key; the role of luck in an individual's life is examined and the family backgrounds of the major characters are carefully described. Life remains hard scrabble for the citizens of fictional North Bath in upstate New York, and though the town appears to be dying physically, its people are resilient and hopeful. Russo's themes of violence, cruelty and forgiveness appear in this second novel as well as in the first, but he has added new dimensions to his characters as they confront aging and their own mortality, the decisions they made about the way they chose to live their lives, and their regrets over squandered opportunities and a lack of solid achievement. Our group unanimously recommends this novel.



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Ongoing Activities (cont.)

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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 March Evening Book Club selection is *The Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu* by Joshua Hammer:



This inspiring account of the victory of art and literature over extremism was written by an American journalist who visited Timbuktu a number of times over the past 20 years. Joshua Hammer details the incredible true story of Abdel Kader Haidara. a mild-

mannered archivist and historian, who later became one of the world's greatest and most brazen smugglers. In addition to the thrilling account of how librarians worked to save 350,000 ancient Arabic texts from destruction in the hands of Al Qaeda militants, the author explores the city's manuscript heritage.

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

Recap of the December – January Discussions

The Girl on the Train: While everyone found this murder mystery entertaining reading, it is largely predictable, easily forgettable, and covers no new ground in the genre. Nonetheless, those who enjoy a breezy, easy read and like stories with multiple narrators will find this book a good choice for a plane ride or rainy day.

Evening Book Club Planning Ahead:

Wednesday, April 12: Barkskins 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

The Sympathizer: We were impressed by this complex, original novel. The character development is excellent, and the psychological machinations of the protagonist provide much food for thought. It is a war novel, thriller and black satire rolled into one, and defies easy categorization. We recommend it, especially to those who came of age during the height of the Vietnam War.

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 awethehague. crafts@gmail.com

Tuesdays
10 a.m. – Noon
AWC Clubhouse
FREE

Dinner Club

This is a fun way to share an evening with friends while enjoying a great dinner. Thanks to **Celeste and Jaap Brown** for hosting a cocktail party at their home in February. To change >> 16

March Birthdays Georgia Regnault Amber Gatewood 12 Rachel Swick 12 Mary Adams 13 Jan Mills 15 **Marcy Atkins** 17 Shirin Kianmanesh Rad-Hashemi 17 Leisa Weld 17 20 Kathryn Cok Mary Jo Willemsen 20 Hannah Dean 21 Sarah Dunn 24 Jaimie Keppel-Molenaar 26 Pamela Pruiis-Bott 26 Marilyn Tinsay 31



Ongoing Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 15

things up a bit, our next gathering will be at a restaurant. Look for an announcement in eNews or on Facebook for the date and location. Register through GroupSpaces or contact Krishna at kthakrar2000@gmail. com to join in the fun.

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.

Tuesday, March 14 Noon - 2 p.m. AWC Clubhouse FREE Visitors Welcome www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/ item/1073456



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.

Monday, March 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 accomodate a variety of schedules. If you have a favorite restaurant in your neighborhood vou'd like to share with the group, please contact Greetje Engelsman at greetje.engelsman@gmail.com.

Join us on International Women's Day for lunch at Cortenaer Bar & Restaurant (www. cortenger.nl). The restaurant is situated in a new building on a historic spot opposite the Royal Stables. Dutch architect Jan Wils (1891-1972), an admirer of the American architect Frank Lloyd Wright, designed the Olympic Stadium in Amsterdam and furniture for the royal family. In 1931, he designed a revolutionary building in De Stijl (The Style) style for the insurance company OLVEH. That building was demolished in 1969; in its place is a new building of 149 apartments and the restaurant. Join us for lunch, at your own expense. Please RSVP on GroupSpaces or contact Greetje at greetje.engelsman@gmail.com. Next month



we will enjoy Indonesian food on Friday, April 7. Wednesday, March 8 12:15 p.m. Cortenaer Bar & Restaurant Kortenaerkade 1, Den Haag Registration deadline: March 6 www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/ item/1101621

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

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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.

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.

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



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 quest reservations in accordance with this policy.

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.

Thursday, March 2 9 – 11 a.m. FREE







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Tours

by Seanette Meserole

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? 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 and Sue Merrick**.



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

It will be a long bus ride (about seven hours), but this will allow us plenty of time to chat, play games, and get to know each other better, or just take a nap. Plus, we need the bus to help get our heavy purchases home. Come join the shopping fun!

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 will have breakfast at the hotel, and lunch and dinner in town.

Day 3—Bolesławiec: You will have a choice of shopping on your own, attending a workshop tour and two-hour pottery class 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 in town.

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 or 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 13
www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/
item/108377

One-of-a-Kind Activities

by Trena Cormier

RSVP directly on *AWC GroupSpaces.com*. Direct any questions to awcthehaque.activities@qmail.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.

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



Tasting of Romanian Wines

Did you know that Romania has more than 6,000 years of wine making tradition, making it one of the oldest wine countries in the world? Romania is an old world wine country like France, Italy, Spain and Germany. It is the 6th largest among European wine-producing countries and ranks 13th in worldwide wine production.

International grapes varieties as well indigenous grapes grow on the territory and produce high quality wines, well appreciated on the international wine market. Do you feel adventurous and want to experience something new? You are warmly invited to taste and discover high quality Romanian wines at our wine tasting offered by Cristina Andriescu, owner of Roemwijn (www. roemwijn.nl) and WSET Level 3 diploma holder from the Wine & Spirit Education Trust. Roemwijn imports wines directly from the winemakers. We will taste five to six wines, all of which will be available for purchase. Please note that we are not serving dinner, but will have small bites on the table.

Saturday, March 18 5:30 – 7 p.m. AWC Clubhouse

Members: € 10 or € 15 for couples Nonmembers: € 15 or € 20 for couples

Maximum 26

Cancellation deadline: March 11 www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/

item/1100723

>> 22



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

Continued from page 21

Pampering Party at ASPA

Couldn't make it to our Limburg Spa Trip last month or to our Polish Pottery Trip next month, but still want to indulge in a little "me" time with friends? Not to worry—the AWC has you covered. We're partnering with ASPA Holistic Beauty and Wellness for a Pampering Party at their new location in Statenkwartier.

Pick a minimum of two 30-minute treatments from the following list:

- Speedy Facial (€ 35): Facial cleanse, exfoliation, customized mask and a thrilling scalp massage. Suits all skin types. The result? A fast, radiant effect for truly relaxed skin.
- Speedy Manicure (€ 30): Nail shaping, cuticle care and polish application.
- Speedy Pedicure (€ 40): Nail shaping, cuticle care, dry skin removal and polish.
- Swedish Massage (€40): Back, neck and shoulders.

Enjoy a glass of Prosecco while chatting with friends. Please note that payment must be received by March 8 in order to book the treatments; refunds will only be offered if we can fill your spot from a waiting list.

Wednesday, March 22 5 – 8 p.m. ASPA (New Location) Antonie Heinsiusstraat 60, Den Haag Cancellation deadline: Tuesday, March 8 www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/

item/1101319



Your Color Silk Scarf Workshop

We all have a piece of clothing that just doesn't work for us because the color isn't right. In this workshop taught by AWC Member Gabrielle van der Winden, you will get a color assessment for your most complimentary colors. You will then be given a corresponding set of textile dyes to make your own 100% silk scarf at this workshop in Gabrielle's home-based workspace in Wassenaar. If you have had your colors analyzed before, you can come make a scarf in colors of your own choosing. You don't need to be extremely creative or an expert painter to create a beautiful scarf. Gabrielle will explain different kinds of painting techniques. As silk is a natural product, the result will always be wonderful. While the scarves steam to set the paint, you can watch a demonstration on how to tie a scarf. You will go home with a personal color-card and a beautiful 100% silk scarf in your best colors.



Thursday, March 30
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Gabrielle van der Winden's Home
With Color Analysis: € 50 Members
(€ 55 nonmembers)
Scarf only: € 35 Members
(€ 40 nonmembers)
Minimum 4 / Maximum 5
Cancellation deadline: March 14
www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/
item/1103129

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 and 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-alco-

holic options). A vegetarian option is available if reserved in advance; please note any food allergies when registering. During our 2.5-hour tour of the city, we will ride through Scheveningen, the Statenkwartier and the Centrum. Please note that the fee is nonrefundable unless your spot(s) can be filled.

Saturday, April 1
Meet at 5:45 p.m. for a 6 p.m. departure
Kerkplein, Den Haag
€ 78 Members or Spouses
(€ 83 nonmembers)
Minimum 22 / Maximum 44
Nonrefundable
www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/

item/1076636





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NEW ADDRESS from 7th March 2017!

2017 Red, White & Blue Gala.

by RWB Committee

Saturday, May 13 Hilton The Hague Zeestraat 35, Den Haag 6:30 p.m. – 1 a.m.

he American Women's Club of The Hague has a long history of philanthropy, whereby we have touched and improved lives in our community in The Hague and beyond. The tradition of giving back has been the primary focus of our organization since its inception and continues to this day with the generous support of our Members. Since 2002 alone, our charity galas have donated over € 1.5 million to our beneficiaries.



Please join us for this fun evening with an auction, dinner and dancing. Tickets are \in 95 for AWC Members or partners and \in 125 for nonmembers. For additional information, please visit www.redwhiteandbluegala.com. For questions or to volunteer to assist the Gala Committee, please email info@redwhiteandbluegala.com.

Red, White & Blue Gala Beneficiaries

Our 2017 Red. White & Blue Gala will benefit our three wonderful beneficiaries:

Center for Personalized Cancer Treatment

works toward the goal of making all cancer treatment individual, targeted to each cancer's specific genetic defects. This approach will not only be more effective than today's standardized treatments, but will also mean fewer of the unnecessary side-effects that chemotherapy brings.

SPOSA Child (Save and Protect our Sexually Abused Child) was established in August 2010 as an independent, small, non-profit charity foundation. Through the gift of education, its mission is the rehabilitation and healing of sexually and physically abused children on the island of Negros in the Philippines.

Stahili Foundation uses education as a tool to end exploitation, keep children in a family together and break the cycle of poverty in rural Kenya.







All proceeds will go to support the organizations indicated above. Please support RWB Gala as an individual with the purchase of a single ticket or table sponsorships.

The RWB Gala includes a Prosecco reception, cash bar, silent and live auction, live band and wonderful dinner.



Honorary Member Pearl Waterreus

by Julie van der Wolf

Pearl Waterreus came to Holland from Washington, DC. She did not come as an accompanying spouse, but in the employ of the head of the Marshall Plan for recovery in Europe. The Marshall Plan was an American initiative from 1947 to 1954 to aid Western Europe in which the US gave over \$12 billion (approximately \$120 billion in current dollar value) in economic support to help rebuild shattered economies after the end of World War II. "If you are going to Europe and want me to come with you, you have to bring Pearl" spoke her employer's wife. Thus she accompanied them from Washington DC to The Hague to work on an amazing economic and social plan that reached into all levels of Dutch society as well as that of many other countries in Europe.

The Marshall Plan team was housed in a small office next to the US Embassy, and Pearl's friends were made through the Embassy in those early years. Even though she did not know how to cook, she offered to host a farewell dinner for a couple who were leaving Holland. She engaged a friend to help her prepare the dinner, then she opened her apartment to the couple's friends. Among the guests was Joop, "Joe" as she called him, with whom she would spend the rest of his life. Together they raised three children. After Joop retired, they moved to France for 30 years, only returning to Holland in 2005.

When Pearl joined the AWC in 1955, ladies in hats and gloves met at elegant get-togethers at one of the hotels. She typed the AWC's first "bulletin," as it was called then before eventually evolving into *Going Dutch*. Malou, one of her oldest friends in Holland, describes Pearl's love of the theater at that time. She organized a theater group and Malou noted "it was her life." That theater group eventually grew into the Anglo American Theater Group that exists to this day.

In recent years, the door was always open to her apartment at Maison Gaspard. Pearl was a large presence with a booming voice and a face that would light up when she saw you. A wonderful memory let her recall your connections and this would lead to stories of her early days in Holland. My connection with Pearl and Joop date to the mid 1960s. Already by 1948, Joop became an "Old Timer" in Hunky Dooly Dispuut, a fraternity at Tilburg Economic Hoogeschool, later my husband's alma mater. In 1961, the first year student members of Hunky Dooly were invited to a garden day at Joop and Pearl's house in Scheveningen. This was not a garden party; it was hard work in the garden! With a nice dinner and good company as the reward, Ben and I have kept this tradition alive in more recent years. When Ben and I married in 1966, Pearl was ever so pleased to welcome another American to her group of friends.

We remember her presence with fondness. Pearl passed away on January 17 at 93 years of age. She is survived by two daughters, one daughter-in-law and one grandson. Correspondence address is Obrechtstraat 322, 2517 VG Den Haag

Kids' Club

by Trena Cormier

Spring Party & Easter Egg Hunt

Calling all kids: the Easter Bunny is coming to the AWC! Hosted at the AWC Clubhouse. we will have a party with yummy snacks, fun crafts and games. The Easter Bunny will make an appearance, and your photos will help to prove "there really is an Easter Bunny." We will enjoy hunting for hidden Easter eggs and each child will take home an Easter basket containing some small gifts/toys/treats. Children of all ages are welcome. Please note the number and ages of the children when registering through GroupSpaces. Feel free to invite your friends! If you have questions or want to volunteer to help with this fun event, contact me at awethehague.firstvp@ gmail.com.

Saturday, April 8 3 – 5 p.m. € 8 per child or € 15 per Member family (€ 10 per child or € 18 per nonmember family)

Cancellation deadline: April 3 www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/ item/1099222





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March 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Looking Forward to a Busy Spring: April 1: Private Dinner on the Hoftrammm April 3-6: Polish Pottery Trip May 13: AWC Red White & Blue Gala	Discussion: Elections in The Netherlands 10 a.m. Pilates 10:15 a.m.	Wassenaar Coffee and Conversation 9 a.m. AWC Board Meeting 10 a.m.	3	4
5	Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m Ladies' Night at the Movies 7 p.m.	7 Chat, Crafts & Cake 10 a.m. AWC Tennis 1 p.m.	8 Pilates 10:15 a.m. Out to Lunch Bunch 12:15 p.m.	Coffee 10 a.m. March General Meeting 10:30 a.m. Lunch Noon	Guided Tour of Voorlinden Museum 11:30 a.m	11
12	Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m	Chat, Crafts & Cake 10 a.m. Heart Pillow Workshop Noon AWC Tennis 1 p.m.	Pilates 10:15 a.m. Evening Book Club 7:30 p.m.	16	17	Romanian Wine Tasting 5:30 p.m.
19	20 Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m	21 Chat, Crafts & Cake 10 a.m. AWC Tennis 1 p.m.	Pilates 10:15 a.m. Pampering Party at ASPA 5 p.m.	Daytime Book Club 10 a.m.	24	25
Spring Ahead for Daylight Savings Time	27 Walkie Talkies 9:30 a.m	28 Chat, Crafts & Cake 10 a.m. AWC Tennis 1 p.m.	29 Pilates 10:15 a.m.	Your Color Silk Scarf Workshop 9:30 a.m Guided Tour of Slow Food: Still Lifes in the Golden Age 5:45 p.m.	31	







Free estimates



AWC and the Arts

by Jane Choy

Guided Tour of Voorlinden Museum

Opening its doors in September 2016, Voorlinden is a private museum for modern and contemporary art at a magnificent estate in the dunes of Wassenaar. Businessman and art collector Joop van Caldenborgh realized his dream: a museum of international allure that houses his renowned collection. The attractive building offers a space for Van Caldenborgh's rich and surprising collection. permanent works of art made especially for the museum and temporary exhibitions. Every aspect of the museum has been designed to enhance art. The natural stone and transparent glass walls enhances the experience of nature inside the building. The exhibition rooms are illuminated by ever-changing natural daylight that brings the artwork to life. The garden, designed by the internationally known garden architect Piet Oudolf, is visible from inside as well as outside so there is a pleasant interplay between art, architecture and nature.

After our guided tour, we can have lunch (at own expense) in the lovely restaurant which is on the grounds. Please note that this museum does not accept the *Museumkaart*.

Friday, March 10
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Voorlinden Museum
Buurtweg 90, Wassenaar
€ 10 Members (€ 15 nonmembers) PLUS
Museum entrance fee of € 15
Minimum 12 / Maximum 15
Nonrefundable
www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/

www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHagitem/1099165



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

Direct any questions to jechoy@me.com

Guided Tour of Slow Food: Still Lifes in the Golden Age

This spring, the Mauritshuis is treating visitors to appetizing tableaus and richly laid tables. Slow Food: Still Lifes of the Golden Age will trace the development of early meal still lifes in the Netherlands featuring some 25 paintings. The key piece in the exhibition is the still life by Flemish painter Clara Peeters that the Mauritshuis acquired a few years ago and is shown here. Her work anticipates that of later Haarlem masters such as Pieter Claesz and Willem Heda, the best-known representatives of the genre. These artists painted their meal still lifes with astounding details that make the viewer's mouth water even to this day. If you don't have a Museumkaart, save time by buying your entrance ticket online at www.mauritshuis.nl.

Thursday, March 30 6 – 7:30 p.m. (Meet at 5:45 p.m.)
Mauritshuis
Museum Plein 29, Den Haag
€ 10 Members (€ 15 nonmembers) PLUS
Museum entrance fee (€ 14 or free with
Museumkaart)
Minimum 12 / Maximum 15
Cancellation deadline: March 14
www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/
item/1103124



The Dutch Daily

by Eileen Harloff

I begin this first column written in 2017 with best wishes to AWC Members for a new year of good health, happy relationships and stimulating new experiences. Next, my thanks to President Becky for her kind words with regard to my efforts to let you know what's going on in the wider Dutch world beyond The Hague. I also want to express my admiration and appreciation to Editor Melissa and Design & Layout expert Teresa: for their years of producing a magazine that tells—in text and in pictures, in such an attractive way—the story of what the AWC is and does.

A Child's Last Wish

Since our last issue, newspapers have continued to print stories about normal and exceptional people, places and activities that affirm that life wherever you are has its ups and downs. One of the feel good/feel bad stories was about six-vear-old Tiin. He was diagnosed with brain cancer, was treated and was in remission until last May, when the cancer reappeared. He can have one more round of treatment, but if it is not successful, nothing more can be done. Tijn is interested in children in other parts of the world who have illnesses for which they cannot get treatment and thus prevent these children from reaching the age of six. He wanted to do something for them and thought of raising funds by painting people's nails.



He and his father approached 3FM radio station and asked to be part of their Serious Request program, an annual fundraising event for the International Red Cross. This event involves two or three DJs being locked up for six days in the "Glass House," a small radio station placed in a prominent place in a different Dutch city each December. During this time the DJs exist on nothing but lemon juice and broadcast continually—playing requests in exchange for a donation, holding online auctions, and receiving well-known performers to sing, dance or just chat. They also take "Serious Requests" for people seeking help or requesting particular services. Tiin said that he was aiming to earn € 100 to help children with pneumonia; similar to an ice bucket challenge, he challenged people to donate € 1 to have their nails painted by him or by one of their own friends, or to donate € 10 to skip the polish. Tiin was a big hit with the two 2016 Glass House DJs, and was invited to set up shop with them. A hole was bored in the house through which people could place their hands, and Tijn went to work, stopping only for time to eat. As Tijn's story was broadcast, he began to receive help from around the country—even mayors and members of Parliament were seen flashing their painted fingernails—and he was a success with the college crowd as well. As a result of Tijn's initiative, a whopping € 2.6 million (and counting) have been given to Special Request for help for other children. Out of the mouths, and actions, of babes!

Farewell Chuck

At the other end of scale there was Chuck, a street musician who since 1994 could be found sitting on a stool almost daily, outside of Den Haag Centraal or on the Grote Marktstraat. In a growly, gritty voice he sang along while strumming his guitar, reminiscent of Bob Dylan and other classic rockers, with a container for donations at his feet. Many people knew of him, but almost none knew him. Around Christmas he was not at



his usual spots, and it was discovered that he was in the hospital. A collection was taken up among his admirers to help with the bills. After Chuck died in early January, the search began for his family. It was discovered that he was born Charles Edward Deely III in Detroit. Michigan in the 50s. Contact was made with his brother, Patrick, who saw to the expenses of his cremation and the return to Michigan of his ashes, which were to be buried in the cemetery alongside another brother and his parents. A memorial service, led by newspaper columnist Sjaak Bral, was held for Chuck at the Paard van Troje (Trojan Horse), a wellknown music venue in The Hague. Various people spoke about their personal relationship with Chuck and their appreciation of his music through the years. Among the music played was one of Chuck's favorite pieces: Rockin' in the Free World by Neil Young.

Other Items of Interest

American Embassy: The American Embassy on the Lange Voorhout in The Hague has been named a National Monument. The building. designed by architect Marcel Breuer, was erected on the site of the Hotel Paulez that was destroyed in 1945. From the beginning the Embassy was strongly criticized for its severe appearance that did not fit in with the other buildings in the neighborhood. Many people feel that when the Embassy moves later this year to its new quarters in Wassenaar, the building should be razed and replaced by one that would blend in more closely with the rest of the neighborhood. The city, which owns the building, is now faced with the decision of its future. Will it become a hotel or a museum? (My vote is for the latter.)

Dirty Money: In the past year the Dutch Government has retrieved € 402 million from criminals, more than twice the amount it recovered in 2015. The largest amount was from a telecom business that gave a bribe to the daughter of the President of Uzbekistan for an order for a mobile network. It seems to be difficult to get fines from criminals, but the government is determined to do its best in the future.

Beware of the Fox: In December, the Loosduinen police issued a warning on Facebook that there was a "tame" fox wandering about in the dunes. Readers were warned not to approach the animal, however attractive it might be, as a fox bite can result in serious infection.



Clash of Cultures in the AWC Library

by Mad Marian, the AWC Librarian







light switched on suddenly in the AWC Clubhouse basement, throwing harsh illumination over boxes, yoga mats, a surplus refrigerator and two dishevelled characters sharing a cuppa. Mad Marian, the AWC Librarian, and her friend, Johannes Gutenburg, were reminiscing about old high school crushes and the depredations of electronic publishing on the book trade industry.

"Mad!" cried a voice from upstairs. "There's someone to see you up here. Can you come up?"

"On my way," sighed Mad. "What now?" She bade farewell to Johannes, promising to meet him later for a drink.

"It's Steve Jobs," said her Long-Suffering Assistant crossly. "And do something with your hair. People can see you."

Mad Marian wondered what would induce one of the most lauded technology entrepreneurs of the 20th century to rock up on her doorstep. She was wary, thinking nothing good could come of this.

Huddled over a smartphone, Long-Suffering and Jobs were intently focused on the images flashing onto Long-Suffering's screen as Jobs' fingers flew over the keyboard. They urged each other on with muttered jargon: download here, Google that again, go to search, then click done and, worst of all, upload.

"Look at this!" cried Long-Suffering. "Steve has found an app for us that will allow our Members to search for a specific title in our collection and check out books on their

smartphones while sitting on the sofa at home." She was effervescent.

Mad was not. This was it: Armageddon. The electronic age was insinuating itself into her precious paper-based, Dewey-oriented, hard-backed library and she was having none of it.

Long-Suffering rolled her eyes. Dinosaurs. They were all alike, this older generation. You could offer them the option of locating their device, charging it, downloading a title, paying for the book, waiting for Amazon to fulfil the order, and then reading the book by swiping a sticky finger across the screen—all from your own sofa. So convenient. Or, like Mad, you could pick up a free library book in your hand, flip open the front cover and start to read. However, you would also have to put on your coat, go to the clubhouse, chose a book from nearly 2,000 titles, enjoy a free cup of coffee or tea and maybe a chat with a friend before you could start to read. No choice really—it was winter and the weather in The Hague was dire.

"I'll see you later, Steve," said Long-Suffering as she pushed Mad into a corner. She walked Steve to the front door. "I think we have mastered the concept and will be able to easily teach our Members how to use it." She popped him into Fritz's taxi and turned back into the clubhouse.

Now the hard work was to begin. First of all, how to persuade Mad that this new app was a great way to increase people's interest in and use of the library. And secondly, to show the Membership how simple it was going to be to use the app.

"Don't say a word, Long-Suffering. Not going to happen. Not on my watch, anyway."

Undiscouraged, Long-Suffering, knowing the remedy for any crisis, switched on the kettle and brewed a proper pot of tea. "Listen, Mad. This is important. Technology has taken over the publishing world and has even found its way to our small library here. We need this. Our readers need this and they will want it, even if they don't know it. Our library needs this. We must keep our readership active and involved. Too many other Club entities are eyeing our space. Heart Pillows could fill every shelf. Melissa has 75,000 back issues of *Going Dutch* that she's got to put somewhere. And

Madame President wafted through here yesterday with an architect, looking at expanding the kitchen into Biography and Travel. We have to modernize so that we can continue to exist!"

Even dinosaurs can see sense when threatened with extinction. Mad mulled over her cup of tea. "All right," she sighed. "But only if you can make this app so simple it could be understood even by school children. "

"Funny you should mention that," said Long Suffering, "because this app was designed for classroom libraries. It is so easy to use even first-graders can do it. And here's how."

To Download the App and Check Out a Book

- 1. Using the App Store or Google Play, search for the Classroom Organizer app
- 2. Download and open it
- 3. Enter the login information: Classroom ID: AWC Password: password ("Not exactly rocket science there," sniggered Mad. "Shut up," said Long-Suffering.)
- 4. Click on Menu
- 5. Choose Checkout
- 6. Scroll for your name in the Select a Student box
- 7. If the book you want has a publisher's barcode, then choose the Scan Book option. Position the phone over the barcode so that it can be photographed and click on Scan Book. (Please note: the AWC barcodes on the inside cover will not work with this system.) If there is no publisher's barcode, type in the keyword from the title. The title of the book should appear.
- 8. Click on Checkout.

To Return a Book

Repeat Steps 2-4 but click on Return. Select your name. A list of book(s) that you have checked out will appear. Select the title you wish to return and click Done.

To Search for a Book by Author or Title

- 1. Using the App Store or Google Play, search for the Classroom Organizer app
- 2. Download and open it
- 3. Enter the login information: Classroom ID: AWC Password: password ("Not exactly rocket science there," sniggered Mad. "Shut up," said Long-Suffering.)
- 4. Click on Menu
- 5. Choose Manage Library
- 6. Click on View Library
- Fill in your search details and click on Search. If the title appears, we have the book and it is available. You will have to return to the Checkout option in the menu as described above to check the book out.

Please note: the Library's extensive collection of DVDs will be available for electronic check out and return in the near future.

"An additional benefit of this system is that our readers can search for titles while sitting on their sofas at home," added Long-Suffering helpfully.

"What is this obsession with doing everything

from your sofa?" demanded Mad. "Another thing that readers had bloody well better remember is that this library runs on an honor system and books should be returned in a timely manner. This may be your library, but the books are MINE!"

FAWCO Corner

by Karla Kahn and Julie Mowat

FAWCO

Good Luck Michelle!



The Selection Committee for the FAWCO Target 3.0 Project proudly announced the three shortlisted proposals and one of our very own is in the running! AWC Member Michelle Oliel is the co-founder of Stahili Foundation. Their proposed project "Threading the Future" focuses on education and empowering of female heads of households through vocational training in tailoring and business skills. The Target Project winner will be announced later this month at the Annual FAWCO Conference in Mumbai. India.

Regional Meeting

Although the dates have yet to be announced, the location for the next FAWCO Region IV meeting has been revealed to be Antwerp. All AWC Members are welcome to attend. Stay tuned for further information.

US Tax Reporting Assistance

Confused about the new expat tax reporting obligations or estate and gift taxes? Expats are finding it increasingly difficult and overwhelming to comply with US tax laws. Even the most sophisticated and knowledgeable expats are struggling to comply without the help of an international tax expert. FAWCO can help! Esquire Group will be giving informative US tax presentations to FAWCO Club Members on a range of tax related topics. The presentations are given in an

Federation of American Women's

Clubs Overseas, a United Nations

NGO with consultative status with the

UN Economic and Social Council

www.fawco.org.

open, interactive manner allowing ample time for questions and answers. Please let Julie know if you are interested in having our Club participate.

Handbag Auction

Looking for the date for our annual Handbag Auction? This year's fundraiser will be as fantastic and "bubbly' as ever, but will be held in the fall. Interested in helping plan the Club's favorite FAWCO fundraiser? Contact Julie at jjbbmow@msn.com



FAWCO Foundation Fundraiser

by Mary Adams

The FAWCO Foundation is celebrating 50 years of giving. Join us in Mumbai on April 1 for Foundation Night to commemorate your generosity to women and girls all over the world.

Your Projects, Your Passions, Your Foundation

Fifty Years of Giving: In 1967, The Foundation received our first recorded donation of \$200. Almost 50 years later, FAWCO Clubs and The Foundation raised \$172,000 to support economic empowerment for survivors of human trafficking in developing countries via the Target Project: Free the Girls (2014-2016). That represents an overall growth factor of 860% of FAWCO generosity to women and girls worldwide.

We hope you can join us on Foundation Night, where you can start your evening enjoying a cocktail and our Lucky Dip. This year, the Lucky Dip items are especially designed by NGOs working with AWC Mumbai. The theme of the silent auction is "Small and Precious" and designed with fashion and quality in mind. During dinner, learn more about how your generosity over 50 years has made a difference in the world. AWC Member Celeste Brown will be our auctioneer for the live auction. We have a theme of "Golden Memories" with international destinations carefully crafted to create your own special moments with family and friends. Go to www.fawcofoundation. org to read the catalog and learn how you can use our closed bidding system to bid from home if you cannot join us in India.

Consider being a benefactor to increase your odds at winning the raffles this year! We have a beautiful quilt that celebrates education with the schoolhouse block. "Four Walls with Tomorrow Inside" is 63"x75" and consists of 38 blocks from 21 FAWCO Clubs, including FAUSA. You do not have to be present to win. The drawing will take place on April 2.



This year, our high-end raffle is an elegant emerald and diamond cluster ring with a

central oval emerald surrounded by ten brilliant-cut diamonds and a small baguette-cut diamond at each shoulder. The dimensions



of the emerald are 6 x 7.8 x 4.4 = 1.14 carats. Estimated value of the ring is \$2,830.

We are proud to announce that The Foundation will launch the next Backing Women Campaign to support the selected 2016 – 2019 Target Program (Empowering Women and Girls Through Knowledge and Skills) when the selected project is announced in Mumbai. The Backing Women Boutique is currently stocking new merchandise and developing fundraising starter kits for clubs. For more information, contact Sahar Ellahak, The FAWCO Foundation Target Fundraising Coordinator at targetfundraising@fawcofoundation.org.

WWDP

by Julie Otten

As these photos show, AWC WWDP (Women with Dutch Partners) had another fun holiday party hosted at **Celeste Brown's** house. Thank you, Celeste! And thank you all for making it such a nice evening together.

After being in Holland for nine years and meeting many wonderful new friends through various women's groups, I noticed a need for a general worldwide WWDP group (non-affiliated with any clubs). So with that thought in mind, I've created a WWDP Worldwide Facebook group open to any woman anywhere in the world who has a Dutch partner: www. facebook.com/groups/womenwithdutchpartners.

If you are a fellow WWDP, I invite you to join and invite your friends who perhaps are in other women's clubs or are not in any club, but have a Dutch partner. Pass the word.



















Sustainable Shopping

by Paula Daeppen & Anne van Oorschot

FAWCO's Environment Task Force sends out a bulletin each month with information and ideas on a relevant environmental issue. In addition to myself (Anne) as head of the group, eight other women—all members of clubs around the world very much like our AWC-contribute their knowledge and writing skills to create the bulletins. Paula Daeppen, from AWC Zurich, provided great information for a recent bulletin with clear explanations and easy tips to help us make better choices in the grocery store. Using these Five Golden Rules of Sustainable **Shopping**, you too can discover how easy it is to take positive action to make your shopping more sustainable.

Our consumer choices have a definite effect on the environment, and that is true of our choices in the grocery store as well. How we shop and what we eat have a huge impact on our environmental footprint (see www. footprintnetwork.org)

Understanding the resources that go into *our* meals and the relationship between food and climate can help us make better choices. When we buy food, we should think about how much energy was used to produce, transport and store it, how low on the food chain it is, and whether it was grown organically or with chemicals. We also need to consider the social costs of production and whether rainforests were destroyed in the process.

Five Golden Rules of Sustainable Shopping

- Less is more! Only buy what you really need.
- 2. Regularly eat a vegetarian meal and try to consume less meat and fish.
- 3. Buy seasonal and regional products.
- 4. Watch your labels: chose organic, fair trade, and sustainable fishery.
- 5. Avoid products containing palm oil.

Rule 1: Less is More!

Buy only what you really need and fight food waste: Up to 50% of all food produced is lost between field and plate! This immense waste of resources and energy leads to unnecessary destruction of nature, loss of biodiver-



sity, water pollution, and poisoned soil and air. Over one billion people worldwide go hungry while elsewhere food is thrown away. When food is wasted, all the resources to grow, package and ship it, along with massive amounts of water, are wasted as well. This contributes to a squandering of energy and natural resources. Learn more from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at www.fao.org/food-loss-and-food-waste/en.

Rule 2: Regularly Eat a Vegetarian Meal

Eat less meat: The livestock sector causes 14% of the planet's greenhouse gases (source: Greenpeace), while the shipping and refrigeration of meat products also consumes massive amounts of energy. Commercial fattening of cattle and poultry utilizes 80% of all agricultural land and almost 10% of all fresh water. Conventionally raised animals are often given imported fodder (maize and soya). The cultivation of soya causes rainforests to be cleared and irrevocably destroyed. Manure and liquid manure pollute our soil and water.



The production of 1 calorie of meat requires approximately 7 calories of plant material; 2.2 pounds (1 kilo) of beef requires about 22 pounds (10 kilos) of grain in the form of feed. Animal products cause substantially greater greenhouse gas emissions than do vegetables: that 2.2 pounds (1 kilogram) of industrially produced beef is as detrimental to the climate as a 155-mile (250-kilometer) trip by car.

With sustainable and species-appropriate animal husbandry, the influence of cattle on the Earth's climate can be considered differently. Free-range animal husbandry on pastures contributes to the preservation of grasslands, which in turn absorb quite a lot of CO₂. In the interest of sustainability, those who do not want to forego meat should choose organic local meats.

Eat less fish: According to the WWF, 85% of commercially exploited fishing grounds are already or soon will be overfished. This includes halibut from the Atlantic, cod,

monkfish, sole and turbot. Large predatory fish such as red tuna, various types of sharks, and rays are threatened with extinction. Trawling destroys valuable habitats (corals and seagrass meadows). Fish farms use fish meal to feed, for which huge quantities of wild fish have to be caught and processed. Often antibiotics and drugs are used that pollute the seas along with the waste produced by the fish and uneaten food pellets. If you eat fish, choose local fish and fish caught in the wild.

Rule 3: Shop for Seasonal and Regional Products

Non-seasonal produce is shipped long distances or grown in heated greenhouses, causing more damage to the environment than free-range products. They may be produced using chemical fertilizers, pesticides and large quantities of water, whereas regional products are predominantly produced in balance with the seasons. If you choose products that are organic, you are guaranteed more sustainable and poison-free production.

Sustainable Shopping (cont.)

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Rule 4: Watch Your Labels Choose organic, fair trade and sustainable: Products with such labelling must com-

ply with guidelines so that the consumer is choosing a product with added value that benefits the environment and/or the health and working conditions of the laborers. In additional to the Fair Trade label found in Dutch stores, the UTZ label certifies sustainable farming.

Rule 5: Avoid Products Containing Conflict Palm Oil

All of us use palm oil on a daily basis, hidden in a variety of products, examples of which are shown in this photo. Unaware of this, we inadvertently contribute to the destruction of tropical forests that are cleared for palm oil plantations leading to the destruction of habitats for orangutans, tigers, elephants and rhinos. Palm oil is used in food, mostly reported as "plant oil" or "vegetable fat," in baked goods, convenience meals, margarine, ice cream and sweets. Chemically altered palm oil is used to produce soap, detergents and cosmetics, where it often appears on labels as Cetyl Palmitate, Sodium Palm Kernelate, or Isopropyl Palmitate (source:



WWF). Read the small print on the packages, prepare your own food instead of buying convenience products, avoid margarine and pay attention when buying cosmetics. The good news is you don't have to give up all products containing palm oil, as it can be produced in a responsible manner that respects the environment and the communities where it is commonly grown. Look for the RSPO or Green Palm label to ensure you purchase products made with certified sustainable palm oil. www. saynotopalmoil.com

Vote with Your Fork!

Let your local farmers know that organic is the way to grow. Besides being better for the environment, organic products are not genetically modified. Organic meat, poultry, eggs and dairy come from animals that are not fed antibiotics or growth hormones and are generally more nutritious. Organic farms also help promote biodiversity, and create less water pollution and soil damage.



Interesting Links

Water footprint: www.waterfootprint.org
Ecological footprint quiz: www.earthday.org/take-action/footprint-calculator/
World Wide Fund for Nature: www.wwf.org
Sustainable Agriculture: www.greenpeace.org/usa/sustainable-agriculture/

Announcements

Comic Con Coming to Rotterdam



Lovers of movies, TV shows, gaming, comics, superheroes and pop culture will be gathering at the Ahoy in Rotterdam on Saturday, March 4 and Sunday, March 5 for Comic Con. A wide range of stars from famous movies and TV shows, such as *Game of Thrones* and *Dr. Who*, will be present. You can meet your heroes and participate in a number of activities, such as photo shoots with Hollywood stars, Q&A panels, signing sessions, workshops, demos and live acts. Get your ticket at www.comic-con.nl

Amsterdam Boat Show

From Wednesday, March 8 – Sunday, March 12, the HISWA Amsterdam Boat Show will



be held at the Amsterdam RAI. As the largest watersport exhibition in the Netherlands with over 250 exhibitors and 40,000 visitors anticipated, it features a huge range of boats, nautical accessories, sportswear, vacations and water sports services. There is free entrance for children under 17 who will enjoy the Water Fun Zone where they can surf on real waves. For more information and discounted advance tickets, see www. >> 44 hiswarai.nl



AWC Members once again gathered in large numbers for the Thanksgiving Day Service in Leiden

Announcements (cont.)

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Amsterdam Coffee Festival

This festival from Friday, March 10 – Sunday, March 12 at Westergasfabriek celebrates Amsterdam's vibrant coffee and food scene.



It features artisan coffee and gourmet food stalls, tastings, demonstrations from worldclass baristas, live entertainment and music in uniquely themed areas. The event is part of Coffee Week NL 2017 aiming to raise € 40,000 by donating 50% of ticket sales for Project Waterfall, which provides clean drinking and sanitation projects in coffee producing countries. Advance tickets are available online: www.amsterdamcoffeefestival.com.

TEFAF – The European Fine Art Fair

The world's leading art and antiques fair will be held in Maastricht from Friday, March 10 - Sunday, March 19.

This massive fair features 50,000 art objects from 275 dealers from 20 countries in a space as large as 7 football fields. What sets this fair apart from others is that, despite the dealers being the world's finest, each item is still investigated for its quality, condition

and authenticity. Even contemporary works are vetted and checked against The Art Loss Register. Enjoy the stimulating atmosphere full of dealers, collectors, academics, art critics and curators from major museums around the world. If you're unable to attend, consider purchasing the catalog which is a work of art in itself. For more information, go to www. tefaf.com.

DFAS Art Lecture

Maria Sibylla Merian: Illustrator, Scientist and Explorer

Maria Sibylla Merian (1647 – 1717) was a German-born naturalist, scientific illustrator, and descendant of the Swiss Merian family. founders of one of Europe's largest publishing houses in the 17th century. Leaving behind her marriage and work as a successful flower painter, she sailed to Surinam in pursuit of rarities of flora and fauna, and produced the famous Metamorphosis Insectorum Surinam. Her illustrations were sought by collectors and royalty throughout Europe, while her scientific observations stunned the world. Lecturer Twigs Way has a PhD in medieval to 18th century parkland. After being mistaken for a garden historian, she designed courses on garden history for the University of Cambridge. Non-DFAS member fee is €12. www.dfas.nl

Tuesday, March 14 Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Lecture begins at 8 p.m. Cultural Centrum Warenar Kerkstraat 75, Wassenaar







St. Patrick's Festival



The Grote Markt will be transformed into the "Groene Markt" to celebrate all things Irish. There will be an Irish market as well as Irish dancers and bands.

Friday, March 17 Grote Markt, Den Haag 3 - 11 p.m.

Museum Night for Kids

On Saturday, March 18, around 20 museums and cultural institutions in The Hague and Voorburg will specially open for the youngest cultural night owls. Initially combined with the regular Museum Night, for the first time



kids have their very own dedicated date with activities aimed at 4- to 12-year-olds. Every child and each parent will need their own ticket which includes entrance to all locations, participation in all activities and use of historic buses between the city center and further afield museums. Please note that the Museumkaart is not accepted for this special evening and activities will be geared towards a Dutch audience. For a list of participating museums and to buy tickets, go to: www.museumnachtkids.nl.

Keukenhof Opens

Each year more than seven million flower bulbs are planted in the historic park in Lisse, which opens its doors for the spring season on March 23. The central theme for 2017



is "Dutch Design," characterized by Dutch sobriety combined with innovative solutions. The flower mosaic depicts a Mondriaan painting combined with designer chairs. The mosaic is planted in two layers, providing a longer flowering period in the spring, with 80.000 tulips, muscari and crocus. www. keukenhof.nl

Movies That Matter Festival

The Movies that Matter Festival, an initiative of Amnesty International, takes place Friday, March 24 – Saturday, April 1 at Filmhuis Den Haag and Theater aan het Spui in The >> 46



Announcements (cont.)

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Hague. This festival presents around 60 human rights feature films and documentaries from around the world. Many of these films will be screened for the first and only time in the Netherlands. Most film screenings are followed by an in-depth program which might be an introduction, debate or talk show. Most films are in English or subtitled. For the program and tickets, go to www.moviesthatmatterfestival.nl

Mad About Surrealism

Masterpieces from four famous European collections by such artists as Salvador Dalí, René Magritte and Max Ernst will provide an unequalled overview of surrealism in Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen in Rotterdam through May 28. This exhibition will shed light on the world of dreams, fantasy, madness and the unrestrained passion of both the

artists and the collectors of this world-famous surrealist art. The majority of the works have rarely or never been exhibited publicly and will disappear behind closed doors again at the end of May.



Couple aux têtes pleines de nuages by Salvador Dalí, 1936



AWC Members marched in peace rallies in The Hague and Amsterdam

Message from the President (cont.)

Continued from page 8

A big change over the last few years has been a major reduction in the number of expat staff working for Shell and other oil and gas companies. That has resulted in families returning earlier than expected to the US, as well as fewer new families coming into The Hague. We have seen well over 40 of our Members depart in the past year. That meant big changes for them and losses for us. We had become friends, and we miss them. They filled vital roles in the running of the Club, and we have had to find others to take on those roles. Happily, we have new Members who are joining the Club bringing their new expectations and contributions. I want to welcome:

Marcy Atkins
Jaime Clark
Hannah Dean
Nina du Pre
Wilhelmina de Marchi Griep
Michele Jacquemain
Julie Jones
Tammy Kirk
Elizabeth Little
Elaine Pimm
Roser Pujol
Melissa Rider
Suzanne Standing
Rachel Swick

In our ever-changing lives there are marriages, births and, sadly, deaths. One of our Honorary Members, **Pearl Waterreus**, passed away in mid-January. **Julie van der Wolf** shared some memories of Pearl on page 26. Honorary Membership is bestowed on women who have been continuous AWC Members for 25 years. They have not changed their Membership and have supported the AWC through all its changes. I want to thank each Honorary Member for their long and continued Membership and service:

Mary Bos-Wittschen Roberta Enschede

Barbara Fasting Sheila Gazaleh Eileen Harloff Lucille Heineken Georgia Hodge-Manos Naomi Kein Paula Looijmans Glenda Ohr Georgia Regnault Jessie Rodell Carol Slootweg Gail van der Feltz Rose Mary van der Hout Anne van der Steur Julie van der Wolf Francesca van Duren **Debbie van Hees-Cascio**

"When life gives you ten reasons to cry, show life you have a hundred reasons to smile!" When I broke my leg in December, I felt I was given ten reasons to cry. Then AWC Members gave me a hundred reasons to smile. I am so grateful for the outpouring of concern, phone calls, email messages and meal deliveries. If you want to read about my oops and recovery, go to page 50.

"When the winds of change blow, some people build walls, and some people build windmills." In this country that relied on windmills to pump water from the lowlands, we, who call this our adopted home, need to build those metaphorical windmills to make sure that the winds of change are productive at the AWC and in our personal lives.

Looking forward to the sharing the future with you,



Travelling Vegan

by Veronica White

"How can you live without cheese!?" I'll let you in on a secret: it's not as hard as you'd



think. Since the beginning of last year, I have adopted a "flexitarian" diet in which I try my best for environmental reasons to stay away from foods which contain animal products. While I am not yet a dedicated vegan, my younger sister has been for over a year, so I spoke to her about what it's like to travel vegan. Although it's commonly believed that it's incredibly difficult, from what we've learned together, it's really not as hard as you might think.

Veganism is not just a fad diet—for many it has become a way of life. Like vegetarians, vegans don't consume any meat, chicken or fish. Vegans, however, take it one step further than vegetarians and don't consume products produced by animals: no dairy and no eggs being the main differentiating factors. There are many reasons for switching to a vegan diet, with some of the most common being ethical, health and environmental concerns.

Here are some tips and tricks to help you stay true to your vegan diet while you travel.

Consult Happy Cow

The Happy Cow app and website (www. happycow.net) are great ways to find local

restaurants that cater to vegans and vegetarians. You can view nearby vegan restaurants in various categories, such as Bakery, Chinese or Organic, and then can read reviews, bookmark the restaurant or use a map to navigate

there. While there are plenty of restaurants in which you can ask specifically for a vegan meal, there's something great about being able to order one straight



off the menu—and this app will help you find places where that is possible.

Pizza is Always an Option

Whenever I tell people I'm going to order a vegan pizza they stare at me, baffled. "But a pizza without cheese is just bread and tomato sauce" is the most common response I get. This is where they're wrong. Yes, a pizza without cheese is different, however, it's just as good. Just top it up with extra vegetables and you won't even miss the cheese. No matter where you travel, Italian is often available, so if you decided to order a pizza, just request it without cheese and there you have a wonderful vegan meal. As vegan diets are



becoming more common around the world, many pizza places now offer vegan cheese as an alternative. French fries and falafels are also options that are widely available and normally vegan.

Keep Vegan Snacks in Your Bag

Vegan snack bars, such as the ones made by Nakd (available at Albert Heijn), are a great back-up to keep in your bag for when you get hungry. Small but full of protein, these fruit bars are a delicious way to refuel while on a hike or any time you're out and about.



Packing snacks for a day out is also a great way to avoid spending money on overpriced snacks in tourist areas.

Make Translation Cards to Show Waiters

If you're traveling somewhere where you think translating your dietary requirements may be difficult, consider printing off a translation card where you state what you cannot eat in both English and the language of your destination. This card can be shown to waiters at restaurants so they know what you can and cannot eat. Having the Google Translate app on your phone can come in very handy as it allows you to take photos of menus or the backs of food packages to get translations of ingredients.

申し訳ありませんが、私はビーガンです。 肉、鶏肉、魚(出汁を含めて)、卵、乳製品 が食べられません。

I'm a vegan. I can't eat meat, poultry or fish including dashi, eggs or dairy. Thank you for your understanding.

Do Your Research

Don't forget to check if your airline offers vegan meals, which can be surprisingly tastier than regular vegetarian meals. While you're abroad, you may be in places where you find it difficult to find forms of protein that are common at home. For example, hummus, which is often eaten by vegans as a protein-filled



snack in Europe, is almost impossible to find in Japan. It's up to you to do your research and find out what local foods will provide you with enough protein. Don't worry—it's not hard!

Favorite Vegan Stops Around the World

Camden, London: Cookies and Scream Bakery (www.cookiesandscream.com) Frankfurt: Vevay Restaurant (www.vevay.net)

Norwich, UK: Bia Kitchen Vegan Diner (www.biakitchen.co.uk)

Shoreditch, London: What the Pitta Vegan Doner (www.whatthepitta.com)



My Broken Leg

by Becky Failor

know I am not the only AWC Member to have broken her leg or ankle. I re-**▲** member **Seanette Meserole** with her great kneeling walker joining us on our Jewish Ouarter and Royal Palace tours after she broke her leg zip-lining in early 2015. **Roberta Enschede** broke both ankles a few vears ago, but you'd never know it to see her now. Both of these ladies have been so encouraging during my recovery. As one of the most recent AWC Members with this type of injury, I'm going to share my story. I sincerely hope that between the time that I finished writing this and the magazine arrives in your mailbox, no one else has this unfortunate experience!

I live close to Delft and often ride my bike there. It is such a diverse city with a *centrum* that is quintessentially old Dutch. I wanted a few "Dutch-y" souvenirs for a gift and knew that Delft has shops that sell the sort of kitschy stuff I desired. So I thought nothing of heading to Delft on my bike. The one thing I did differently on this cold, moist December day was to park my bike along the Stadhuis. In the summer and warmer weather, this is too crowded, but I thought today I would get closer to my destination. In this photo taken a few summers ago, you can catch a glimpse that the area around the Stadhuis is attractive, but you





can imagine that gray stonework can become very slippery when wet. When I turned my bike on this stonework toward the bike parking, down I went.

A kind passerby got me and my bike righted, and even locked up my bike in the *fietstalling*. At first, I thought I had just sprained my ankle. I called my husband, Hugh, to explain that I did not think I should ride my bike home and asked if he could arrange to come get me and my bike. Thinking that my injury wasn't too serious, I did my souvenir shopping and hobbled to a coffee shop to wait. However, as I waited, my leg started to swell. As it became increasingly evident that the pain was in my leg and not my foot, I came to the realization that I needed to go to the hospital.



Since cars aren't allowed in the Delft Market Square, I was happy to learn about the Delft City Shuttle (www.delftcityshuttle. nl). It came in very handy. The ladies at the café Van 9 tot Zeven (www.van9totzeven.nl) explained how Hugh could get a ticket for the shuttle and the shuttle could take me to where his secretary was waiting in her car.



I am sure I helped give the other passengers in the shuttle an extra story to tell about their ride around Delft.

I received fabulous and attentive care by all the staff at Renier de Graaf Gasthuis in Delft. I was doing pretty well until the doctor showed us the x-rays and said surgery would be necessary. What, really? How could I feel sorry for myself when just before me in the gipskamer (where casts are put on) was a girl about five years old getting a bright pink cast that went from her toes to her hip. She was told, "Je bent zo dapper." ("You are so brave.") So I had to be brave too. FritsTaxi (www.fritstaxi.nl) arranged someone to take us home. Hugh prepared the sofa bed on our ground floor and got me set up in my temporary "bedroom." One week later, I had my titanium plate and screws installed. This photo shows the before and after x-rays.



My accident happened just days before the December General Meeting. Trena **Cormier** stepped in to handle the meeting without hesitation, and word of my accident quickly spread through the AWC. I cannot express the gratitude Hugh and I felt for all the outpouring of care and good wishes. Sunita Menon organized a food brigade that delivered delicious meals every other day for weeks. Through her excellent planning and the gracious gifts of time and yummy food by more than a dozen AWC Members, we had no food worries. Hugh had a big burden caring for me. So relieving him of meal planning, shopping and cooking gave him less to think about and more time, especially at the end of the day when I was often not feeling well and he was tired. The variety of the meals was a delight. Hugh would say "And for tonight's gastronomic delight we have ..." Each meal was designed to be easy to serve. I remember one night he said "there is even rice already made."

It was so much more than just the food. When each of you came, you arrived with a smile, a hug, and a "how are you doing?" There were phone calls each day offering even more help and good wishes. I did not feel lonely or abandoned. Thank you.

While I am writing this well before publication date, I am still wearing my cast and counting the days until it is off. I know there will be physical therapy and more healing to come. By the time you read this in March, I hope to be back on my bike—but that is probably optimistic. I will get back to cycling, and will ride again to Delft, but next time, I plan to park closer to the Oude Kerk!



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New email account

Please send all eNews information to <u>awcthehague.enews@gmail.com</u> no later than end of day each Friday for the following week's eNews.

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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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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.

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