



Welcome To Our Group



The Network News

A Quick Look Ahead...

Sundays	Social Bridge 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm Brightpoint Royal Women's Hospital
Sunday Sept. 20	Golf Introductory morning 8:30 am Abu Dhabi City Golf
Sept.27	AWN Golf lessons 8:30 am Abu Dhabi City Golf
Tuesday Sept. 15	Explorers' trip to Mall of the Emirates, Dubai 7:30 am – 4:00 pm RSVP by Sept 6
Monday Sept 28	Book Club 1- 3 pm, 7-9 pm Various locations
Wednesday Sept 2, 16	Mahjong 9 am to noon Hemingway's, Hilton
Thursday Sept 3, 17	Coffee Morning 10 am to noon Khalidiya Palace
Monday Sept.28	AWN Culture Club Show & Tell Venue TBA

Summer was long and hot, but it is almost over! A lot of us travel during the summer, but some stay. I had someone ask me on a particularly hot day this summer, "What are you doing here?" to which I replied, "Well, I live here."

People are now returning from their summer travels and expat life will begin a new season, much like a school year. So, welcome back and welcome *home*, even if you are new to Abu Dhabi.

For those of us who stuck it out in Abu Dhabi this summer, there were enough indoor activities to keep us amused: bridge, mahjong, bowling*, movies, coffee mornings, book club, the occasional lunch, shopping (always shopping), a 4th of July Iftar at The Club, and an ice cream social. Now that you know what *we* did this summer, we want to hear all about *your* summer! So, bring those smart phone photos with you to the coffee morning and plan to share them all around.

While you were away we made some plans for the upcoming year. For example, take a look at the excellent coffee morning speakers on the schedule already (**see page 2**). Thanks, Angie.

In addition, we look forward to introducing you to our enthusiastic new board members: Philanthropy Chair Carolyn Neubauer and Special Events Chair Tish Dahlby.

We anticipate a great year, and hope **YOU** will join us!

Lee Nichols
Co-president

*Ask me about my bowling injury, and you will understand why I haven't tried golf

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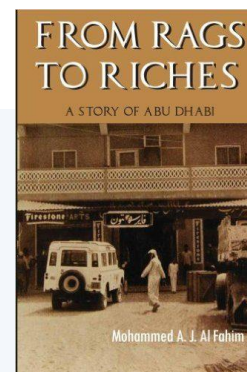
Coffee Mornings

Thursday 3 Mr. Mohammed Al Fahim, the author of the widely acclaimed book "From Rags to Riches" will be our guest speaker on Sept.3. **His book will be on sale for 65 AED.**

An interesting speaker, Mr. Al Fahim gives a firsthand account of early life here in the Emirates. Mr. Fahim was born in Al Ain in 1948. His father worked and traveled with Sheikh Zayed, President of the United Arab Emirates at the time. Mohammed spent several years in the palace of Sheikh Zayed and is able to give an account of transitions and developments within Abu Dhabi from its humble beginnings.

Thursday 17 Carpet expert, Rashad, from the Blue Souk in Sharjah, will talk about carpets. Please come join us for this very informative event.

November 19 Honor your Talent. Tickets for tables will go on sale in September.



Due to unforeseen circumstances, our schedule of speakers is subject to change. For more info, please email morningcoffees@awnabudhabi.com.

Newcomers Coffee



Our Newcomers' Coffee on June 17 was a truly delightful gathering in the home of our Newcomer Vice Chair, Gail Hawkins. About equal numbers of newly signed up members and 'old hands' shared stories of travel and adventure and how they found themselves to be living in this amazing city. There was much in common and email addresses and phone numbers were enthusiastically exchanged at the end of the meeting.

This special event that is held five times a year has proved to be a wonderful place to forge new and enduring

friendships. Everyone who signs up to become a member of AWN is automatically invited to a Newcomers' Coffee. We look forward to greeting you at our next event in September.

For more information contact newcomers@awnabudhabi.com



AWN Culture Club

On Monday, September 28, the AWN Culture Group will meet again, from 10 am to 12 noon, for yet another 'show and tell' event about Islamic ceramics, and some trade Chinese vessels that were so popular in the Islamic world early on. Our star presenter will be our very dear AWN member, Luanne McCray, introducing us to the basic ceramic terminology. All participants are encouraged to share with the other group members their knowledge, and a photo and description of their favorite ceramic piece. If you ever tried your hand at pottery, please tell us about your experience. **Venue:TBA.** There are few places left so if you are interested in joining us, please contact awn@awnabudhabi.com for more information.



Our last show and tell event, held on June 8, was devoted to Arabic calligraphy and proved to be a great success. A nice crowd of 18 ladies were treated to a visual and oral presentation by our very capable and passionate Izabella Sluzek, the founder of AWN Culture Club.

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awn@awnabudhabi.com www.awnabudhabi.com



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Carolyn Neubauer, our new Philanthropy Chair, in her own words...

If you had asked me, 3 years ago, if I would someday move 7,265 miles away from my home in Chicago, to Abu Dhabi, I would have laughed. It just so happens my husband is quite amused when I laugh, so... there you go and here I am.



While living in Chicago and raising two boys, community was very important to me. I volunteered much of my time to our community church and schools. I enjoyed serving as PTO president while my boys were in school. After starting my own design firm, I continued to work with many charitable organizations giving of my time and services. It is because of this work that I welcomed the opportunity to act as AWN's Philanthropy Chair.

Arriving in Abu Dhabi felt a little overwhelming at first, but being invited to the AWN newcomer's coffee opened my eyes to wonderful opportunities and friendships. On AWN's welcome page we state that AWN facilitates contact, support, and information exchange for both new arrivals and long-time residents. It is a privilege as Philanthropy Chair to expand the support we give one another to the greater community in which we live.

Theodore Roosevelt once said, "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are". Living away from our homes and families make me realize how meaningful those words are. Whether close or far, we are all connected and have the ability to make a profound impact in each other's lives.

Celebrating Eid Al Adha

Eid-Al-Adha ('Festival of Sacrifice'), also known as the Greater Eid, is the second festival in the Muslim calendar, after Eid Al Fitr, but considered the most important. It is celebrated at the end of the 'Hajj', the annual pilgrimage to Mecca. The Eid is a public holiday and lasts for three days. This year it is expected to begin on or around September 23, depending on the sighting of the new moon.

During the celebrations, Muslims remember and commemorate one of Ibrahim's (Abraham's) main trials, when God appeared to Ibrahim in a dream and asked him to sacrifice his son as an act of obedience. As Ibrahim was all prepared to do it, God stopped him and gave him a ram to sacrifice instead. Today, Muslims commemorate and remember Ibrahim's trials, by themselves slaughtering an animal, usually a sheep or a goat. The meat from the sacrifice is mostly given away to others. One-third is eaten by immediate family and relatives, one-third is given away to friends, and one-third is shared with the poor. The act symbolizes the willingness to give up things that are close to our hearts, in order to follow God's commands

The day of Eid starts with Muslims going to the Mosque for prayers, dressed in their best/new clothes. It is also a time when they visit family and friends as well as offering gifts to children. The best way to greet your Muslim friends on this special day is simply by saying Eid Mubarak.

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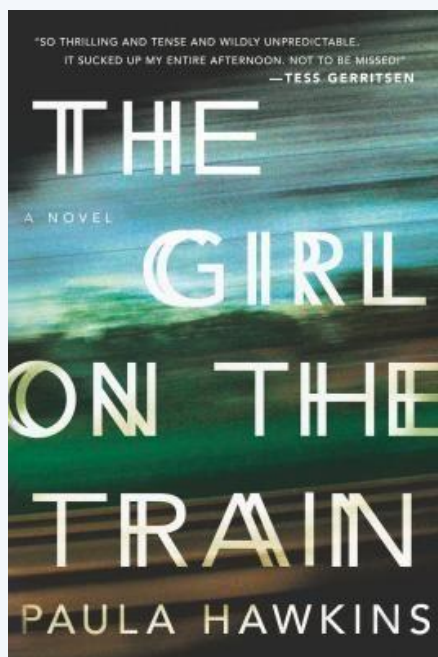
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Book Club

The book selection for September 28 is **"The Girl on the Train" by Paula Hawkins.**

A debut psychological thriller that will forever change the way you look at other people's lives.

Rachel takes the same commuter train every morning. Every day she rattles down the tracks, flashes past a stretch of cozy suburban homes, and stops at the signal that allows her to daily watch the same couple breakfasting on their deck. She's even started to feel like she knows them. "Jess and Jason", she calls them. Their life - as she sees it - is perfect. Not unlike the life she recently lost.



And then, she sees something shocking. It's only a minute until the train moves on, but it's enough. Now, everything's changed. Unable to keep it to herself, Rachel offers what she knows to the police, and becomes inextricably entwined in what happens next, as well as in the lives of everyone involved. Has she done more harm than good?

Please join us for an enjoyable time with lots of good conversation. Bring your opinion! Afternoon group meets from 1:00 – 3:00 pm, and evening group meets from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. Please RSVP at bookclub@awnabudhabi.com stating "afternoon" or "evening" in the subject line. **LOCATION DIRECTIONS WILL ONLY BE SENT TO THOSE WHO RSVP.**

Golf

The Abu Dhabi City Golf would like to run a golf introductory morning for AWN ladies that are new in town or did not take lessons with them last season. The date would be Sunday, September 20th at 8.30am and the cost would be 50 AED per person for 90 minutes of group coaching with tea & coffee at the Clubhouse afterwards.



We will continue with our 10 week golf lessons at the Abu Dhabi City Golf course on Sunday mornings beginning September 27 for a cost of 500 AED/ Ten Week- Lessons. We will break up into groups of beginners, intermediate and advanced players beginning at 8.30am

Also in Mid-September we will begin our Wednesday 9 am golf sessions at Abu Dhabi National Golf Course which includes a 1 hour golf lesson followed by 9 holes of golf including cart, water and cold towels, followed by coffee or tea. Cost is 210 AED. (Abu Dhabi Golf Club members will pay 110 AED). These Wednesday golf sessions are limited to 12 players (4 players minimum), which is determined by whomever responds first to my weekly emails. For more info, email Heidi Garrity at golf@awnabudhabi.com



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Volunteers Needed!

We are always looking for volunteers and new ideas. If you would like to help with: Coffee Mornings, Explorers, Special Events, Activities or Newcomers, to name a few, please let us know. We would love to have you! Please contact us at: president@awnabudhabi.com

Bridge

AWN offers bridge play, welcoming all levels (except complete beginners). The AWN bridge group meets at Brightpoint Royal Hospital (in the Skybox of Al Jazeera Stadium) on Sunday afternoons from 1:30 to 4:30 pm. For more details, email bridge@awnabudhabi.com



Bridge lessons for beginners will resume in October, 2015. Beginners can sign up for the next lessons session by sending an email to bridge@awnabudhabi.com

Mahjong



The Mahjong group plays on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 9:00 am to noon at Hemingway's, Hilton Hotel. All levels are welcome including those who have never played and would like to learn. Upcoming sessions are scheduled for Sept. 2 & 16. There is a cost of 35 AED that includes coffee, water and a light snack. If you wish to be added to the mahjong mailing list, please send an email to mahjong@awnabudhabi.com.

Explorers

Awn Explorers are heading to Dubai on Tuesday, September 15, on a shopping spree at the Mall of the Emirates. We will meet at the World Trade Center (WTC) at 7:30 am and be back to Abu Dhabi at 4:00 pm. At 9:30 AM Crate and Barrel, will be hosting a holiday decor session for Halloween, and previews for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Tickets are 60 AED per person. Make sure you buy your tickets in advance at our coffee morning on Sept. 3. **RSPV by Sept. 6.** For more info, contact explorers@awnabudhabi.com

On Sept. 4, Abu Dhabi Summer Seasons and YAK events present '**Comedy Friday**' featuring top major comedians from across Middle East and US, with Eddie Griifin, the famous American actor and comedian, as the main performer. The show starts at 7:00 pm. (arrive one hour earlier) at Al Raha Theater. We need at least 10 people to get a 25% discount. Seats are available on a first come, first serve basis. For more info, contact explorers@awnabudhabi.com

On Friday, November 6 from 7:30 to 9:30 pm, we are having a "Grapes and Snacks" event at La Cava Rosewood Hotel. Cost 175 AED per person. **Must RSVP October 29.** Spouses and friends are welcome!

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Memorable moments...

AWN Ramadan Iftar at the British Club on July 4th.



Coffee Morning, Thursday, Aug. 20 Turkish Coffee Demonstration



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AWN expresses its deepest sympathy to the friends and family of Laura Stone, an AWN member, who passed away on July 18. Though no words can help ease your loss, know that you are very close in our thoughts and prayers. We were privileged and honored to have known her.

