

THE NETWORK News



» **SAVE THE DATE:** HOLIDAY
TEA AND COOKIE EXCHANGE
PAGE 2



AMERICAN WOMEN'S NETWORK OF ABU DHABI

*Connecting
cultures
through
friendship*

AWN COFFEE & SPEAKER SERIES

**Thursday,
December 7
January 18** **AWN Coffee &
Speaker Series**
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Khalidiya Palace Hotel

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday,
December 11** **Holiday Tea & Cookie
Exchange**
2 - 4 p.m.

**Tuesday,
December 12** **Festive Afternoon Tea
at Emirates Palace**
3 p.m.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

**Sunday,
December 10** **Social Bridge**
1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
The Sports Bar Lounge,
The Club

**Mondays,
December
4, 11, 18** **Art Club**
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
National Theater Studio

**Wednesdays,
December
6, 13, 20, 27** **Golf Clinic & Lessons**
9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
Abu Dhabi Golf Club
Sas Al Nakhl

**Wednesdays,
December
6, 13** **Mah Jong**
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Slipway Bar, The Club

WELCOME FROM AWN CO-PRESIDENTS

Welcome to our new and current members. Please join us at one of our AWN Coffee and Speakers Series and at our many activities and special events this month.

AWN is committed to connecting women of all nationalities through friendship, activities and cultural exchange. Make sure to explore our newsletter and visit our website often for our latest activities, outings and other interesting avenues of support.

Susan Foster and Carolyn Neubauer
AWN Co-Presidents

AWN COFFEE & SPEAKER SERIES

Coffee & Speaker series mornings are held on the first and third Thursday of every month from 10 a.m. to noon at Khalidiya Palace Hotel.



Mark your calendars for **Thursday, Dec 7th**, the last AWN Coffee & Speakers Series of 2017! We will spread some holiday cheer with our gift presentation to two amazing local charities. Join us for some special holiday merrymaking and get into the spirit of the season.



Yvette Campbell - January 18, 2018

On **Thursday, January 18th**, we kick off the new year with our guest speaker, **Yvette Campbell, Consultant to the Founder, Strategic Business Development, for The Abu Dhabi Music & Arts Foundation (ADMAF)**. ADMAF seeks to nurture the arts, education, culture and creativity for the benefit of society and the advancement of Abu Dhabi's cultural vision through the many events offered to the public throughout the year. Established in 1996 by Her Excellency Hoda Al Khamis Kanoo, ADMAF Founder, the Foundation is a not-for-profit organization under the patronage of His Excellency Sheikh Nahyan Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, ADMAF Patron and President.

SHUKRAN!

Shukran to our **November 2** speaker, **Dr. Reem Al Mutwally**, for her fascinating presentation on the changes in traditional UAE dress during the reign of Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan (1966-2004). Dr. Reem based her presentation on her book "Sultani: Traditional Renewed" and brought a couple of wonderful gowns as samples for us to see.

For more information about Dr. Reem's work, visit: <http://sultanibook.com/> or **Instagram: Sultanibook**

Many thanks to our **November 16** speaker **Amy Subaey of UAE Trekkers**. Amy's passion and adventurous spirit captivated and inspired many of us to step out of our comfort zones and explore the many amazing places in Abu Dhabi and beyond.

Check out www.uae-trekkers.com to find out more about Amy's next big adventure and how you can join in on the fun.

HOLIDAY TEA AND COOKIE EXCHANGE

Come and join fellow AWN members savouring the holiday season on **Monday, December 11, 2 - 4 p.m.**

Bring: 3 dozen of your favorite homemade cookie, bar or holiday treat (with copy of recipe/ingredients) and a few extra to share

Enjoy: An afternoon of friendship, tea, nibbles, holiday cheer

Leave with: A gift from AWN and 3 dozen assorted holiday treats to share with family and friends

Location: Private home on Saadiyat Island. Address to be given upon sign-up

Cost: 100 AED

Sign up: At our coffee mornings or at socialeventsawn@gmail.com

MEET THE GOLF COORDINATORS



Patty Hubbard

My love of golf began several years ago with the encouragement of my husband who convinced me that it would be a wonderful pastime that we could enjoy together in retirement. It wasn't until we moved here from Virginia (near Washington, DC) three years ago that I had an opportunity to pursue golf more seriously. It was through AWN's golf program that enabled me to not only improve my game, but to also make many lasting friendships. As one of the golf coordinators for AWN, I am happy for the opportunity to encourage women to pursue the game of golf and enjoy its many benefits – improving social, mental and physical fitness. Plus, it is just fun being outdoors with a lovely group of ladies on a beautiful day. A big thanks to my partner and co-coordinator, Deirdre Dudeney, for her sage guidance and leadership.

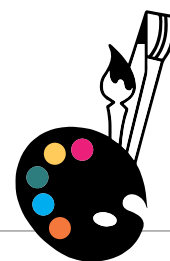
Deirdre Dudeney

I moved to Abu Dhabi from Ireland almost three years ago with my husband Sean and our two long-haired miniature dachshunds, whom I'm sure dream of the green, green grass of home (I imagine if they could talk, they would have stern words, especially during the summer months!) We have two boys attending University in Dublin; they visit us regularly. So, with all the extra free time plus the beautiful weather for most of the year, I am able to devote a lot more time to playing golf. Having joined AWN, my golf time has been enriched by the friendships made due to sharing the trials, tribulations and exhilarations (that one good shot!) that occur on the golf course. I particularly enjoy working with Patty; I am inspired by her tireless efforts to make the AWN Ladies Golf an enjoyable experience for all involved.



ART CLUB

We will be continue meeting at the National Theater for the month of December, Mondays from 10 a.m. till noon. There's a 20 AED fee per person each session for the usage of studio. And also we are open for the new members. Contact Julia at artclub@awnabudhabi.com.



BOOK CLUB

The book club will not meet in December. Meetings will resume January 22, 2018. For more information, please email bookclub@awnabudhabi.com.

SOCIAL BRIDGE

We play social bridge on Sundays from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. at The Club. All levels are welcome. There will be no bridge on December 3 for the National Holiday. We will meet on the 10th as usual.

There will be no bridge from December 17 through January 7. Play will resume on January 14. Please email bridge@awnabudhabi.com for details, to be added to the mailing list, or for information on lessons.

Congratulations to the fall bridge class for completing the beginners lessons! Well done!

GOLF

Ladies participating in the AWN golf program have two upcoming opportunities to test their skills. On Monday, December 4, the Abu Dhabi Golf Club (ADGC) will host the annual Golf on the Garden event, which brings together participants in the Ladies Golf Program and Golf Institute for some friendly competition and fun. It will include a round of golf on the nine-hole Garden Course followed by a buffet lunch and prize ceremony.

In addition, AWN golfers have been invited to participate in the ADGC Ladies Christmas Event on Tuesday, December 12. This event will also be played on the Garden Course and will include a Christmas buffet, a Secret Santa, and much more. For details on how to participate in these activities, contact golf@awnabudhabi.com.

Join the AWN lady golfers every Wednesday morning at Abu Dhabi Golf Club, Sas El Nakhl. Intermediate lessons begin at 9 a.m. 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 a.m. for one hour (cost 110 AED). You can sign up at the regular AWN Coffee Mornings or by email at golf@awnabudhabi.com.

KNITTING GROUP

AWN knits for a good cause.

Meetings will not take place during December but will resume after the holidays. We will then meet every Monday starting January 8 from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., at Bee's Knees Cafe, Nation Towers.

To receive further information please email knit@awnabudhabi.com.

**MAH JONG**

The Mahjong Group will meet on December 6 and 13, which will be the last meeting for the year.

Our regular Mahjong meetings will resume January 10, 2018.

The Mahjong group meets at the Slipway Bar, The Club, from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. We welcome players of all levels, so even if you haven't played before just come! We would love to teach you. The 40 AED fee covers the entrance to The Club, sandwiches, fruit salad, cookies, coffee, tea and water. Parking is available either inside or outside The Club. If you want to be included on our list please send an email to mahjong@awnabudhabi.com.

TENNIS

The next AWN Tennis session will begin the week of January 21 at the Beach Rotana tennis courts. Classes will be available Sundays and Tuesdays; 8:45 - 9:30 a.m. Beginner and advance lessons will be offered. The session consists of 4 lessons at a reduced rate of 340 AED. This includes your weekly lesson, along with complimentary use of locker facilities, court time immediately following your lesson and use of the swimming pool (following your lesson), Sunday classes will run Jan 14, 21, 28 and Feb 4, 11. Tuesday classes will run Jan 23, 30 Feb 6 and 13. Class sizes are limited; email tennis@awnabudhabi.com to sign up or for more information.



EXPLORERS

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, December 12: Festive Afternoon Tea at Emirates Palace

Time: 3 p.m. | Venue: Le Café

Enjoy the festive spirit with a High Tea designed to your enhance Christmas cheer. Special treats abound and an elegant menu sprinkled with the magic of the festive season is assured. Make a date for a festive afternoon pick me up with friends and family.

*220 AED per person. Due to the high demand kindly reserve your table in advance.

*All prices are subject to 10% service charge, 6% tourism fee and 4% municipality fee.

Contact explorers team to reserve your booking at the next AWN coffee morning December 7 or email explorers@awnabudhabi.com.

Explorers Event: Global Village Excursion

On Tuesday, November 21, a group of 29 ladies gathered at Mushrif Mall anxious to do some serious shopping at the Global Village in Dubai. Armed with shopping carts, tote bags and plenty of cash, the ladies boarded the bus and we were on our way by 2 p.m. We arrived at the ticket area by 3:40 and were greeted by Noor, a representative from the Customer Service Department. She acquired our tickets, arranged for a special tour of the grounds, and introduced our guide, Mohammad. From there we were directed to the VIP entrance where we were offered some lovely Arabic coffee and dates. Some of the ladies chose to go directly into shopping mode while others tagged along with Mohammad for his one-hour tour. At the end of the tour, the ladies were surprised to be treated to free delicious fruit drinks from one of the vendors.

Once we parted ways with Mohammad, all the ladies scattered to explore the hundreds of pavilions and to make those very important purchases. Most of the ladies took time to enjoy some of the delicious cuisine indigenous to the many cultures featured at the Village. There was everything from hot chips, hamburgers, Indian, Turkish, Iranian food choices, ice cream, and abundant sweet treats.



After a few hours of shopping, the ladies gathered at the bus parking lot with all their packages. By 8:30 p.m. we boarded the bus, loaded our goodies into every available spot, and buckled up for the ride home. Instead of a group of tired ladies wanting to rest, the bus was full of laughter and conversation about all their newly-found treasures. By 10:45 p.m. we pulled into the Mushrif Mall parking lot, gathered up all our belongings and set out to find our cars or catch a taxi home. It was a super fun day with a fabulous group of ladies enjoying glorious weather, delicious food, and hours of shopping. Perfect!

Bobbie Ramirez, Explorers Team

EXPLORERS

**Explorers Event: Dubai Opera Private Tour**

On Tuesday, November 7 a large group of over 50 AWN members embarked on a Private Tour of the splendid Dubai Opera House located just steps from the famous Burj Khalifa.

This iconic dhow-shaped Opera House building is a masterpiece of contemporary design and is a stylish tribute to Dubai's maritime history. Designed by Janus Rostock, the exceptional space has unique ability to transform into three modes that can be changed from a theatre into a concert hall and finally becoming a banquet or event area.

The attendees were divided into three groups and given a memorable tour around the magnificent Opera House building. The guides shared their professional knowledge with great details making it a unique behind-the-scenes experience for all of us. The experience culminated in us all enjoying a 3-course Lunch at Sean Connolly Restaurant which is a contemporary brasserie interlaced with Australian & New Zealand influences.

I am sure quite a few of our members will, in the future, visit the new splendour of the UAE again with their families and friends.

This tour was a wonderful team effort (Explorers team) and we were very happy of the final results. We do hope to continue in the future try to organise some interesting places for our members to visit and enjoy.

Rubina Haider, Explorers Chair



EMIRATES NATURAL HISTORY GROUP – LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR NEW HOME

Interested in nature and the outdoors? Find your people at the Emirates Natural History Group (ENHG) Abu Dhabi! We meet on the first and third Tuesday every month for free public lectures on the natural history and archaeology of Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates, the Middle East and the world at large. Lectures take place at 7 p.m. at the Park Hyatt Hotel on Saadiyat, and are open to members and non-members of the ENHG.

Membership is only 100 AED for individuals or 150 AED for families per activity season. Members can participate in our program of frequent day and overnight field trips, usually led by experts, to areas of interest throughout the UAE. Members also receive the group's scientific journal, TRIBULUS, and quarterly newsletter, Focus.

To join, download a brochure from our website at:



<https://enhgauh.tidyhq.com>, and bring it to the next lecture.

Despite what you might have heard, there is nature in the UAE, and we can help you find it.

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.