



The Network News



A Quick Look Ahead...

- Thursday
November 3, 17** **Coffee Morning**
10 am to noon
Khalidiya Palace

- Tuesday
November 1** **Explorers**
11:00 am
Miraj Islamic Art Center

- Tuesday
November 15** **Explorers**
8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Sharjah Tour
SOLD OUT

- Sundays** **Social Bridge**
1:30 pm to 4:30 pm
Various locations

- Wednesdays** **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

- Thursday
November 17** **AWN Annual Showcase**
10:00 am to 12:00 pm
Khalidiya Palace Hotel
To Reserve tables, see
Details on page 2

- Monday
November 21** **Book Club**
1:00- 3:00 pm
7:45- 10:00 pm
Various Locations

- Tuesday
November 22** **Culture Club**
10:00 am- 12:00 pm
Venue TBA

A Message from Susan...

We have another great line-up for coffee mornings this month. On November 3, join us to hear Karin Garaialde giving her global perspective on collaborating in a multi-cultural environment. She has been sharing her communication training for over 20 years with organizations such as Walt Disney World in Florida, Disneyland Paris, and Intercontinental Hotels.

On November 17, we have our annual Showcase Market. It's a tremendous opportunity to start your holiday shopping! This year our Showcase will feature both AWN members as well as outside vendors with a broad variety of offerings. Don't miss it!

Especially during the holidays you may find yourself missing family, friends and activities back home. AWN is here to be your home-away-from-home! As the holidays approach please remember that joining one of our many groups can be just the ticket to enjoying your Abu Dhabi experience.

If we go back in time to 1994, another group of women must have had those same thoughts! Sharon Moynihan, one of AWN's founding members, invited 50 Americans to her Hilton Baynunah Hotel apartment for Thanksgiving. Sharon ordered turkeys from Spinneys and the Hilton chef roasted and carved them. As a fun activity, the guys started bidding on the Thanksgiving pies and the money was then donated to a local charity. After dinner, the women decided they'd like to get together more regularly. The American Women's Network grew from that small core group to the vibrant multi-cultural group of today!

Have a Happy Thanksgiving,
Susan Foster
AWN Co-President

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Coffee Morning

Thursday, November 3 Karin Garaialde will give her global perspective on communicating and collaborating in a multi-cultural environment. Karin is a mother of three and while she has lived in various countries much of her life, she moved to Abu Dhabi in 2013. Check out her website http://www.alignment.se/html/about_me.html

Thursday, November 17 AWN is teaming up with the Khalidiya Palace Hotel to host our annual Showcase Market from 10:00 am to noon. This program stems from discovering the many talents that exist among our AWN members. It's a great chance to start your holiday shopping!

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

Shukran!

A very special **Thank You** goes to last month's coffee morning guest speakers, Ambassador Barbara Leaf and Hanan Worrell.

Ambassador Leaf's presentation was met with much anticipation, and we had a large number of members attending. She shared the diplomatic mission of the United States Embassy in Abu Dhabi. We were given the opportunity to hear her tell personal stories of living and working in the UAE. They were truly inspirational.

Hanan Worrell, Project Manager of the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi project, treated us to a look at Abu Dhabi's history through pictures and stories as well as sharing the forward vision of Saadiyat and the Guggenheim museum. She provided a wealth of information that the audience found fascinating.



AWN Showcase

AWN is teaming up with Khalidiya Palace Market for our annual Showcase which will take place on **Thursday, November 17**. This is your chance to showcase your talent, advertise your business or sell items. The Showcase is open to AWN members as well as outside vendors. **Tables are sold at the AWN Coffee Morning on November 3** and the cost per table is 200 AED. If you have questions, email Cindy Dodge or Marta Rodrigues Showcase@awnabudhabi.com

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AWN Newcomers' Coffee, October 5

After our summer hiatus, the Membership Committee hosted the first Newcomers' Coffee of the season on Thursday, October 5. There were nearly 20 new members in attendance. The new ladies had an opportunity to meet other newcomers to Abu Dhabi, and to learn all that AWN has to offer. A good time was had by all!



AWN "Sadeeqa": The First Friendly Face at the Newcomers' Table

Being a newcomer to anything in your own country can be a daunting experience; being a newcomer is even more daunting and challenging when one moves to a new country. Many of us arrive wondering, "How do I meet like-minded women?"

As she experienced herself two years ago, Sadeeqa Coordinator Julie Roberts found newcomers to AWN were more at ease because of the friendly Sadeeqa (Arabic word for friend) welcoming them at specially designated Newcomers' Tables. One of AWN's aims is to encourage friendship between members and this can happen instantly when sitting with other newcomers. Introductions are facilitated by the Sadeeqa who is also there to answer questions the Newcomers may have. Sadeeqas are integral to the Coffee Mornings and to welcoming Newcomers to AWN.

If you are interested in being a Sadeeqa at an AWN Coffee Morning, please email us at membership@awnabudhabi.com. Our lovely Sadeeqa Coordinator, Julie Roberts, will contact you and put you on the schedule!

Friends of AWN luncheon on Thursday, October 27

The Friends of AWN luncheon, held on October 27, was a chance to learn about the structure of AWN and volunteer opportunities. AWN always welcomes volunteers. If interested, please email Linda Nagel at philanthropy@awnabudhabi.com



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Linda Nagle, Philanthropy Chair, in her own words...

My husband, Tom and I raised our four children in Nashville. I was a stay-at-home Mom for 16 years and thoroughly enjoyed all the hustle and bustle that comes with it. When our children were older, I worked during the academic year, first, as the Director of the Student Learning Center providing tutoring for nursing students, and then at Vanderbilt University in the College of Arts and Science, mainly advising undergraduates.

The past two years in Abu Dhabi have flown by and have been full of unexpected delights. I thought I would be bored. I even brought to Abu Dhabi a huge bag full of paper recipes; the goal being to organize these on my computer while I was sitting in my apartment waiting for my husband to come home. Then I would make a "Mom's Cookbook" for my four adult children as a Christmas gift. Sorry kids! This Mrs. Claus is not hanging out in the apartment and did not even begin the Recipe Book.



I love AWN. Its mission of facilitating contact, support and networking is the main reason I enjoy being an expat. Thanks to AWN, I am involved in stimulating activities, and things I never thought of doing before, I now do. But more importantly I formed friendships with some amazing women. We share adventures together, support and encourage one another, and just have fun. In addition to all the adventure and fun, I am trying to make my time in Abu Dhabi purposeful. Therefore, serving on the AWN Board and being the Philanthropy Chair is incredibly fulfilling.

I still remember the first AWN meeting I attended, and especially the parting words of advice from an AWN Board member who was returning back to the States, in which she said: "You are a diplomat for your country; bloom where you are planted." I have tried to do both. The Cookbook project will just have to wait!

Golf

Join the AWN lady golfers every Wednesday morning at Abu Dhabi Golf Club, Sas El Nakhl. Intermediate lessons begin at 9:00am for one hour followed by a round of play on the 9-hole Garden Course (cost 210 AED). Beginner lessons are held at 10:45 am for one hour (cost 110 AED). You can sign up at the regular AWN Coffee Mornings or by email at golf@awnabudhabi.com.



Intermediate class



Beginners' class

Golf and Health:

Studies have shown that women who play golf live longer. According to Nancy Berkley, author of "Women Welcome Here – A Guide to Growing Women's Golf", it is the best kind of mind-body exercise. Golf provides not only physical exercise, which helps women maintain balance, flexibility and posture, but it also offers social networking and contributes to mental wellbeing. If you're interested in improving your social, mental and physical fitness, please email us at golf@awnabudhabi.com

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Bridge

The Bridge Club meets every Sunday from 1.30-4.30 p.m. at various locations and we welcome players of all levels.

Bridge lessons are offered periodically and if you are interested in learning to play, please contact the bridge coordinator either by email or at a coffee morning. For more info, please email bridge@awnabudhabi.com



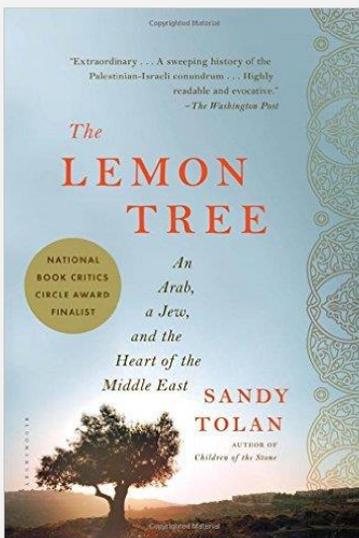
Mahjong

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



Book Club

The book selection for November 21 is **"The Lemon Tree"** by Sandy Tolan



In 1967, Bashir Al-Khayri, a Palestinian twenty-five-year-old, journeyed to Israel, with the goal of seeing the beloved old stone house, with the lemon tree behind it, that he and his family had fled nineteen years earlier. To his surprise, when he found the house he was greeted by Dalia Ashkenazi Landau, a nineteen-year-old Israeli college student, whose family fled Europe for Israel following the Holocaust. On the stoop of their shared home, Dalia and Bashir began a rare friendship, forged in the aftermath of war and tested over the next thirty-five years in ways that neither could imagine on that summer day in 1967.

Sandy Tolan brings the Israeli-Palestinian conflict down to its most human level, suggesting that even amid the bleakest political realities there exist stories of hope and reconciliation. (Bloomsbury)

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.**

Culture Club

Our next show-and-tell, **'Picture is Worth a Thousand Words'**, will take place on Tuesday, November 22 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. The topic chosen this time round is painting traditions in Asia, namely, China, Persia, and India. If you would like to tell us about other painting traditions and you have a painting/drawing that you want to talk about, please come and join us! There will be a cost of 40 AED per person. Sign-up sheets will be available at our next coffee mornings on November 3 and 17. For more info, please email Izabella Sluzek, Culture Club coordinator, at explorers@awnabudhabi.com

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Explorers

Join AWN Explorers for an unforgettable guided tour to the **Miraj Islamic Art Center on Tuesday, November 1, at 11:00 am**. The meeting point will be the entrance of the Art Center, located behind the Hilton Capital Grand Hotel. Complimentary tea, coffee and dates will be offered and free parking is available at the location. For more info, please email explorers@awnabudhabi.com



On Tuesday, November 15, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, AWN Explorers are heading to Sharjah on a trip which will include a morning tour to the **Museum of Islamic Civilization**, followed by lunch at Gahwa Gahwa, a new café in the Heart of Sharjah, and an afternoon tour to the **Calligraphy Museum**. The meeting point will be at Mushrif Mall, Abu Dhabi at 7:45 am. All seats are gone and the event is **sold out**. Explorers' events have been filling up fast so make sure to reserve your spot as early as possible. For more info, please email explorers@awnabudhabi.com



On Tuesday, December 6, Explorers are planning a trip to **Global Village, Dubai**. Global Village is the leading family, cultural, shopping and entertainment destination in the region, with a unique shopping experience at 32 pavilions representing more than 75 countries with different cultures. The bus departs at 2:00 pm and returns at 11:00 pm. The meeting point will be at Mushrif Mall at 1:45 pm. Ticket per person is 75 AED (includes bus and fee entrance). Sign-up at the next coffee mornings on November 3 and 17 or email explorers@awnabudhabi.com

Explorers' guided tour to Sheikh Zayed Center on October 12

A group of 25 AWN members visited Sheikh Zayed Center and were guided through the museum's various rooms by Mohamed Saad, our tour guide from the Emirates Heritage club in the gallery.

Our guide walked us through the first room dedicated to the Petroleum phase, with machinery and equipment in the region, and gave a thorough explanation on how that changed the UAE growth.

Personal belongings of Sheikh Zayed, ranging from his falcon to the individual gifts from different parts of the world; his cars and numerous pictures of his life were exhibited in a second room. Another room was dedicated to the UAE Police, from the early days to the present.



Following the tour, AWN ladies enjoyed lunch at the Byblos restaurant, where wonderful Lebanese dishes kept coming, one after another as it always is with Lebanese cuisine!!

A gallery with so much to take in and remember is a well worth visit. The group enjoyed the visit and left with many stories to share with their families. Feedback from the ladies was great. The event was a very enjoyable one that we will hopefully repeat again!

Explorers' team Rubina & Holly

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Explorers' Visit to Ratti Trading store on October 25

On Tuesday, October 25th, approximately 25 ladies gathered at the Ratti Trading L.L.C. Store to take a look around and discover the beautiful textiles for sale. The business is located in the Khalidiya area behind Al Muhairy Centre and has 3 floors of choices to look through. Everything, from cotton, silks, chiffons and intricately embroidered and embellished fabrics were on display. Each shelf had so many amazing fabrics to discover. The numerous staff at the store was more than helpful. You only had to glance at a roll to have someone pull it from the shelf and open it up with a flourish. There were so many eye-catching patterns and colors. Soon every table was piled with layer after layer of the most gorgeous fabrics. The staff even had drinks and refreshments for us. We were made to feel very welcome.



There was also a tailor on site who could help with design and pattern choices. You can bring in a garment to be duplicated by the tailor, as one woman did. Or you can start completely from scratch. The tailor had paper and pen and would draw up designs and make suggestions for you. Once you pick out your fabric and agree on the design, your measurements are taken by the tailor. In just a short time you can have a completely custom and unique garment. With so many gorgeous choices and patterns, the possibilities are truly endless and very exciting. We also were given a demonstration on the art of wearing a sari, and it truly is an art. There are layers and folds and draping involved. Again, the staff was extremely helpful and knowledgeable. This all adds up to some of the most exquisite looks a woman can wear. The



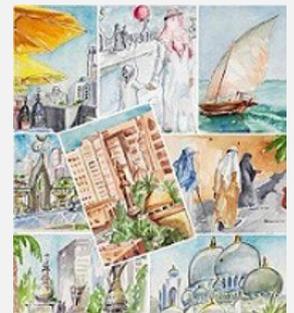
choice of colors alone would make picking out something to buy very difficult. So many spectacular textiles were lining the shelves. The store literally has thousands of options for the most discriminating customer. Thanks to Rubina Haider & Holly Buckley for organizing another very successful event for Explorers Club.

This event would be worth repeating so more of our members can take advantage of the opportunity to have something special created just for them.

By Gale Kennel

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 philanthropy projects.



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