Going Dutch

2011 November

In this issue:

- Turkey in Springtime
- Welcoming New Members
- Don’t Miss: Holiday Bazaar
- Tips for Creative Photography

American Women’s Club of The Hague
Going Dutch
November 2011

Please help us make our new Members feel at home

You won't want to miss this year's Holiday Bazaar

What fun having a sneak peak at the Maritime Museum in Amsterdam before it opened to the public

The Magazine of the American Women’s Club of The Hague

1. Officers and Chairwomen
2. Welcoming New Members at Kick Off
3. Message from the President
4. November General Meeting
5. Letter from the Editor
6. Membership
7. Ongoing Activities
8. One-of-a-Kind Activities
9. Women with Dutch Partners
10. AWC Holiday Bazaar
11. Tours
12. Fun at Prinsjesdag Luncheon
13. Cooking & The Rest of the Story
14. Bakers Needed
15. Gift Shop News
16. Reserve Your Recipe Book
17. Calendar
18. Thanksgiving Service
19. Announcements
20. The Dutch Daily
21. Bookshelf
22. Tips for Creative Photography
23. FAWCO
24. Vermeer from Many Angles
25. AWC and the Arts
26. DFAS
27. Turkey in Springtime
28. Classifieds
29. Index of Advertisers
30. Rates
31. Visiting the Maritime Museum

WE COLOR YOUR WORLD

Aveda’s expertly-trained colorists give you customized, vibrant, long-lasting hair color that’s 99% naturally derived,* so hair is essentially damage-free and feels silky to the touch.

Live a colorful life,
call to book your appointment today.

* From plants and non-petroleum based materials.

FNDH Aveda
Haagsche bluf 71, Den Haag

FNDH City Spa
Passage 23, Den Haag

Tel. 070 - 345 8442
www.aveda-lifestyle.nl
AWC Clubhouse
Nieuwe Duinweg 25
2587 AB Den Haag
Tel: 070 350 6007
info@awcthague.org
www.awcthague.org

Going Dutch Magazine
goingdutchmag@gmail.com

Clubhouse Hours
Monday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Tuesday, Thursday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Wednesday and Friday Closed

Library Hours
Tuesdays and Thursdays
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
First and Third Sundays
2 - 4 p.m.
Garage Door Book Drop - Open 24/7
libraryawc@yahoo.com

2011-2012 AWC Officers

President Johanna Dishongh
First VP Beth Schott
Second VP Laurie Martecchini
Third VP Diane Letner
Treasurer Carla Walker
Secretary Jan Essad
Ways and Means Open
Membership Dru van Harten
Magazine Editor Teresa Mahoney
Philanthropy Dena De Clute-Melancon
FAWCO Sara Crabtree

Editor
Melissa White

Design and Layout
Teresa Mahoney

Cover Photo
Leiden Centraal on July 16, 2011

Advertising
Open

Proofreaders
Celeste Brown, Elanna Reiss, Tricia Robertson, Diane Schaap

Contributors
Eileen Baker, Jane Choy, Sara Crabtree, Dena De Clute-Melancon, Johanna Dishongh, Roberta Enschede, Eileen Harlof, Jennifer Hussey, Rachel Kuppers, Laurie Martecchini, Nancy Poeschl, Beth Schott, Dru van Harten, Anne van Oorschot, Linda Turovlin

Printer
www.drukwerk-centrum.nl

Dues (Effective 2011-2012)
€ 110 per year (€ 55 after January 1)
€ 90 business, professional
€ 55 valid US military id
€ 35 student
Add € 15 new member registration fee

Dues:

Libraryawc@yahoo.com

Library Bank Account Number
ABN-AMRO
51.99.10.206
KvK Den Haag
40409274

Front Office
Celeste Brown
Deborah Reagan
Eileen Baker

Committee Chairs
Activities Open
AWC Gallery Open
At Home in Holland Open
Caring Committee Naomi Keip
Council of the Arts Jane Choy
Gift Shop Eileen Baker
Holiday Bazaar Jan de Vries, Kristine Racina
House Relocation Deb Reagan
IT/Communications Julie LG Otten
Library Laurie Martecchini
Kid’s Club Open
Newcomers Open
Parliamentarian Georgia Renault
Philanthropic Gala Jan de Vries, Sophie Dencher
Programs Marianne Lemstra
Public Relations Open
Tennis Molly Boed
Tours Jennifer Hussey
Volunteer Coordinator Open
Tulip Cafe Nancy Poeschl
Women with Dutch Partners Dru van Harten, Rachel Kuppers

AWC Purpose Statement
The AWC of The Hague is an association formed to provide social and educational activities for American women living in the Netherlands and to promote amicable relations among people of all nations as well as acquiring funds for general public interest. The association does not endeavor to make a profit.

Deadlines:
Submissions are due no later than the last Monday of the month preceding the publication month. For example, for the January/February issue, submissions are due before Monday, November 28.

Please Note:
Articles submitted to Going Dutch will be published subject to space limitations and editorial approval. All rights reserved; reprints only by written permission of the Editor. Please email to: goingdutchmag@gmail.com

Legal Notice:
Articles in Going Dutch express the views and opinions of their authors alone, and not necessarily those of the AWC of The Hague, its Members or this publication.
Here’s to another great year at the AWC! Please help us welcome all our new Members.
**Message from the President**

by Johanna Dishongh

As required by the AWC Constitution and Bylaws, the Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on November 10, 2011. All Regular Members share the responsibility to vote and should take this opportunity to participate in shaping the future of our Club. It is essential to have a quorum of the Membership for the vote. If you are unable to attend this important meeting, please complete and submit a proxy ballot, available by email request from info@awcthehague.org or in the Front Office, prior to November 10. While Associate Members are not entitled to vote, I encourage your attendance and participation in the discussions.

November is traditionally a time of customs and sharing and we continue this tradition at the AWC with our annual Thanksgiving Potluck following the AGM (see next page for details). Pamela Smallwood has accepted the challenge of coordinating this event with me for Tulip Café. Be sure to get your favorite holiday recipe out and sign up to share the meal with us.

You will have the opportunity to continue building your holiday spirit the following weekend at the AWC’s Holiday Bazaar (see page 20). Kristine Racina and Jan de Vries have assembled a wide assortment of vendors which promise to provide something for everyone on your shopping list. Naturally, this event requires an army of volunteers to be assembled to man the Clubhouse the weekend of Roza’s Rug Sale. Eileen Baker, Cindy Barker, Dena De Cloete-Melancon, Tamara Laszlo, Diane Letter, Georgia Regnaut, Jan de Vries and Carla Walker all gave a piece of their weekend to support this biannual event. Thanks also to Dru van Harten and her team of Newcomer’s guest hostesses including Nancy Poeschl, Mariam Raafat, Carol Slootweg and Kimberly Vered who guided our new Members through Dutch products, grocery stores, The Hague and Delft.

![Culminate your Thanksgiving holiday at the Pieterskerk in Leiden, home of the original Mayflower Pilgrims. Overseas Americans Remember (OAR) will host their annual service at 11 a.m. on November 24 (see page 31), which coincides with a visit to the Leiden American Pilgrim Center organized by Jennifer Hussey (see page 20).](image)

True to form, our Club was extremely well represented at the FAWCO Region 4 conference held in Brussels. FAWCO Rep Sara Crabtree, FAWCO Region 4 Coordinator Elizabeth Kennedy, FAWCO Secretary Leslie Collingridge, along with Tami Banick, Celeste Brown, Beth Schott and Anne van Oorschot journeyed to Brussels in early October to participate in club networking, get educated in the FAWCO/Boston University partnership for distance learning and the One Laptop per Child programs, as well as an obtain an update on our Target Water Program.

Please join me in expressing gratitude to the team that Becky Failor assembled to man the Clubhouse the weekend of Roza’s Rug Sale. Eileen Baker, Cindy Barker, Dena De Cloete-Melancon, Tamara Laszlo, Diane Letter, Georgia Regnaut, Jan de Vries and Carla Walker all gave a piece of their weekend to support this biannual event. Thanks also to Dru van Harten and her team of Newcomer’s guest hostesses including Nancy Poeschl, Mariam Raafat, Carol Slootweg and Kimberly Vered who guided our new Members through Dutch products, grocery stores, The Hague and Delft.

**November General Meeting**

by Marianne Lemstra

The AWC 2011-2012 Budget Presentation will take place at our Annual General Meeting. During this meeting, we will also report on the activities and finances of the Club during the past year. Additionally, the updated Policy Plan and nominations for the Audit Committee will be presented for your approval. The Executive Board and Finance Committee (Cindy Barker, Johanna Dishongh, Diane Letter and Carla Walker) spent a significant amount of time preparing the budget, which was approved by the Board in October. As can be expected, the committee was conservative in revenue estimates. Although the bottom line appears to be quite healthy, note that due to the fact the Clubhouse is actively listed for sale, the budget only includes funds for emergency repairs and maintenance. Copies of these documents are available in the Front Office for your review prior to the meeting.

Please join us after the AGM for our traditional Thanksgiving Potluck. Johanna Dishongh and Pamela Smallwood have accepted the challenge of coordinating this event for Tulip Café, which will be providing the turkey. Members are asked to bring a large side dish, salad or dessert to share. In an effort to coordinate dishes, please contact the Front Office no later than Monday, November 7.

**TOT ZIENS, JOHANNA**
Perhaps I am a dinosaur: the last of a dying breed who has not embraced cell phones. Don’t get me wrong: I do own one. I just have never gotten into the habit of using it.

I got my first cell phone when we moved to the Netherlands in late 2005. I actually had planned on using it regularly, but soon realized that I rarely heard it ring when I was on public transport or my bike. When my daughters’ school implemented a cell phone-based emergency SMS system, I had to confess to the administration that I’d stopped turning on my phone and that they’d need to SMS my friend as my emergency contact instead. Consider me foolish, but when my mother ran errands, my school couldn’t reach her either and I survived.

This is not to say that I reject all technology. I am an avid fan of the Internet and use email regularly to contact friends. While I hesitated to start using Facebook, I quickly started using Google+ when it was first introduced this summer and am avidly waiting for my friends to join. I use an iPod or Internet radio to listen to music. I also blog photos and stories of my family’s adventures and use the “cloud” as part of the editorial process with Teresa Mahoney to produce this magazine.

So, why have I been reluctant to embrace cell phones? Clearly they come in handy. Ironically, I had to ask a stranger if I could borrow her phone while writing this during a delayed flight, but otherwise managed to visit the US for six weeks without one. Maybe I’m old-fashioned, but I find that there are very few times when I really need to be reached immediately. I still think answering machines are a great invention!

I must confess that part of my hesitancy is financial. My phone is an inexpensive prepaid model costing me less than € 10 per month. I was completely shocked when I learned that my sister-in-law in Florida spends $250 per month for her family’s four phones. Another reason that my cell phone sits in my drawer is that I’m horrible at texting. I am a fast typist thanks to my 7th grade teacher who threatened to hit me with a ruler if I wasn’t. My father recently gave my kids his old iPad; knowing that I easily get frustrated using touchscreens, my husband immediately bought a portable standard keyboard so I can use it as well.

I am also afraid that I’ll be guilty of some of the behavior that I’ve witnessed in others using cell phones. More than once this summer, family members would stop mid-sentence to answer their phone without so much as an “excuse me.” Maybe I’m just being paranoid, but I couldn’t help but wonder how the person calling was immediately more important than me, the person in front of them. They also often had their phones in their hands and kept checking the screen as if something much more interesting than our discussion would pop up.

Perhaps most importantly, I am worried about becoming an addict. Of course, I could just replace my simple prepaid phone with another just like it, but it is hard not to feel the lure of an Android or iPhone. I already have a difficult time walking past a computer without checking my email or the news. If I had continuous Internet access, I’m afraid I wouldn’t be able to control myself. There’s actually something liberating about being disconnected. However, the ability to check alternate routing if my train is cancelled or a map if I’m lost or the movie options when we feel like being spontaneous, definitely could have advantages.

One of these days, maybe I’ll be spontaneous and go to a cell phone store. In the meantime, I’ll continue to be a dinosaur. And, if you need to contact me, drop me an email or call me on my land-line.
October brought a whirlwind of Newcomer activities. While they are now over, the friendships formed are just beginning. We learned, had fun and discovered a lot about Holland as well as one another. Hopefully you feel more acclimated and at home. Please remember that if you have questions, contact the AWC or myself—we’re here to help. Lastly, I’d personally like to extend my appreciation and gratitude to Johanna Dishongh, Nancy Poeschl, Mariam Raafat, Carol Sloatweg, and Kimberly Vered. You are an integral reason for the success of the activities.
Ongoing Activities
Contact AWC Front Office 070 350 6007 info@awcthewatergang.org

Book Club
The AWC Book Group is open to all book lovers and we always welcome new Members. There is no obligation to attend every meeting or to lead a discussion. We meet in the AWC Living Room and someone brings a snack. The fees that we collect go into the Library’s budget to purchase new books. If you’ve always wanted to try out a book club, this is your chance. Happy reading!

The November Book Group selection is Child 44 by Tom Rob Smith.

Join us as we explore a thriller set in the Soviet Union in 1953. This debut novel offers appealing characters, suspense that doesn’t let up and authentic period detail. In Stalinist Russia, there’s no such thing as murder, so when a serial killer of children is on the loose, the State can’t admit it. When a member of the State Security force and his wife set out to find the killer, the revelations that follow are jaw-dropping. Thursday, November 17
10 a.m.
AWC Living Room
€ 2 Members (€ 3 nonmembers)

Recap of the September Discussion
Bride Flight: Diverging opinions often lead to interesting discussions and the mixed feelings about this book led to a great discussion. It was enlightening to discover that this book was first written as a Dutch movie screenplay, which explained what some saw as a lack of character development. We look forward to watching the movie and seeing the story come to life.

Chat ‘n Crafts
Let’s get creative! The AWC Living Room will be open to all crafters. If you’ve been looking for an open space large enough to lay out that king-size quilt, or need more table space to organize your photo albums or scrapbooks, or just need an excuse to stitch, pack up those supplies and bring them to the Clubhouse to visit with fellow AWC Members and visitors while you work. You might even be able to pick up some suggestions from a fresh pair of eyes. Once a month, we will help the Heart Pillow Project. Bring your lunch or money to join other crafters at a nearby restaurant.
Tuesdays
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
AWC Living Room
FREE
Nonmembers welcome

Duplicate Bridge for Fun
The AWC offers Duplicate Bridge on both Mondays and Wednesdays at the Clubhouse. Both days are open to Members and nonmembers alike. Please sign up no later than Wednesday to play the following Monday. To play on Wednesday, please sign up no later than Friday. This will help us to find you a partner.
Mondays
9:40 a.m. – 2 p.m. (includes lunch)
AWC Clubhouse
€ 3 Members (€ 6 nonmembers) PLUS a salad bar item
Sign-up deadline: Wednesday

Planning Ahead:
• Wednesday, December 7: Gulliver’s Travels by Jonathan Swift
• Thursday, January 26: Kafka on the Shore by Haruki Murakami
• Thursday, February 23: We Need to Talk About Kevin by Lionel Shriver
• Thursday, March 22, 1960: When Everything Changed by Gail Collins

Contact: Jennette Hanson
jennette_hanson@hotmail.com

Wednesdays
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
AWC Clubhouse
€ 3 Members (€ 6 nonmembers)
Sign-up deadline: Friday
Contact: Ann Ridler
annridler@hotmail.com

Golfing with BCH
AWC Members are welcome to join the BCH on Thursday mornings for 18 holes at Delfland Golf Club (www.delflandgolf.nl) near Delft. This mixed group usually meets at 9 a.m. for coffee and warm-up, then tees off around 9:20 a.m. The group also has a drink or lunch together when all have finished their round of golf.
Thursdays
9 a.m.
Delfland Golf Club
Contact: John Donnelly at donnelly@xs4all.nl

Heart Pillow Project
Help us make heart-shaped pillows for women recovering from breast cancer surgery. A set of pillows, one large for under the arm and one small for under a car’s seatbelt, is packaged in a plastic bag with a bow and tag with a bilingual message that is signed by a volunteer. If you can cut fabric, stuff fiberfill, thread a needle, or tie a bow, we need you! Needless to say, we enjoy lots of socializing while contributing to a worthy cause. The emails we have received from Dutch patients are touching and show that women are linked beyond nationality by this terrible disease. We are proud to continue providing women with something practical, yet comforting. No sign-up is necessary. Tuesdays, November 1 and December 13
10 a.m.
AWC Living Room
Contact: Linda Turovlin at linda@turovlin.com

Toastmasters of The Hague
Looking to improve your speaking and leadership skills? Want to speak confidently in front of a group? You’ve come to the right place. Toastmasters of The Hague is a vibrant mix of members from different nationalities, ages and backgrounds. We share a common goal: to develop and improve our speaking and leadership skills and to support each other in our development. We are part of Toastmasters International, the world leader in communication and leadership development. Since 1924, Toastmasters International has helped more than four million people around the world to become more confident speakers and leaders. Our English-speaking group meets twice a month in a fun and friendly atmosphere. By speaking in this supportive environment and providing, as well as receiving, constructive feedback, you will build your confidence, sharpen your thinking and develop your listening and leadership skills at your own pace. You are welcome to attend one of our meetings as a guest! 1st and 3rd Thursdays
7:45 p.m.
AWC Clubhouse
Contact: toastmastersofthehague@yahoo.com

Tulip Café
At least one Thursday a month, Members prepare and serve lunch in the Tulip Café for everyone to enjoy. Rest assured, there is no requirement to be a culinary whiz! Providing tasty and wholesome food is the only criteria for designing your menu. The cost of the lunch ingredients is reimbursable. If you are interested in either cooking or assisting, >>

14 GOING DUTCH

NOVEMBER 2011 15

NOVEMBER 2011 15
Ongoing Activities (cont.)

Contact AWC Front Office 070 350 6007 info@awcthehague.org

please email Nancy Poeschl at npoeschl@gmail.com for available dates. Lunch with a drink is just €9 for participants, and there is no charge for the hostesses that provide the lunch. Members and their guests are asked to RSVP to the Front Office by 3 p.m. on Tuesday to enjoy a home-cooked lunch on Thursday.

Lunch & Movie
Come to our monthly gathering and spend the afternoon with good friends, good food and a good flick! We will meet at Vapiano for lunch followed by a matinee movie at either the Pathe Buitenhof or Spuimarkt. Drop-ins are welcome.

Monday, November 7 & December 5
Noon (dependent on movie time)
Vapiano
Buitenhof 45, Den Haag
Lunch and movie at own expense

Ornament Exchange & Holiday Coffee
Once the Holiday Bazaar and Thanksgiving are over, what better way to continue getting into the holiday spirit than with a festive ornament exchange with friends? Join us at the Clubhouse to exchange ornaments the “White Elephant” way. Bring one gift wrapped ornament worth approximately €5–7 as your price of admission. Don’t forget, you may find the perfect ornament in our own AWC Gift Shop! As with any AWC get together, there will be plenty of time to chat with new and old friends. Coffee, tea and other warm seasonal beverages will be provided, along with homemade holiday cookies.

Tuesday, November 29
10:30 a.m.
AWC Clubhouse
Bring one gift wrapped ornament (€5–7)

Please Note: Payment for all Activities must be made within 5 calendar days of reserving or your name will be moved to a wait-list. Payment can be made in the Front Office or by bank transfer to the AWC account.

Women with Dutch Partners

by Rachel Kuppers and Dru van Harten

Apples, pears and pony rides, oh my! Our WWDP family outing to Olmenhorst was a pure delight. Not only did we taste delicious apples and pears, but we had the extra bonus of the taste of summer in October. We sported our summer gear, embraced the sunshine and picked countless apples and pears. Thank goodness for our tall Dutch partners, who were there to grab the unnoticed apples near the tree tops, and for the kids, who skillfully spotted the perfect pears! It’s hard to decipher which we are more excited about: the apple and pear picking or the scrumptious desserts we plan to bake with them. If you have a special apple or pear recipe you’d like to share, please send it to awc_wwdp@yahoo.com and we’ll share it with the group.

Our next WWDP gathering will be a holiday dinner at Rachel Kuppers’ house. In keeping with our tradition, it will be just for the girls. Stay tuned for more details. If you are interested in being a part of WWDP, please email us at awc_wwdp@yahoo.com.

AWC Guest Policy

Guests are welcome to participate in AWC activities and tours on a limited basis. As a nonmember, a guest is limited to attend two functions per calendar year and will be charged an additional nonmember fee. This privilege is also available to those on the Associate Member waiting list. Only Members are entitled to utilize the Library and Crèche.
Afer lots of planning, the 2011 Holiday Bazaar is just around the corner! Please join us on November 12th and 13th at our lovely location in the Carlton Ambassador Hotel at Sophialaan 2 in The Hague. We promise to put you in the holiday spirit and to provide you with one-stop shopping for all of your holiday gift requirements. You will find a unique variety of beautiful European merchandise including handcrafted items, pottery, scarves, linens, leather and jewelry. In addition, we will be holding raffle drawings on both days for some great prizes.

Santa will be arriving at Noon each day to sit with the children, tell stories and add that real holiday atmosphere. Don’t forget your camera! There will also be planned activities for kids, such as gift making, games and assorted crafts. Be sure to tell family, friends and neighbors about the Bazaar so that they can sample some of our delicious baked goods and do some early shopping for Sinterklaas and Christmas.

The Holiday Bazaar is also a perfect time to volunteer. Consider spending a few hours helping at the Bazaar with your fellow AWC Members. Please contact Laurie Martecchini at lmartecchini@gmail.com indicating a day and time preference if you are willing to help.

What a great way to spend a day (or two)!
Heineken Experience

Join us on Thanksgiving Day to celebrate the history of the Pilgrims (the Separatists who went to North America on the Mayflower) and of the Dutch city of Leiden and its connection to America. Our day will begin with the unveiling of a new bronze memorial plaque on the ruins of Leiden’s Vrouwekerk; this plaque commemorates the history of the building which was used in the 17th century by the Walloon (French refugee) church. Some of their members joined the Pilgrims, while others became the first colonists settling New Amsterdam (now New York). Among the descendants of these Walloons are presidents Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Ulysses Grant, and the Bushes.

We will then attend the nondenominational Thanksgiving service at the Pieterskerk. This hour-long service is a combination of a civil ceremony and a Service of Thanksgiving (see page 31 for more details). Historically, the area surrounding the Pieterskerk is where the Pilgrims worked and lived from 1609 to 1620. After the service, we will visit the Pilgrim Museum. You can pick up a printed sheet at the museum that identifies Pilgrim sites in Leiden, so you can set off on your own walking tour. Meet at DHCS info desk at 9 a.m. for 9:09 a.m. train to Leiden (train fare not included).

Thursday, November 24
9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Meet outside Leiden Centraal by Starbucks
€ 5 Members and nonmembers
Cancellation deadline: November 15

Christmas in Tallinn & Helsinki

We hope you and your spouse will join us on this wonderful weekend trip touring Tallinn, one of Europe’s most beautiful cities. Tallinn is the capital and largest city of Estonia, located on the shores of the Gulf of Finland. The city is a European Capital of Culture for 2011, along with Turku, Finland. Tallinn’s Old Town is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

We stay for three nights in a beautiful 4-star hotel in the heart of Tallinn’s Historic Quarter. There’s no better time to be in Tallinn than during the holiday season. Estonia’s medieval capital is inherently festive under the quilt of snow that, due to its northerly latitude, frequently appears in December. And though temperatures do dip quite drastically this time of year, the city’s festive atmosphere does a great job of banishing the cold. Surrounding an enormous Christmas tree hung with lights and decorations, vendors sell a variety of original products. Holiday shows are common on the cobbled square, traditional Estonian holiday food is also served and hot mulled wine poured from large wooden barrels keeps the crowds warm.

On Sunday, we have the option of taking a speedboat across the Baltic to Helsinki, Finland for a full day of exploration. As befits the land of Santa Claus, Finland certainly knows how to create a Christmas atmosphere: Aleksanterinkatu, the main shopping street, is transformed into an elaborately decorated and illuminated Joulukuus (Christmas Street) where the large department stores have exotic Christmas window displays.

We now have two options to offer:

Full Tallinn Tour
The Full Tallinn Tour includes: airfare, airport transfers in Estonia, hotel in the center of old town Tallinn (double occupancy), daily breakfast, and a 3-hour bus/walking tour of Tallinn. This full tour departs from Schiphol Airport Friday morning and returns early Monday morning. Receipts for airfare are available if requested at registration.

Land Tour Only
Additionally, we can now offer a Land Only Tour which includes: hotel (double occupancy), daily breakfast and a guided tour of Tallinn. This price does not include airfare or airport transfers. You will be responsible for booking your own flights and transfers, which allows you to extend your trip or to use frequent flyer miles.

Optional Helsinki Day Tour
Add an additional €100 at sign-up for a 13-hour tour across the Baltic by boat to Helsinki (lunch included).

Friday December 9 – Monday, December 12
Full Tour: €525 Members or Spouses (€575 nonmember)
Land Only Tour: €250 Members or Spouses (€300 nonmembers)
Helsinki Day Tour: €100
Min 4 / Max 30
Non-refundable payment deadline: November 3 by 3 p.m.
Contact: Jennifer Hussey at jhusseygirl@gmail.com

Cancellation Policy

Members may reserve a spot for an AWC tour, activity or event in advance. Payment is required within five calendar days of the reservation or before the deadline date (whichever is sooner) otherwise the reservation may be granted to a wait-listed participant. It is the responsibility of the Member to call the Front Office to cancel a reservation prior to the deadline, whether or not payment has been made. Please note that there will be NO REFUNDS (no exceptions) after the sign-up deadline. Further, “no shows” that have reserved a spot, and neither cancelled nor paid, will be billed for the full amount (this includes any reservation that was made but not granted to a wait-listed participant). Members may find a substitute in lieu of cancellation provided that arrangements are made with the tour, activity or event organizer.

Members and Associate Members shall be held responsible for their guest reservations in accordance with this policy.
A Touch of Royalty at the AWC Prinsjesdag Luncheon
**Cooking & the Rest of the Story**

*by Nancy Poeschl, Tulip Cafe Chair*

On our recent trip to the States, my husband and I were faced with quite a long wait to be seated in one of our favorite local restaurants. Since it was a lovely, early evening, we decided to while away the time in the huge bookstore across the street. As in every trip to a bookstore, my husband headed immediately to the sports section and I headed to the cookbooks. The sub-categories and number of titles within the cookbook section was simply mind-boggling. I could spend hours just reading the titles. They ranged from simple to advanced cooking techniques, common to exotic ingredients, and recipe books for every food-related diet, allergy, and medical condition in between!

One book that caught my eye (and made it home with me) is a cute little book called *Who Put the Devil in Deviled Eggs? Where America’s Favorite Dishes Originated* by Ann Treistman. The author reveals that nearly everything in American cookery came over with the European settlers. Of course, over the years everything in American cookery came over with European settlers. Of course, over the years they have modified these recipes using the ingredients and equipment readily available to us. The book details fascinating anecdotes on everything familiar. Brownies were once made without chocolate — is a brownie really a brownie without chocolate? Biscuits went from hard-as-a-rock, ship stable pucks to the airy, buttery mounds that we know today. Popcorn was discovered by accident, when someone tossed a dried ear of corn into a fire 5,000 years ago in Mexico and presto, it was snack time. By the time the Pilgrims landed, popcorn was spreading through all of the tribes of North America. Quadequina, the brother of Chief Massasoit of the Wampanoag tribe, brought popcorn to the first Thanksgiving Dinner.

Now, back to chocolate. Chocolate originally was consumed as a drink. During the Industrial Revolution, chemists and scientists were able to find a way to separate the cocoa oil from the solids during the bean grinding process. By the mid-19th century, baking chocolate was being used by chefs and chocolate candy bars were enjoyed across Europe and America. The famous and beloved chocolate chip cookie was discovered by accident. In 1930, Ruth Graves Wakefield and her husband purchased an 18th century house that was previously a coaching stop for weary travelers. The couple decided to open an inn, and named it the Toll House Inn. Ruth, a former dietitian (I love that part) and graduate of the Framingham State Normal School Department of Household Arts, was known for her talents in the kitchen.

One day, Ruth ran out of the baker’s chocolate meant to flavor her “butter drop” cookies. Time was short, and in her haste, she grabbed a chocolate bar, cut it into chunks and stirred the chunks into her dough. The surprise came when she discovered that the chocolate chunks had not melted during baking the way normal baker’s bars would. Instead, the chunks had merely softened slightly as the dough baked around them. The Toll House cookie was born, and demands for Ruth’s creation spread throughout New England. In 1939, Nestlé introduced its “semi-sweet chocolate morsels” as a way to make cookie baking easier. (As a dietitian, a common joke among us is defining a balanced diet as “holding chocolate in each hand.”)

And now you know the rest of the story...

---

**Original Nestlé Toll House® Chocolate Chip Cookies**

- 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 3/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 2 large eggs
- 2 cups (12-oz pkg) Nestlé Toll House® Semi-Sweet Chocolate Morsels
- 1 cup chopped nuts

Pre-heat oven to 375° F (190° C)

Combine flour, baking soda and salt in small bowl. Beat butter, granulated sugar, brown sugar and vanilla in large mixing bowl until creamy. Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Gradually beat in flour mixture. Stir in morsels and nuts. Drop by rounded tablespoonsfuls onto ungreased baking sheets. Bake for 9 − 11 minutes until cookies are light golden brown. Cool on baking sheets for 2 minutes; remove to wire racks to cool. Makes 5 dozen cookies.

For a change: try the pan cookie version! Grease a 15x10x1 inch jelly-roll pan. Prepare dough as above. Spread into prepared pan. Bake for 20 − 25 minutes until lightly golden brown. Cool pan on wire rack. Makes up to 4 dozen bars.

---

**Bake Sale Volunteers Needed**

*by Dena De Clute-Melancon*

If you haven’t already done so, now is the time to sign up to be a volunteer baker for the Holiday Bazaar Bake Sale. Proceeds from the Bake Sale contribute a significant amount towards the general maintenance of the Club. But first, we need as many baked goods as possible!

We will gladly accept: whole cakes, cupcakes, loafs, pies (non-perishable), tarts, brownies, cookies, bars, candies, truffles, brittles, salty sweets and anything else you’re famous for baking. Please email me at aberdenal1@yahoo.co.uk to sign up as a baker or if you have questions. The deadline to drop off your baked goods to the Clubhouse is Friday, November 11; otherwise you can bring them directly to the Carlton Ambassador no later than 10 a.m. on Saturday, November 12.

We also need volunteers to staff the Sweet Shop during the Bazaar. If you’re able to work a two-hour shift (or longer), please contact Beth Schott at elucas4@gmail.com. Thank you for your help, and we look forward to sharing a cup of coffee and a cookie with you at the Bazaar!
Gift Shop News
by Eileen Baker

Over the river and through the woods.... to the Holiday Bazaar we go!

I hope everyone can come out to the Carlton Ambassador on November 12 and 13 for the annual AWC Holiday Bazaar. The AWC Gift Shop will be there full of exciting Christmas items for your entire gift giving needs. We will have jolly ornaments, festive table decorations and unique seasonal gifts. So, come on out and shop till you drop! If you have a couple of hours to spare, please consider helping at our Gift Shop table during this two-day event. To volunteer, please contact Beth Schott at elucas4@gmail.com.

In the meantime, there will be a sneak peek of the Christmas goodies at the Thanksgiving Potluck at the Clubhouse on Thursday, November 10. And, I hope to see you again at the end of the month on Tuesday, November 29 for the Ornament Exchange. If you visit the Gift Shop that morning, you’ll receive a Santa’s Discount on any Christmas item.

Reserve Your Recipe Book Today!
by Dena De Clute-Melancon

Just in time for your holiday shopping and baking, the AWC is proud to offer its first annual recipe book: “Eet Smakelijk” for the Holidays: A Collection of Seasonal Recipes from the American Women’s Club of The Hague. This charming collection of American and international recipes from our Members features not only traditional holiday favorites, but also a shopping guide to help you find the ingredients locally. With dishes ranging from Eggnog Cheesecake to Pork Loin with Spiced Fruit Chutney, “Eet Smakelijk” for the Holidays is sure to have a recipe you just must try.

The recipe books go on general sale at the Holiday Bazaar, and at just €7.50 each they’re sure to sell quickly, so be sure to pre-reserve your copy in the AWC Gift Shop today. What a great gift! All proceeds will be donated to the MammaCare nursing network.
# November 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Tuscan Cooking Tour" /></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tuscan Cooking Tour</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Art History Lecture: Portraits 10 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Heart Pillow Project and Chat’n Crafts 10 a.m.</td>
<td>AWC Duplicate Bridge 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Golfing with BCH 9 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Marine Corps Ball 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Open 2-4 p.m.</td>
<td>AWC Duplicate Bridge 9:40 a.m.</td>
<td>Chat’n Crafts 10 a.m.</td>
<td>AWC Duplicate Bridge 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Golfing with BCH 9 a.m.</td>
<td>AWC General Meeting 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Holiday Bazaar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Holiday Bazaar" /></td>
<td>AWC Duplicate Bridge 9:40 a.m.</td>
<td>Chat’n Crafts 10 a.m.</td>
<td>AWC Duplicate Bridge 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Golfing with BCH 9 a.m.</td>
<td>Art History Lecture: Genre 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Heineken Experience Noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AWC Duplicate Bridge 9:40 a.m.</td>
<td>Chat’n Crafts 10 a.m.</td>
<td>AWC Duplicate Bridge 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Golfing with BCH 9 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AWC Duplicate Bridge 9:40 a.m.</td>
<td>Ornament Exchange and Holiday Coffee 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>AWC Duplicate Bridge 10 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thanksgiving: Clubhouse Closed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Please join us at this non-denominational service on Thanksgiving morning at the historic Pieterskerk in Leiden. The service lasts approximately one hour, combining a civil ceremony with a Service of Thanksgiving. Clergy from multiple denominations participate including a Catholic priest, Protestant minister and Jewish rabbi. Bring your Dutch friends and friends from all nations and faiths. This is a service for everyone! Consider making a day of it in Leiden with the AWC (see page 20 for details).

Thanksgiving at the Pieterskerk in Leiden is unique. In this church, the Pilgrims recorded their births, marriages and deaths. They lived in its surroundings from 1609 to 1620. In fact, their descendants still live in Leiden and one Dutch woman, Ria Koet, a direct descendant of a signer of the Mayflower Compact, Moses Fletcher, will tell the story of her family.

Furthermore, American artists Adrienne West and Tony Ward will sing, the choir and concert orchestra of the American School of The Hague will perform, and the Congregation will join in with the hymns we remember and love. The Mayor of Leiden, the Honorable Henk Lenferink will welcome us and a representative of the US Embassy will read the President’s annual Thanksgiving Day Proclamation.

We would welcome a “cookie contribution” for the coffee after the service. For your convenience, please car pool or take public transportation, if possible. If you would like to help with flowers or usher, please contact me at robertaenschede@yahoo.com.

The Thanksgiving Day Service is sponsored by OAR – Overseas Americans Remember. For further Information, contact: Roberta Enschede (Coordinator) at 070 511 8409 or robertaenschede@yahoo.com, Anneke Beuwwes at a.beuwwes@xs4all.nl, Jessie Rodell at jessierodell@gmail.com, Tove McGrew at tovel@planet.nl or Anne van Oorschot at anne_warwick2000@yahoo.com

Thanksgiving Day Service
by Roberta Enschede

Thursday, November 24 at 11 a.m.
Pieterskerk in Leiden
Announcements

Sinterklaas Arrival
Sinterklaas arrives from Spain in the Netherlands every year on the 2nd weekend in November, visiting different towns at various times. As in past years, he will arrive aboard the SS Madrid in Scheveningen Harbor on Saturday, November 12. After his arrival at 11:30, he will make his way on his white horse, accompanied by a full parade of Zwarte Piets, through the streets of Scheveningen and the Statenkwartier into The Hague Centrum. Even if you don’t have young children, this annual event is uniquely Dutch and is quite a wonderful sight to see. You can combine this with a visit to the AWC Holiday Bazaar to festively kick off the holiday season. For more info, visit: www.sinterklaasindenhaag.nl

Crossing Border Festival
Crossing Border, one of Europe’s largest literary and music festivals, caters to an audience of broad cultural interests. Hosted for the 19th time with other arts. Their current concert schedule includes performing monthly thru January 2012 at Theatre aan het Spui. To learn more, go to: www.theorchestra.nl

International Food Fair
The Parish of the Church of Our Saviour sponsors this large-scale International Food Fair every November for charity. The diverse members of the parish community come together to provide entertainment and to prepare and sell their own national food specialties, wines, pastries and handicrafts. Each country or region takes pride in decorating their booths with national flags and working together as a team. There are kid’s activities, a raffle with wonderful prizes, a large used English book sale and a flea market.

This fair doesn’t only promote local community spirit. The event’s proceeds are donated to several charitable organizations around the world for life-sustaining projects. These projects include farming, carpentry, women’s support, street children education and rehabilitation for homeless people, to name just a few. In 2010, the fair raised € 50,000 with funds dispersed to 23 charities in 19 countries!
Saturday, November 19
Noon – 6:30 p.m.
Francois Vatel School
Granaathorst 20, Den Haag
(behind the Mariahoeve Shopping Center)
Free entrance
www.parish.nl

New International Jazz Orchestra
THEO (The Hague Ethospheric Orchestra) consists of 12 diverse musicians, all active at national and international levels. THEO combines influences from world music with improvisation and the background of the various members. Their current concert schedule includes performing monthly thru January 2012 at Theatre aan het Spui. To learn more, go to: www.theorchestra.nl

Documentary Film Festival
Creative documentaries take center stage during the 24th International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), one of the leading documentary film festivals in the world. The IDFA is the place for documentaries that are cinematically intriguing or innovative, that are relevant or highly topical to society at large, and that stimulate the viewer to reflect, discuss and ask questions.

Wednesday, November 16 through Sunday, November 27
Frederikplein 52, Amsterdam
www.idfa.nl

Antique and Art Fair
PAN Amsterdam, the Netherlands’ premier art and antiques fair, will be presenting more than 10,000 items spanning 5,000 years of history. PAN Amsterdam is renowned for its high-quality, international offerings of paintings, furniture, maps, prints and sculptures from the 16th century to the present. The common denominator is that all the objects are vetted for authenticity, artistic quality and condition. Prices range from € 500 to € 500,000. Over 45,000 visitors, from museum curators to private art enthusiasts, are attracted to this fair every year. In honor of the fair’s 25th anniversary, there will be a glittering anniversary exhibition of 25 tiaras and coronets covering almost 2,500 years of history.
Sunday, November 20 through Sunday, November 27
Amsterdam RAI Parkhal, Europaplein
www.pan.nl

St. Andrew’s Charity Ball
The St. Andrew’s Society hosts a yearly charity ball in celebration of St. Andrew’s Day (the feast day of St. Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland). A highlight will be Scottish-style dancing to live music for all abilities. Bringing a dance partner is uniquely unnecessary! The € 99 ticket also includes a highland banquet and wine with dinner. Kilts not obligatory! Tickets are on sale until November 18 through Marion at maria.janine@ziggo.nl or 065 117 3229
Saturday, November 26
6:30 p.m. – 1 a.m.
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Den Haag
www.standrews.nl

Aladdin
Distinctively British, a panto is a popular form of family entertainment incorporating song, dance, slapstick comedy, cross-dressing and audience participation. This holiday season, the Anglo American Theatre Group (AATG) will present one the most treasured family pantos of all time: Aladdin. Set in China and Kazakhstan, Aladdin goes in search of the magic lamp, falls in love with a beautiful princess and finds riches beyond his wildest dreams. Along the way he is helped by a genie with an uncanny resemblance to Austin Powers, but will the evil wizard Abanazer put a stop to Aladdin’s good fortune? Featuring the age old battle between good and evil, kitchy songs, energetic dancing, hilariously bad jokes and lots of dirty laundry, Aladdin is good, clean fun for the whole family.
Saturday December 3 and Sunday December 4
Theater aan het Spui, Den Haag
www.aatg.nl

>> 50
A Good News Tale

In the summer of 2010, I was invited to help at the American Consulate in Amsterdam in celebration of Adoption Month. I was taken aback to learn that there were a significant number of American children who were adopted by Dutch families. Often we hear about American parents adopting children from Eastern Europe, Asia and Africa; yet this was the first time I’d heard of American children being adopted by families outside of America. The adopted children were visiting the consulate to meet one another and to inaugurate the making of a large wall hanging in their honor. Each family was asked to decorate a square piece of white cloth with a drawing characterizing their family. The squares were then pinned to a background cloth, which was centered by a large five-point star. During the following year, two American women living in The Hague region assembled the large wall hanging, which measures approximately 18 feet (5.5 meters) square.

In April 2011, the wall hanging was unfolded at the American Consulate in Amsterdam in the presence of the designers and makers, consulate personnel and adoptive families. There was a father and son at the ceremony whom I had seen the previous year with the rest of their large family. I was amazed to hear that the children were all adopted and wondered what their story was. It was then a surprise to come across their story in the NRC Handelsblad (newspaper) of Saturday, August 20. It is a tale to warm the cockles of one’s heart.

Liesbeth, a nurse, and Guido, a psychologist from Brabant, brought up four of their own children. When the children left home, Liesbeth and Guido saw the underside of American society, and the desperate need of families who were willing and fit to take in children whose parents were drug and/or alcohol addicts, or emotionally unstable and completely neglectful of their children. One day they received a call from Child Services to take into their California home children who were in a crisis situation, for whom no foster parents were available. Liesbeth and Guido were willing to remain in the US with their new family, but the judge in the adoption case said that the oldest children should make the decision. After a short stay in Holland, the children chose to stay in the Netherlands. Child Services said that adopted children have a better chance of starting over if they change their name. The children were in agreement, and in consultation with their new parents, they chose old Brabant names; the boys wanted to be named after their new father and the girls after their new mother. When the family moved permanently to Holland, they were accompanied by a staff member of Child Services who evaluated the new Dutch home with a fine tooth comb. The State of California paid for the airline tickets and arranged for the children to get their passports within four days!

At present, the children are doing well at school as they have the full attention of loving parents who do not work outside the home, but who help with school and scouting activities. Life is good. As for the Child Service workers in California, one wrote the family that when she gets depressed seeing so many neglected children placed in unsuitable foster homes, she thinks of the family in the Netherlands and she can again face her daily challenges.

Animal Adoption

Another adoption story concerns a two-year-old wallaby, named Driekus, who jumped over a 5-foot (1.5 meter) fence at his home in Stompwijk (near Leidschendam) and was gone for three weeks. Smaller than a kangaroo, the wallaby was spotted once or twice, but was only caught after he swam twice across the Vliet (the main canal running between Delft and Leiden) and was unable to climb back up the bank. Exhausted and stressed, he was captured and taken to a house where he was wrapped in a towel to get warm. From there he went in a dierenambulance (animal ambulance) to The Hague where a warm light formed formerly used in the MCH Hospital, brought him up to the right temperature. Of course, Driekus’ owner is delighted to have his pet back home, and is taking measures to keep him happy by finding a nice lady for company. In the meantime, he’s raising the fence.

Did you know that any English-speaking woman may join the AWC?

Invite your English-speaking friends from other countries that have an affinity for Americans to join us today!
Here are a few titles to fall into and linger with. These are books that draw you in with their magical use of words. Time is precious and finding time to read is even more precious. If you read but a few lines a day from one of these five books, you will feel sated because of the quality of the writing. I dare you to take a chance with one of these stories. Enjoy the flow of a well-structured sentence as you travel through a different life; perhaps, you will even come back into your own life a little different.

**Anthill** by E. O. Wilson
“A foremost authority on ants, an eloquent environmentalist, and the winner of two Pulitzer Prizes for his exceptional nonfiction, Wilson has written a debut novel of astonishing dimension, acuity, and spirit… With lyrical exactitude, empathy for all life, and a shocking conclusion, Wilson’s wise, provocative novel of the interaction between humankind and the rest of nature expresses a resonant earth ethic.” ~ *Booklist*

**A Visit from the Goon Squad** by Jennifer Egan
“Egan has accomplished the tricky feat of using metafiction techniques without sacrificing old-fashioned storytelling… *A Visit from the Goon Squad* has a circuitous structure that seems almost designed for our Internet rewired brains.” ~ *The Wall Street Journal*

“Clever. Edgy. Groundbreaking… Features characters about whom you come to care deeply as you watch them doing things they shouldn’t, acting gloriously, infuriatingly human.” ~ *Chicago Tribune*

“It ends in the same place it starts, except that everything has changed, including you, the reader.” ~ *The New Republic*

**A Week in December** by Sebastian Faulks
“Delightful and witty… A state-of-the-nation book, a satirical comedy of metropolitan literary life, a sweeping, Dickensian look at contemporary London, a serious examination of Islam and the reasons for radicalism among young Muslims, a thriller, a satire… and a detailed look at the sharp financial practices that led to the collapse.” ~ *The Guardian (London)*

**State of Wonder** by Ann Patchett
“The large canvas of sweeping moral issues, both personal and global, comes to life through careful attention to details, however seemingly mundane, from ill-fitting shoes and mosquito bites to a woman tenderly braiding another woman’s hair.” ~ *O, the Oprah Magazine*

**Started Early, Took My Dog** by Kate Atkinson
“With a wonderful title from Emily Dickinson, summing up a poet that is as artfully enshrouded as this novel is… jam-packed with echoes, parallels, doppelgangers, sneaky omissions, and authorial attempts to mislead… Ms. Atkinson remains a wonderful stylist and Grade A schemer… But she was never confined to the crime genre, has written in assorted other modes and excels at them all. Whatever she goes on to write, she leaves Jackson Brodie at a suspenseful and pivotal moment. Future installments are well worth waiting for.” ~ *The New York Times*
Tips for Creative Digital Photography

by Dawn Black

Are you a happy snapper? Do you get the image you see in your mind’s eye when you release the shutter? Would you like to do more with your camera, but you’re just not sure how? Below, you will find some tips on the “how” of digital photography. I hope this brief insight into how your camera works will help you get off “auto” mode.

Your camera is a creative tool. If you have a camera with the option of manual controls (all SLRs and some compacts) you can take creative control of the tool in your hands rather than letting the camera make those decisions for you. If your camera does not have Manual modes, the following will still give you some insight into how the creative modes such as landscape, portrait, sport or nighttime work in your compact camera.

In full Auto mode, your camera chooses the Aperture (A), Speed (S) and ISO of each shot according to a complicated algorithm dependent on the conditions presented. In Program (P) mode you choose the ISO but the camera chooses the Aperture (A) and Speed (S). A lot of cameras now do a pretty good job of this, but you may not get the creative result you are looking for. Using the right combination of settings can help you to create some stunning images rather than snapshots. Let’s look at three irrevocably linked variables that can significantly alter the look of your image, namely, Resolution (ISO), Aperture (A) and Speed (S).

ISO
But what is ISO? It’s how sensitive the sensor in the camera is to the light that hits it. In the days of film, this was termed as the ASA rating of the film. You would load a “slow” or “fast” film depending on what you were shooting (e.g. ASA 100 for landscapes or ASA400 for sports). The higher the number, the faster the speed of the shutter as the sensor requires less light to create the image. The downside of high ASA/ISO numbers is a gradual degradation in resolution and hence picture quality. An image tends to have increased noise (graininess) as the ISO increases. So for optimum quality in your images, you want to keep the ISO as low as possible: ideally 100 – 200.

Aperture

Kasteel Duivenvoorde, Voorschoten, Nikon D300: 10-20mm @ 20mm, f/16, 15sec, ISO 200, 10x ND filter, tripod

Drie Molen, Leidschendam, Nikon D300, 18-200mm @ 38mm, f20, 1/30sec, ISO 200, tripod

Iris detail Nikon D40X: 105mm, f/7.1, 1/3sec, ISO 100, tripod

Aperture is the hole in the lens that opens to allow the light to the sensor. The wider the aperture, the more light will enter. This is measured in “f stops” with the lower numbers being a wider opening, higher numbers being a narrower opening. So why not always have a wide open aperture to allow a fast shutter speed? Because the size of the aperture affects Depth of Field. Shooting at narrow apertures (f/14 to f/22) lets in less light to the sensor thus slowing down the speed, but increases the depth of field helping to create front-to-back sharpness throughout your image – highly desirable in landscape photography.

However, you may not want the same effect in a nature or wildlife image or a portrait where the background may provide a distraction. Here you want to throw the areas that are not your primary focal point out of focus with a wide aperture (f/2.8 – f/8). By choosing A mode on your camera, you choose the ISO and Aperture while the camera sets the appropriate Speed.
FAWCO Corner

by Sara Crabtree

Federation of American Women’s Clubs Overseas, a United Nations NGO with consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council  www.fawco.org.

All about FAWCO Conferences

Our Club was proudly represented when a group of seven of us recently attended the FAWCO Region 4 Conference in Brussels (as shown above). We spent the day sharing best practices with the other attendees and attended a workshop put on by Boston University. In the evening, we shared a great meal together and left with stronger ties to the members of our sister clubs in the Benelux area and some new skills and ideas to help make our own club more dynamic. There are several other Regional conferences scheduled for the fall, including what is sure to be a great one in Berlin on November 11 − 13.

The Annual FAWCO Conference will be held in Dublin on March 21-24, 2012. Annual conferences are much larger affairs than regional ones, with reports and working sessions for all FAWCO committees, elections and awards, exciting guest speakers, and many opportunities for personal development. There is so much to gain, to not mention good food, exposure to local culture, and most of all the opportunity to make new and renew old friendships.

If you’ve been curious about FAWCO or just want an opportunity to see a new city and meet interesting and active women from around the world, then come along to one of these conferences!

FAWCO and Water: Changing the Flow

by Anne van Oorschot, AWC Member & FAWCO Target Program Chair

Did you know that FAWCO, the world-wide support organization for the AWC (and you!), has chosen water as the global issue on which to focus its (and our) attention? We at the AWC The Hague are hoping to raise funds later in the year to drill wells in Cambodia, but we also want to increase awareness about the many water challenges in the world today. Water problems are everywhere and they are here to stay, but how much do you know about this important topic?

Water Facts

Here are ten quick facts about the water and sanitation challenges that exist in our world:

1. Nearly one billion people lack access to safe water, approximately one in eight people worldwide.
2. Less than 1% of the world’s fresh water is readily accessible for direct human use.
3. Millions of women and children spend several hours a day collecting water from distant, often polluted sources.
4. Every 20 seconds, a child dies from a water-related disease.
5. Much more fresh water is stored under the ground in aquifers than on the Earth’s surface.
6. The average American uses 100 gallons per day; the average African uses 12 gallons per day.
7. 70% of the world’s fresh water supply is devoted to agriculture.
8. The ancient Romans had better water quality than half the people alive today.
9. 3.6 million people die each year from water-related diseases.
10. More people have cell phones than access to a decent toilet.

Update: Wells for Clean Water, Cambodia

While you and I were enjoying our summer vacations, the people at Tabitha in Cambodia were hard at work turning our donations into wells. The recipients were busy growing food with the water from those wells. FAWCO’s current donations total $38,007. That has resulted in many new wells, bringing the total number of FAWCO wells dug to the following: the creation of 83 Field Wells spread out over 5 provinces, and 123 Family Wells in a total of 6 provinces. Here is an excerpt from Tabitha founder Janne Ritskes’ most recent update:

Yesterday, I went back to Prey Veng – back to see the results of the challenge of the field wells. What a magical day it was. I arrived in time to see the last of the harvest watermelons. Thirty-six farmers had harvested in time to see the last of the harvest watermelons. Thirty-six farmers had harvested in time to see the last of the harvest watermelons. Thirty-six farmers had harvested in time to see the last of the harvest watermelons.

Women & Water Panel

FAWCO joined several other NGO’s in sponsoring a special panel on “Women and Right to Water” at the UN HQ in Geneva on September 26. Lois Herman, FAWCO Member from AWA Rome and head of WUNRN (Women’s UN Report Network), organized this special session. For information about this and other UN-related issues that FAWCO is involved in visit the “UN NGO” tab on www.fawco.org.

FAWCO joined several other NGO’s in sponsoring a special panel on “Women and Right to Water” at the UN HQ in Geneva on September 26. Lois Herman, FAWCO Member from AWA Rome and head of WUNRN (Women’s UN Report Network), organized this special session. For information about this and other UN-related issues that FAWCO is involved in visit the “UN NGO” tab on www.fawco.org.
Vermeer from Many Angles

by Becky Failor

As a scientist with a busy career, I did not have much time or inclination to learn about the Dutch Masters. However, since moving to the Netherlands, my interest has been sparked. When my husband and I had visitors in September, we had the idea to expose them to Vermeer’s history in Delft before showing them his actual masterpieces. Vermeer lived his entire short life (43 years) in Delft and is buried in the Oude Kerk (the large monument by the side door is not his actual burial place as he was interred in his mother-in-law’s family crypt). The Vermeer Centrum Delft (www.vermeerdelft.nl), just one street off the main square, brings you back in time to the Delft of his days, introducing you to his contemporaries, and shows how he brought the life and light of Delft into his works. The Vermeer Center helps art historians, as well as people like me, better appreciate his work.

Over the next few days, we saw 7 of Vermeer’s approximately 37 paintings when we visited the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam (www.rijksmuseum.nl) and the Mauritshuis in The Hague (www.mauritshuis.nl). We all felt we could better appreciate his great works having had the insight from the Vermeer Center. We marveled at his use of light, his depiction of Delft cityscape, and the intimacy of his little Delft street.

To top off our immersion in Vermeer, I brought home the DVD of Girl with a Pearl Earring from the AWC Library. We applauded when we saw the square in Delft that we had just visited, shown as it might have looked in the mid-1600s. Since Vermeer left no diary or letters, the story is purely fictional; however, you can imagine a young woman like “Griet,” played by Scarlett Johansson, sitting for Johannes Vermeer, played by Colin Firth.

Now I’m tempted to get stained glass installed in one of our home windows to match the glass in Vermeer’s Young Woman with a Water Pitcher. And I plan to attend some of Jane Choy’s Friday art history lectures (see next page). Who knows what I’ll learn next!

AWC and the Arts

by Jane Choy

Holland’s Golden Age Revealed! Introduction to the Art of 17th Century Holland

Jane Choy, AWC Member and Mauritshuis docent, will continue to share her expertise on Art of the Dutch Golden Age by hosting an art history lecture series in the intimate setting of her 17th century home in the historic center of Voorburg. Each lecture will focus on a different genre of painting. We will not only have an introduction to the art of this dynamic period, but will also talk about the history and culture that brought this art to fruition to develop a deeper understanding of the country in which we now live.

Jane’s home address will be provided upon registration. Parking is free in her neighborhood, although it is a blue zone with a two-hour limit. Voorburg is also easily accessible by public transport; buses 23, 39 or 45, and sprinter trains from Den Haag Centraal Station all service her area.

Friday, November 4, Session 2: Who’s Who? Portrait Painting

Portraits were a very special phenomenon of 17th century Holland. The booming economy had created a wealthy burger class. These gentlemen were proud of what they had achieved and wanted their portraits done. Never before were so many portraits produced. Dutch artists captured these people with expert precision and these works have become masterpieces, such as Rembrandt’s Night Watch.

Friday, November 18, Session 3: Reality Show or Illusion? Genre Painting

Genre paintings refer to scenes of everyday life, a sort of tableau vivant, and are probably one of the most popular categories of Dutch 17th century art. In this lecture we will learn that there is much more to the eye than just a scene of everyday life; symbolic meanings, double entendres and moral messages were included in these seemingly innocent compositions.

Friday, December 2, Session 4: Mirrors of Reality! Landscape Painting

The development of landscape painting in Holland must be counted among one of the most prominent contributions to the history of European art. In fact, the Dutch are considered to have started the naturalistic landscape style.

Friday, January 13, 2012, Session 5: Objects of Desire! Still Life and Architectural Painting

These two specialties of Dutch 17th century art, with their attention to the representation of different textures and illusionism, are some of the most admired works of this period. Showcasing the originality of Dutch painters, we will also explore the paintings’ symbolism and the ability of art to triumph over nature.

Jane Choy’s Home

10 a.m. – Noon
Min 8 / Max 22
€ 10 Members (€ 12 nonmembers) per lecture

Cancellation deadline: Thursday of previous week

Contact: AWC Office or Jane Choy at 070 387 2606 or jechoy@me.com
DFAS continues its season with lectures covering a variety of subjects: Sargent’s Madame X, the restoration of Van Gogh paintings, magic and illusion, craft and design, architecture and gardens of Portugal and even Sir Noel Coward!

As our founder said, “Above all, DFAS must be fun.” So why not attend a stimulating lecture while experiencing the joy of sharing it with others? Bring a friend or make friends there!

DFAS exists to stimulate enjoyment of the arts through a series of illustrated lectures and other activities delivered in English by leading British and European speakers. All of the speakers are experts in their own field especially brought in to address the DFAS audience. DFAS is associated with NADFAS, the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies in the UK, linking us to an international membership of over 90,000 art lovers. Lectures are held the first or second Tuesday of the month. The annual subscription fee is €55 (€90 for a couple). New members and guests are always welcome. Individual lectures may be attended for €10 each. To learn more, visit: www.dfas.nl and Facebook.

Drama Behind the Taj Mahal:
by Oliver Everett, Librarian Emeritus, Royal Library Windsor Castle

Mughal Painting at its Zenith and the Life and Times of the Indian Emperor Shah Jahan: Shah Jahan ruled India from 1628 to 1658 and is best remembered for building the Taj Mahal as a tomb for his favorite wife. Our lecturer is the former head librarian at Windsor Castle where the magnificent Islamic manuscript, the Padshahnama, is kept. Featuring 44 of the world’s finest Mughal paintings, it depicts the dramatic events of Shah Jahan’s time: his coronation, weddings, battles, hunts and court intrigues.

Tuesday, November 8
Doors open at 7:15 p.m.
Lecture begins at 8 p.m.
Cultural Centrum Warenar
Kerkstraat 75, Wassenaar
Free for DFAS members
Non-DFAS member fee is €10
Contact: Jane Choy at 070 387 2606 or jechoy@me.com
Turkey in Springtime
by Eileen Harloff

This past spring I had the opportunity to travel on a 1,700 mile (2,750 kilometer) trip around the western part of Turkey. It was May and the weather was cool. Outside the metropolis of Istanbul, with its 15 million occupants, there were extensive green fields sprinkled with poppies of a particularly intense red color, extensive woodlands, snow-topped mountains, numerous tortured geological formations, and an abundance of archaeological sites of once famous cities. What more could one ask for? Well, for one thing, a good guide: ours was a young Turkish man named Bulent (“just think of turbulent,” he advised). He spoke excellent Dutch; as a boy he had gone to school in The Hague and is now married to a Dutch girl. As the first among these was the UNESCO World Heritage Site Pamukkale, located on the southern coast of the Aegean Sea. This is the White Travertine Terrace of Pamukkale, a white travertine (chalk) terrace that had its origins in the ancient city of Hierapolis, and was “the” tourist and spa city of its time in the 1st century AD. All that remains of the ancient city today are mainly some 1,200 graves of former inhabitants (wool shearers, weavers and other hand workers) whereby it became known as the largest cemetery in Asia Minor.

In the earthquake-prone Taurus Mountains, whose highest peak is 12,300 feet (3,750 meters), there are the extensive ruins of Aphrodisias, which was known as one of the most cultural cities in its prime. Here we saw ruins of the market place, the theater and the enormous stadium that could seat 25,000 people. Over time, it became prey to earthquakes and raids and was finally abandoned in the 13th century AD. Onward to Ephesus, former trading port, stopping place on the caravan route to the east, center of the worship of the goddess Artemis (whose statues show her with a remarkable tower-like headdress and many breasts). This, too, was a major tourist spot in its day, and was one of the early centers for a new religion: Christianity. Today, it is renowned for the correspondence that the Christian apostle Paul wrote from prison to encourage the young believers.

Next we visited Bergama, the site of the ancient city of Pergamon, which was prominent in the 2nd century BC. As a base for one of the successors of Alexander the Great, Pergamon was famous for its library, gymnasium, Altar of Zeus, theater and acropolis. During an earlier visit to the Pergamon Museum in Berlin, I was fascinated by the huge monuments that had come from the ancient city that had been rediscovered by a German engineer, who had started excavations after seeing a piece of mosaic dug up by a local resident. Upon completion of these excavations in 1996, most of the finds were taken to Germany and are well worth a visit if you’re ever in Berlin.

And then we came to Troy, whose discovery by a shaby German millionaire, Heinrich Schleimann, and his young beautiful wife had fascinated me for many years. (I vaguely remembered the story of Helen, wife of the Greek King of Sparta. She had been abducted by the visiting son of the king of Troy, which led to a 10-year war to get her back. The tricky Greeks left a wooden horse outside Troy’s gates; after some suspicion, it was declared a gift and brought inside the city. In the dead of a night that had been filled with debauchery, the wooden horse opened and out jumped Greek soldiers who slaughtered the Trojans and brought a hesitant Helen back to Sparta. Instead of punishing her for her role in the drama, her husband was again so taken by her beauty that he reinstated her as his queen and she lived in Sparta ever after – happily or not, history never revealed.) I, a modern day tourist, was quite disappointed with the site; it was peaceful and pleasant, but there had been little attempt at reconstruction and just viewing piles of rubble left too much to the imagination. “Priam’s Treasure,” that Schleimann had discovered, was illegally smuggled out of Turkey and taken to Berlin, where it eventually ended up in a museum. In another twist to this story, the treasure disappeared after WWII, taken as war booty by the Russians, who for many years denied any knowledge of its whereabouts. I was therefore hugely surprised when I came upon the gold jewelry and other items upon a visit to the Pushkin Museum in Moscow, where it probably had been for some time. A legal battle over its ownership has been going on for many years, with all three countries involved staking their claim.
that is one of the architectural wonders of the world. It is magnificent with a massive shell-shaped dome with 40 windows around the base through which light filters in creating an atmosphere of agelessness, solidity and mystery. In the large upper gallery can be seen mosaics from the Christian period, geometric designs from the Muslim period, and a variety of decorated arches and columns from Greek and Roman periods. Our stay in Istanbul ended with a boat trip on the Bosphorus, where we passed by palaces and mansions, many of which are now being used as offices and hotels.

After this mega-city, the country’s capital, Ankara, seemed rather pokey. It did have a fabulous Museum of Anatolian Civilization with a collection of artifacts, statues, monuments, jewelry, clay tablets and other remnants of the many civilizations that had bloomed and then faded away. Here, we finally saw a statue of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk astride his horse: the George Washington of Turkey, he brought his country into the 20th century.

Our next destination was Cappadocia, whose landscape has to be seen to be believed. Its origins go back millions of years to volcanic eruptions that left in their wake ash and mud that became mixed with stone. Down through the ages, the stone eroded into fantastic cone and tower shapes from which dwellings and whole cities had been gouged out. Among the caves were a number of churches made by Christians seeking safety from persecution; in some, wall frescoes and even a baptismal fount are still visible. A number of these rock cities and dwellings were only recently vacated on the order of the government, who feared for the safety of the dwellers, and the areas of hills and valleys have been designated as national parks. When we visited one of the underground cities, we had to stoop to avoid hitting our heads as we passed by ventilation shafts, a grave chamber for priests, storage and wine-making rooms, kitchens, halls and a church. Underneath us were at least four or five more stories dating back to even more ancient times.

Our last stop was the city of Konya. We visited the first lodge of the mystic sect Dervish Order, known for the twirling dance of its followers, which we saw in a performance held that evening. The compound consists of a restful park and several buildings, one of which is a museum in which is displayed illuminated medieval Korans, silk and woolen carpets, the tomb of the founder of the sect and some hairs from the beard of the prophet Mohammed in a sealed glass bowl.

The cities we visited in Turkey were clean and well cared for. Their entrances, parks and main roads were enhanced with beautiful beds of colorful, well kept flowers. There was an air of well being, especially due to the abundance of Mercedes cars, trucks and buses coming from a large Mercedes plant that we passed on our journey. A trip of this nature may not be everyone’s cup of tea. For those desiring a more relaxed vacation. However, Turkey is a growing tourist destination that has much more to offer than a beautiful coastline: relatively inexpensive prices (Euros are gladly accepted), bazaars that will keep you busy for hours, friendly people (if you know German, that is extra helpful) and delicious food all fairly close to Holland.
Flemish Painters from the Hermitage

The Hermitage Amsterdam is presenting a stunning selection from the Flemish art collection of the Hermitage in St. Petersburg. With 75 paintings and 20 drawings, this exhibition includes numerous masterpieces by the three giants of the Antwerp School – Peter Paul Rubens, Anthony van Dyck, and Jacob Jordaens – accompanied by the work of well-known contemporaries. Your visit can be enhanced with the aid of an audio tour, a film, and computer displays. The vitality of 17th century Antwerp comes to life on a special wall of the exhibition that features painters’ studios, churches and monuments.

Thru March 16, 2012
Hermitage Amsterdam
Amstel 51, Amsterdam
www.hermitage.nl

Madurodam Closed for Renovations

In honor of Madurodam’s upcoming 60th anniversary, the park will be undergoing a metamorphosis and thus will be closed until March 31, 2012. The famous, distinctive miniatures will remain the heart of the park. They will be divided into three areas: water as friend and foe, old city, and the Netherlands as an inspiration for the world. Visitors will learn the stories behind the objects through interactive exhibits and digital information screens.

Thru March 31, 2012
Madurodam
www.madurodam.nl

Wine Courses in The Hague

Coming from a wine family in Bordeaux, AWC Member, Anne de Bérard, is dedicated to the mystery of wine. After moving around the world and drinking lots of different wines, she started to dedicate herself to sharing her passion with others. She set up “The Wine Series” to welcome anyone wanting to gain knowledge on a variety of wine topics. The next class is Sparkling Wines on December 6. AWC Members receive a 10% discount. For a full class listing, go to: www.anneswines.com or contact anne@anneswines.com.

Going Dutch is Available Online

Go to www.awcthehague.org to share the current month’s issue with friends and family. You will also find links to our annual advertisers, whose support makes this magazine possible. If you visit or contact one of our advertisers, let them know Going Dutch sent you!

Member Privacy

Please be reminded that the AWC Membership List is for AWC Member reference only and use of this information in any communication other than AWC official business is strictly prohibited. Members may not share the list with anyone other than another AWC Member in good standing and never to any third party.

The AWC takes care to protect Member information and adherence to this policy is critical to maintain Member privacy. Members are asked to report suspected misuse of the list to any AWC Board Member.
Tips for Creative Digital Photography (cont.)

Continued from Page 39

Speed

Speed is the amount of time the sensor is exposed to light—usually these times are just fractions of a second. If you are handholding your camera, these times need to be fast to avoid camera shake. As a general rule, you keep the speed over the maximum focal length of the lens you are using; e.g., on a 18-55mm lens, keep above 1/60sec. The faster you shoot, the more you freeze the movement in the shot.

If you want motion blur (such as to create a silky smooth or glassy water effect, moving clouds or traffic trails), you need to reduce the speed setting. Using slower speeds requires the use of a tripod or at least a beanbag to hold the camera steady thus avoiding camera shake. On S mode, you choose the ISO and Speed and the camera chooses the appropriate Aperture.

Manual Mode

For the brave, you can try full Manual mode (M). Here you control all the settings! The only way to discover the joy of creative photography is to get out there and experiment. Take the same composition using all the modes while trying out different ratios and see the difference in the results. Go on—you know you want to!

All images © Dawn S. Black. View more of Dawn’s images at www.dawnblackphotography.com. To arrange workshops, contact dawnblack@yahoo.co.uk

---

Index of Advertisers

---

Notice to Members Regarding eNews Distribution

If you have not been receiving your weekly eNewsletter please send an email to the following address: it.awc.denhaag@gmail.com.

---

Rates

Classified Mini-Ads:

**Deadline:** In general, the 1st of the month prior to the month in which your ad will appear, although subject to change due to holiday schedule.

**AWC Member Rates:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Per Issue</th>
<th>For 25 Additional Words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>€ 10</td>
<td>€ 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>€ 70</td>
<td>€ 30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Non-Member Rates:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Per Issue</th>
<th>For 25 Additional Words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>€ 15</td>
<td>€ 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>€ 110</td>
<td>€ 55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How to Submit Your Ad:

Email your ad to: goingdutchads@gmail.com

Payment Information:

Please indicate the name of your ad on your payment so that we are able to match up your payment with your ad.

By Bank Transfer:

ABN-AMRO 51.99.10.206

Display Ads:

For full, half, third or quarter page commercial display ads, email our magazine staff at goingdutchads@gmail.com
Maritime Museum

STUDIO '40
Interior Design | Gallery

Tailored advice
Home visit
Giftshop

Foreign languages spoken!

Noordeinde 85 | 2514 GD Den Haag
070 346 96 10 | info@studio40.nl
www.studio40.nl
BSN Open Days
for parents of children
under 5

Do you have a child turning 3 or 4 this school year?
Are you thinking about schooling options & would like to find out more about what the BSN has to offer?

Then join us at one of our Open Days:

LEIDSCHENVEEN: Wednesday 9 Nov
13:30 – 15:00

MARIAHOEVE: Thursday 10 Nov
09:00 – 11:30

The British School in The Netherlands

For more information and to register visit our website: www.britishschool.nl