



The Network News

A Quick Look Ahead

- Thursday
Sept 1, 22** **Coffee Morning**
10 am to noon
Khalidiya Palace

- Sundays** **Social Bridge**
1:30 pm to 4:30 pm
Millennium Corniche
Hotel, Khalifa St.

- Wednesday** **Golf clinic & Lessons**
9:00 and 10:45 am
Abu Dhabi Golf Club
Sas Al Nakhl

- Wednesdays** **Mahjong**
9:30 am to 12:30 pm
Al Kamoon Restaurant
Khalidiya Palace Hotel

- Wednesday
Sept 14** **Creative Writing Group**
2:30 pm
Café Arabia

- Friday
September 23** **Special Care Center**
Annual Talent Night
5:00 pm
Abu Dhabi Indian School

- Monday
Sept 26** **Book Club**
1:00- 3:00 pm
7:00- 9:00 pm
Various Locations

A Message from Susan Foster...

Welcome back to everyone returning to Abu Dhabi and welcome to all our new members just arriving! After you settle in, I hope you will find AWN has many ways to get you into the swing of things. To help you connect and make new friends, come join one of our activities, or sign up for an Explorer's outing to learn more about this interesting and exotic place. We know you will find something new to make this year special. Be sure to read the newsletter and on occasion check out the website because we don't want you to miss a thing!

We have some interesting coffee morning speakers lined up for the fall. Please note there will not be a coffee morning on September 15 because of the EID holiday that week.

On **September 1**, Bill Bragin, Executive Artistic Director for the NYU Abu Dhabi Arts Center, will speak about their fantastic performances in the year ahead.

On **September 22** we have Marina Bruce, the Desert Diva, who will talk about her experiences in "Off the Beaten Track in UAE and Oman".

We look forward to seeing everyone at our next coffee morning and hearing about your summer adventures!

Susan Foster
Co-President



Coffee Morning

Thursday September 1 Bill Bragin, the Executive Artistic Director for the NYU Abu Dhabi Arts Center, will give us an overview of their fantastic Performance Series. The NYUAD Arts Center presents distinguished professional artists from around the world, as well as student, faculty and community productions.

Thursday September 15: No coffee morning due to Eid Holiday.

Thursday September 22 Marina Bruce, from Desert Divas, will give us an informative talk entitled: Off the Beaten Track in the UAE and Oman. Marina is one of the most adventurous, experienced and highly respected expat desert explorers in the UAE.

Following is a sneak peek of our guest speakers and events taking place during the month of October, November and December

October 6 U.S. Ambassador Barbara Leaf will be our guest, please come join us!

October 20 Hanan Worrell, Local Author, will give a talk about her book on The UAE.

November 3 Karin Garaialdi: Training in Communication and Self Development

November 17 Showcase: AWN Honor Your Talent Market

December 8 Arabella Willing, a marine biologist in Abu Dhabi, will speak about Conservation projects on Saadiyat Island.



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

Philanthropy

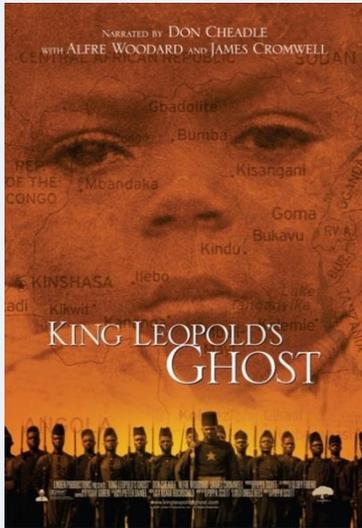
The **Special Care Centre** "Annual Talent Night" will be held on September 23, 2016 at 5:00 pm. Come join us for a Grand Musical Concert. **Venue:** Abu Dhabi Indian School.

Special Care Center is a school for children with learning disabilities and is one of AWN supported charities. A talent show is a great way to showcase the students, give them recognition, and build their confidence!

The School is in need of sponsors for the Talent Show. If you would like to be a sponsor or know of a company that may want to sponsor this worthwhile cause, please contact: Tushna Mehta, Development Manager at tushna@specialcarecentre.ae

Book Club

The book selection for September 26 is “**King Leopold's Ghost**” by Adam Hochschild



In the 1880s, as the European powers were carving up Africa, King Leopold II of Belgium seized for himself the vast and mostly unexplored territory surrounding the Congo River. Carrying out a genocidal plundering of the Congo, he looted its rubber, brutalized its people, and ultimately slashed its population by ten million--all the while shrewdly cultivating his reputation as a great humanitarian. Heroic efforts to expose these crimes eventually led to the first great human rights movement of the twentieth century, in which everyone from Mark Twain to the Archbishop of Canterbury participated. King Leopold's Ghost is the haunting account of a megalomaniac of monstrous proportions, a man as cunning, charming, and cruel as any of the great Shakespearean villains. It is also the deeply moving portrait of those who fought Leopold: a brave handful of missionaries, travelers, and young idealists who went to Africa for work or adventure and unexpectedly found themselves witnesses to a holocaust (Houghton Mifflin)

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.**

Creative Writing Group

After a pause during the summer holidays/ heat, we are re grouping - but on a slightly different basis. The writers that came together in January are now going to continue as a once- a month supportive network...and of course, anyone with an active interest in writing is very welcome to join.

The AWN Writers Group will meet once a month at the Café Arabia (on 15th street, opposite Mushrif Park) to discuss, share and support each other's writing.

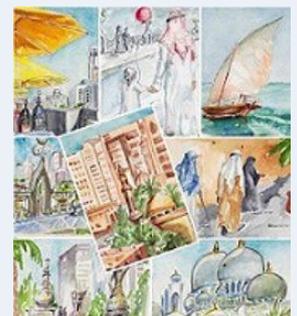
The next meeting will be on Wednesday September 14 at 2:30 pm, and the theme will be ‘Travel Writing’. All welcome to come along.

If you would like to join us, or need further information please contact Hilary Pooler at writing@awnabudhabi.com



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.



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.

awn@awnabudhabi.com www.awnabudhabi.com

Mahjong

The Mahjong group plays every Wednesday morning from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. We meet at Al Kamoon restaurant, Khalidiya Palace 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



Bridge

We'll start playing bridge again at the Millennium Corniche Hotel on Sunday, September 18 from 1:30 to 4:30 pm



Please note we'll be playing now in al Majlis room on the 14th floor. However, in case the room is changed again please check the screen near the lifts before you go up. The cost remains 25 AED per session and this includes tea and coffee. The hotel also offers complimentary valet parking.

If you have any questions please contact me: bridge@awnabudhabi.com

Golf

Dust off your golf clubs ladies! AWN golf lessons will resume on Wednesday, September 28. Lessons for both Intermediate and Beginning golfers will be held at the Abu Dhabi Golf Club in Sas Al Nakhl near Khalifa City. Intermediate lessons will begin at 9:00am for one hour followed by a round of play on the 9-hole Garden Course (cost 210 AED). Beginner lessons will be held at 10:45am for one hour (cost 110 AED). The cost includes complimentary coffee and tea following the lessons, which allows for some great conversation and camaraderie. You can sign up at the regular AWN Coffee Mornings or by email at golf@awnabudhabi.com.



AWN Explorers' Event to the Miraj Islamic Art Gallery by Marien Oommen

The AWN women were privileged on Monday, May 30, 2016 to explore the back portion of the Hilton Grand Hotel, which houses a gorgeous shop museum with fine period collections from the Middle East, UAE and India.



Exquisite works of art beautifully handcrafted and artistically designed by local artisans were a sight to behold. The ladies were first given a tour of the place and then sat down to savor the intricate beauty of the various carpets and learn a bit of its history. Bejeweled carpets with an aura of mystery in fine silk, zari (a type of gold thread used decoratively on Indian clothing), velvet and precious stones created an awesome and mystical beauty. There was a carved dining table, richly embedded with precious stones, and camel bones. There were beautiful cashmere shawls from Kashmir.

Museums are a lot more than collections of artifacts; they allow you to meet with neighbors, and discuss thoughts and opinions. Each person took away interesting information, personalized by her own unique experience.

It was a morning well spent where the ladies were engaged and inspired. These art exhibits have played an integral part in the rich history and continue to inspire the future of this region.

It's a fascinating journey through time.



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AWN Explorers' Visit to Ratti Fabric Store on August 25

AWN Explorers paid a visit to Ratti, a new flagship fabric store opened in Abu Dhabi. We had a good turnout of 24 ladies in all. There were delightful refreshments for all the ladies and seating arrangement. Followed by an introduction on the background of the company, who have been in business for some time. They have branches in Mumbai, New York & Dubai. Their collection of silks, cotton, organza were wonderful. Sari, in amazing designs in all the colors of the rainbow, were on show. We were given the opportunity of trying on. See pictures below!! The ladies were full of excitement and interest in the vast range of beautiful sari they had. It was wonderful to see everyone enjoying the experience!

