

The Network News

A Quick Look Ahead...

Friday May 13	Special Care Center Gala 7:00 pm Fairmont Hotel
Sundays	Social Bridge 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm Millennium Corniche Hotel, Khalifa St.
Tuesdays	Beginners' Bridge 10:00 am- 1:00 pm Reem Island
Wednesdays	Golf Clinics 9:00 am Abu Dhabi National Golf Course
Sundays	Golf Lessons 8:30 am/ 9:30 am Abu Dhabi City Golf Club
Wednesdays	Mahjong 9 am to noon Royal Orchid, Hilton Hotel
Monday May 2, 16	Creative Writing Group 4:00- 5:30 pm Café Arabia
Tuesday May 10	Explorers NYU Trip 11:00 am (Details page 2)
Thursday May 19	Coffee Morning 10 am to noon Khalidiya Palace
Monday May 23	Book Club 1:00- 3:00 pm 7:00- 9:00 pm Various locations

A Message from Susan Foster...

Happy May Day! Summer is around the corner! Just as reminder, due to a national holiday on Thursday, May 5th, we will not have our usual Coffee Morning. We will see you back on May 19!

We are pleased to be supporting the upcoming Special Care Center Gala fundraiser on Friday, May 13 and tickets are still available. More information about the Gala is on Page 2, or write to philanthropy@awnabudhabi.com if interested in finding out how you can join in the fun.

We have a few changes to our Leadership Team. We are saying Good-bye to Heidi Garrity our Golf Coordinator and Activities Chair. Heidi is moving from Abu Dhabi and is off to new adventures. Thank you, Heidi; we will miss you!

We are pleased to announce Cleo Paleologos, our Mahjong coordinator, has agreed to also be our Activities Chair. Thank you, Cleo! We look forward to our busy line-up of activities!

As you have a busy month ahead take time to smell the roses!

Best regards,

Susan Foster
AWN Co-President



Coffee Mornings

Thursday, May 5 No coffee morning due to National Holiday.

Thursday, May 19 Our speaker will be Shelley Kowkabany from Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation (ENEC). Shelley has a Masters in Nuclear Engineering with an MBA. For the past 7 years, she has had the unique opportunity to mentor and work with developing the energy that is needed to support the UAE's social and economic growth.

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

AWN Spring Social Special Care Gala

Benefiting a school for children with special learning needs
in Abu Dhabi

Friday, May 13, 2016 - Fairmont Hotel - Tickets on Sale NOW

AWN Members are offered the special price of 450 AED per ticket & will be seated at designated AWN tables. Tickets and information are available by emailing philanthropy@awnabudhabi.com



Shukran!

As always, AWN wishes to thank Khalidiya Palace Rayhaan by Rotana for hosting our Thursday morning coffees. We greatly appreciate its welcoming atmosphere, and its dedication in meeting our needs and expectations. Members please remember that Khalidiya Palace offers 20% discounts in their restaurants following our coffee gatherings.

Explorers

The Explorers Group has organized a tour to the **Diana Al-Hadid exhibit at New York University**, Abu Dhabi on Tuesday, May 10 at 11:00 am. We will be guided through the exhibit and possibly other temporary exhibits, given a tour of the Campus Center and then have lunch at the Marketplace on campus. There is no cost of this event, except for your lunch. Numbers are limited. For more info, please email explorers@awnabudhabi.com

Introducing Cleo Paleologos, our new Activities Chair, in her own words...

As with so many of you, Abu Dhabi was not in the plan. It happened! And when it did, I felt strange, unsure but excited. I had never visited the Gulf area before so I did not really know what to expect. What was revealed to me was breathtaking!!! The beauty of the area, the warmth of its people, and the miracles that are performed daily to transform this land to a modern Garden of Eden are remarkable.



I have been an expat for most of my life. Born and raised in a loving and happy home in Greece, I followed my heart when I met my husband Evan, who literally swept me off my feet and around the globe ever since and showed me what it means to call the world "home"!! Over the next 25 years, we covered the States, from the East Coast, to the West and from there to the South, my personal favorite, then back to Europe for a while. My life during this time revolved around my studies at first, then PTO duties, countless volunteering hours to Women's Shelters and to my church, and in the later years managing a real estate investment company. I have been blessed in many ways but the most important one is being a mother to two extraordinary young ladies, Katrina and Demi.

When I arrived in Abu Dhabi, a very special group of ladies responsible of carrying on AWN's tradition, provided me with the opportunity to be involved, share my time, talents and ideas with others and call "home" this exciting city. Because of them I made new friends. Today, as I watch some of these ladies moving on to new destinations, it is with great honor to take the torch to continue what has started 22 years ago.

Golf

Our Abu Dhabi Golf Course Wednesday clinics for intermediate and advanced players are continuing, just make sure we have your email address so we can notify you by email of the clinic and then the first 14 ladies responding to my email will get to participate in the following Wednesday clinic. Our Wednesday clinic starts at 9am with a 1 hour golf lesson followed by 9 holes of golf include cart, water and cold towels followed by coffee or tea. Cost is 210 AED (Abu Dhabi Golf Club and Saadiyat Golf Club members pay 110 AED). These Wednesday golfs sessions are limited to 14 players (4 minimum), which is determined by whomever responses first to my weekly emails. You can sign up by emailing us at golf@awnabudhabi.com or sign up at the AWN Coffee Morning. These clinics are scheduled to continue through the end of May and then will start up again in September.

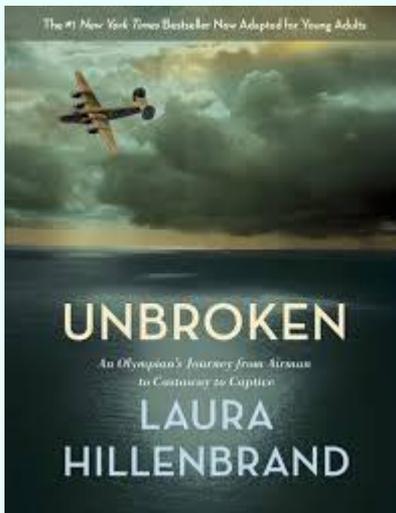


Our Golf lessons for beginners started in April 10, and ends in May. Lessons resume in September, so make sure to sign up for the fall season by emailing us at golf@awnabudhabi.com

The information in this newsletter is provided by the American Women's Network of Abu Dhabi as a service to its members. AWN takes no responsibility for the information provided. Please confirm all details with any of the organizations and contacts listed.

Book Club

The book selection for May 23 is "Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption", by Laura Hillenbrand



In boyhood, Louis Zamperini was an incorrigible delinquent. As a teenager, he channeled his defiance into running, discovering a prodigious talent that had carried him to the Berlin Olympics. But when World War II began, the athlete became an airman, embarking on a journey that led to a doomed flight on a May afternoon in 1943. When his Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean, against all odds, Zamperini survived, adrift on a foundering life raft. Ahead of Zamperini lay thousands of miles of open ocean, leaping sharks, thirst and starvation, enemy aircraft, and, beyond, a trial even greater. Driven to the limits of endurance, Zamperini would answer desperation with ingenuity; suffering with hope, resolve, and humor; brutality with rebellion. His fate, whether triumph or tragedy, would be suspended on the fraying wire of his will.

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@abudhabi.com stating "afternoon" or "evening" in the subject line. **LOCATION DIRECTIONS WILL ONLY BE SENT TO THOSE WHO RSVP.**

Creative Writing Group

The AWN Creative Writing Group will meet at the Café Arabia from 4:00 to 5:30 pm.

You don't have to be a closet poet or the next Margaret Atwood to join - or even 'a writer'. This group is for everyone who enjoys writing in any form and wants to expand their skills.

Each session will explore different aspects of storytelling - character, vivid description, structure - with the aim of getting everyone scribbling.

So whether you simply want inspiration to get started, or are already

writing and want to share your work with a supportive audience, please contact Hilary Pooler for more information and to sign up at writing@awnabudhabi.com



Bridge

A new series of beginners' bridge classes started April 26. The next series will begin in September. Please email me bridge@awnabudhabi.com to add your name to the list if you'd like to learn to play.

We'll continue playing bridge on Sundays at the Millennium Hotel until May 29, which will be our last session there. We expect to resume playing there in September. During the summer we'll play in people's homes so please contact me at bridge@awnabudhabi.com to find out where we're playing and when.

Mahjong

The Mahjong group plays every Wednesday morning from 9:00 am to noon. We meet at Royal Orchid, Hilton Hotel. All levels are welcome including those who have never played and would like to learn. 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



AWN Culture Club's "Archaeological Treasures" event on April 11, 2016

On Monday, April 11 Izabella Sluzek, our Culture Club Coordinator, gave a fascinating personal account of her visits to the UAE archaeological sites and explained their significance. As always, Izabella enchanted our members with her knowledge and enthusiasm.



AWN Cards for Sale!

Be sure to pick up a pack of these 8 beautiful images of Abu Dhabi painted by AWN member Dottie Knapp. At only 35 AED per pack, these cards are the best deal in town and they are the perfect hostess gift! You can purchase these cards at coffee mornings from Barb Bubb and all proceeds go directly to our philanthropic projects.

