



# International Women's Club of Kinshasa, DRC

JUNE 2011

## President's Note

Dear Members and Friends,

Welcome to all of you to the last coffee morning of the Club's year. This year has passed so fast!!

Once again this year, the Club has achieved its social and philanthropic goals. Thanks to the teamwork of Club members, we've enjoyed two major fundraising events, a Christmas Bazaar and a dinner dance ball

Moneys we've raised have helped many: food was brought for beneficiaries for Christmas, basic equipment needs for a centre for street children, looked after by Brother Mauro and Father Guido, so they can live in better conditions and the construction of a covered and secured playground for the handicapped children from the Pediatric Hospital at Kimbondo, the initiative of Father Hugo.

Our good actions could have never been possible without your help, that's why I would like to thank all of you for the support that you have given me during the past year. I would say special and warmest thanks to the Board members, who, despite some unfortunate circumstances and situations, continued to work as a good team working very hard to accomplish our projects, and we succeeded: I will always be grateful.

I'm sure next year, we'll do even better. We have a New Committee committed and eager to assist the people of Kinshasa, particularly the children.

Unfortunately at this time of year, we have to say some goodbyes to those leaving Kinshasa: I would like to wish a warm farewell to; Miriam, Sonia, Yvette, Ella, Teresa, Dorothea, JP: it was a pleasure to have met you. I would like to thank all of you for the good times we shared. Special thanks to Miriam as she served on the Board for two years as secretary, to Yvette who served as Hospitality Chair last year and who wrote our Guide Book, to Teresa for all your involvement in the decorations at our events and to JP who served as Hospitality Chair for this year, I would like to wish you good luck for the future in your new assignments

I would like to end this note by introducing you to and by warmly welcoming the New Committee elected for the next year, I'm sure together, we will do great things and enjoy a successful club  
With all my affection  
*Manuela, President*

## 2010-11 Executive Board

### President:

Manuela deBoever

### Past President:

Hanne Dokolo

### Vice President:

Marie-Agnés Fontaine

### Co-Treasurers:

Viviane Azemchap &

Hazar Azzam

### Co-Secretary:

Heather Posey (stand in)

Open Position!!

### Welfare Committee:

Fatima Abdullahi

Pam Schmolli

### Activities Committee:

Open position!!

### Hospitality Committee:

JP Berner

Open position!!

### Fundraising Committee:

Wyn Hawker

Alexandrina Matos Maia

Trindade

*\*\* Please contact Manuela deBoever  
[manuela.pizzaia@sotramar.cd](mailto:manuela.pizzaia@sotramar.cd)  
if you are interested in one of the vacancies stated above.*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

## IWC MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS

Date : Tuesday 7th June 2011  
Time : 9 :30 am  
Place : U.S. Ambassador's Residence, Nzongotolo No.2, Gombe.



## INFORMAL SUMMER MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS

Date : Tuesday 5th July 2011, Tuesday 2nd August, 2011  
Time : 9.30 am  
Place : Manuela's House, Avenue des Citronniers no. 14, Kinshasa, Gombe

## OUTING TO THE VILLAGE DES ARTISTES

Date : Thursday 16th June 2011  
Meeting Time & Place : 9.30 am / Lower parking Grand Hotel



Once again we take you to a hidden place in Kinshasa: the malachite artists will transform in front of you a piece of malachite into a frog, or a cat, why not an elephant or a box? Next to them we'll watch some painters work, among them a woman. You may also come across M. Minister of the dustbins and his sculptures, why not? Let's meet and spend a good time together, discovering those quite amazing places and people. Come and join us for the last outing before the holidays!

Thank you Dominique for sharing hidden treasures in Kinshasa with the group. It has been a pleasure to share time, places and friendship with you all during those outings.

I wish you all good and relaxing holidays.

*Marie-Agnès*

## SELF DEFENSE CLASS

Date and Location: TBC  
Instructor: Father Jean-Claude  
Detail: The class will include the following: Light stretching, explanation of the benefits of training and stretching. How to throw a punch, kick and proper body placement. Demonstration of easy striking techniques & takedown manoeuvres. Attack recognition. How to properly secure personal items (pocketbooks, bags & jewellery). Vehicle safety

## WELFARE OUTINGS

Delivery of food to the Nutritional Centre of Camp Luka and visit to Lukunga School  
Date: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June  
Meeting place: 8.30am lower car park at Grand Hotel

Visit to Father Guido, with Pot Luck Lunch  
Date: Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June  
Meeting place: Meet at 7:30am at the Memling Hotel

Sign up sheets for activities will be available at the coffee morning.  
Priority to full paid members, then monthly paid members.

Attendance to events is free for members, while a nominal charge (usually \$5) is made for non-members.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

## OPERATION SMILE

FOR THE 3RD TIME, AN OPERATION SMILE TEAM is ready to screen patients and give free surgeries to patients suffering from cleft lips and cleft palates in Kinshasa from 4th to 14th June.



The team is composed of 72 volunteers from all over the world, the majority of them from South Africa. The 7 surgeons come from South Africa, Colombia, USA, Mexico, Kenya and Ghana.

Who else is coming apart surgeons?

Anesthesiologists, pediatric intensivists, pediatricians, dentists, a clinical coordinator, OR nurses, Recovery room nurses, Pre&Post Op nurses, a speech pathologist, child life specialists, a biomedical technician, assistants for medical records, assistants for electronic medical records, patient imaging technicians, students. Quite of a team !



A number of medical volunteers from the DRC also help and give their time to serve during this mission: surgeons, young doctors, nurses, a dentist. That's why we also provide lunches for them too, according to a strict list established by the mission coordinator. Every step is planned well ahead. A whole container is being shipped for the mission, liters of water are needed for the patients, and most of all, tons of time, knowhow, love and care are given!

For the 3rd time, IWC is part of it. 102 lunches will be served for the Operation Smile team at clinique Ngaliéma on 4th, 6th and 10th June, therefore a total of 306 lunches.



- We would like to express our sincere thanks to Bonheur Seitis "chez Basile" who donates the sandwiches on Monday 6th.
- We would like to express our sincere thanks to Kate for baking the chocolate muffins at her place.
- We would like to express our sincere thanks to l'Express Supermarket who donated a box of apples

Last but not least, we would like to express our sincere thanks to those of you who kindly accepted to once again get involved to make this project come true.

*Dominique, Nargis and Marie-Agnès*

## ELECTION RESULTS: 2011/2012 TEAM

---

Results were as below (names in alphabetical order). If you have any election related queries, please contact JP (cc'd on this email) who oversaw the count process. Please note that "\*\*\*\*" means 'appointed; member of IWC for less than 6 months').

- Presidents: Marie-Agnès Fontaine, Wyn Hawker
- Vice Presidents: Manuela De Boever, Mona Ibrahim
- Treasurers: Hazar Azzam, Viviane Azemchap
- Secretaries: Huguette Diakabana\*\*\*\*
- Welfare Chairs: Fatima Abdullahi, Pam Schmoll\*\*\*\*
- Fundraising Chairs: Linda Vodak
- Hospitality Chairs: Mumtaz Ladha, Paule Lemay
- Activities Chairs: Dominique Ledoux, Niru Ishigooka

## FAREWELLS

---

- Corrie Hiemstra is leaving for the Netherlands
- Dorothea von Strumpfelt is leaving for Germany
- Ella Huesken is leaving for Mozambique
- Grace Stern is leaving for Djakarta
- Ingrid Nyström is leaving for Togo
- JP Berner is leaving for Ethiopia
- Miriam Flaminghi is leaving for Mali
- Sonia Pancas is leaving for Mozambique
- Teresa Moreno Diaz is leaving for Tanzania
- Yvette Pennacchia is leaving for Tanzania

We thank you all for your input in the club, the time we shared together, the way you helped the club to become what it is today, each of you in your own way. Special thanks to Miriam who served as a secretary for 2 years, Yvette who served on the board last year and who compiled the IWC 2010 "Newcomer's Guide to Kinshasa", Teresa who served as a Fundraising chair and helped the fundraising committee throughout her time in Kinshasa, JP who served on this year's board as a hospitality chair, and Dorothea, a memorable March coffee morning speaker.

We wish you good luck and all the best in your future assignments and we look forward to hearing about your adventures in your new locations!

## FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MESSAGE

---



Alexandrina and Wyn would like to thank everyone for helping with the IWC's fundraising activities in 2010/11, and would like to wish Linda a successful fundraising year in 2011/12.



# WELFARE COMMITTEE MESSAGE

---

Lots of good news to report this month!

The housing unit for handicapped tailors (ACHAD) is almost completed. This group has been absolutely amazing – dedicated, organized, and hard-working. It has truly been money (\$5,675) well-spent on our part as soon 12 previously homeless tailors (mostly single moms) and their families will have a clean safe place to live. We hope to arrange a trip for any interested members when the project is finished.



Thanks to a very successful Ball we were able to provide Frere Mauro \$4,000 for equipment needed for the homeless children's shelter and clinic in Limite. The ultrasound equipment pictured here will be used in the clinic that services the street children and well as the surrounding community and will particularly essential in the monitoring of pregnancies.



Pere Guido has received \$8,805 for equipment and supplies needed for his Center for Children with Psychological Handicaps (a reeducation center for former child soldiers). We will be organizing a day-trip to the center in June (we will let you know the date) so that interested members can learn more about the center and can see how our funds have been put to use there.

Operation Smile will be coming to Kinshasa from June 4th to June 12th to perform free operations on children needing corrective cleft-palate surgery. Medical personnel (doctors, nurses, anesthesiologists, technicians) from many countries have volunteered their time and skills to come and perform these life-changing operations. The volunteers - 102 of them – need to be fed and housed while they are here. IWC has been asked to provide three lunches for the volunteers and we have allocated \$1,000 from our funds to do so. How wonderful that we can play a supportive role in this wonderful effort.

We have also allocated \$1,000 for the purchase of food supplies to be used by Camp Luka to feed malnourished babies. A trip is being planned in June (we will let you know the date) to deliver the food. Since it is in the same direction, we use this outing to also go to see last year's project – the Lukunga School.



There are three other projects still in various stages of development:

- The Boyambi School (latrines)
- Maison de la Paix (clinic/shelter in need of more metal beds)
- Kimbondo Pediatric Hospital (play area for handicapped children)  
- our other Ball funds recipient.

All have been approved for funding and we will keep you posted as they get underway.

**Photos:** #1: Running Water, ACHAD Project; #2: Latrines, ACHAD Project; and #3: Meeting Room, ACHAD Project

## NEW PROJECTS

If you have a project that will leave a positive effect on the society and you are looking for funding, please contact Welfare Committee Chair, Fatima Abdullahi at [faabdullahi@yahoo.com](mailto:faabdullahi@yahoo.com).

# WELFARE NEWS

---



*Equipment shown above given from IWC to Les Enfants, Fr. Mauro, P. Justin et les Operateurs du Centre Médical Don Guanella*

IWC received the following thank you letter:

Thank you very much: I realize the work was done from your hearts, which adds meaning and value to your work.

Thanks to you from all members of our youth.

The bonds of affection and solidarity started with P. Guido continues and is consolidated, a sign of your commitment to the children who rely on this group of friends, a sign of Providence of a God who wants the good of the poor.

This morning I told the kids of my experience last night, the people I met, the affection you have shown. Knowing that someone helps them and encourages them to help these children not to give up the path to regain its dignity.

Whenever you want to visit again, we will be happy, we wait.

For our children, it is sign that the Father in heaven thinks of them and loves them. For us, solidarity and Christian charity are expressed in concrete gestures of everyday life, as the Gospel says: "you came to visit me ....., you clothed me ....." can read more of the small and large these concrete signs of solidarity, and I am grateful.

*Fr Mauro*



## MEMBERS MURMURS

---



We were very lucky not to have any rain for this outing as for the first time, Monsieur Laurent had an opportunity to exhibit at his place. Very proudly he welcomed us in his court yard, having displayed some of his table cloths on the outside walls, cushions and table sets on the table full of dried paint stains he uses to work. The 16 of us had our eyes attracted by the bright reds or yellows or deep maroon of the materials and the typical designs of his paintings: African women cooking, African huts, bowls, geometrical patterns, some embroidered with beads or raffia. A lot of presents were bought by the ones planning to go back home for vacation!

If you happen to talk to one of us, you will for sure hear about who went back home with a sweet turtle or who heard about the secrets of Mr. Laurent's paintings...

Thank to all of you who participated in this outing. It is always so nice to share with you some tips, some time, to introduce you to somebody or some special place in Kinshasa. Each of you come with different expectations, different cultures, different moods. This is the place to get to know each other every time a little more.

I would like to express my deepest thanks to each of you who ever joined one of the outings I organized during this year.

You gave me the strength and the will to try and find something special to share with you each month. I have done this job with all my heart and I wish Dominique and Niru, who are going to take over next year all the best. I can assure them of my help and friendship.

Marie-Agnès



## MEMBERS MURMURS

---



Last Friday of the month, 18 of us: members and visitors enjoyed this May lunch at the Spice restaurant.

The place was not too easy to find for some of us and we well deserved the lovely Indian food, from butter chicken to veg kaidi. The dishes were filled again as soon as they were empty, we had time to chat, enjoy the dal dishes, the hot nans in a nice and friendly IWC club atmosphere.

I would like to express my warmest thanks to Dominique who helped me with some of the restaurant bookings and choices of menus : merci, Dominique ! I also would like to express my deepest thanks to all of you who joined regularly or once in a while those club lunches. You made them full of life and friendship. They are always a great opportunity to meet, relax, exchange tips or news and get to know some different places in Kinshasa.

We wish those of you who are leaving the country all the best and remember : there is always a seat ready for you at our IWC table anytime you come back to Kinshasa.

*Marie-Agnès*

# MONTHLY RECIPE

---

From President Manuela, and as demonstrated at the Italian cooking class...

## **BASIC TOMATO SAUCE**

500 gr of fresh tomatoes / tin  
3 tablespoons olive oil  
2 chopped garlic  
2-3 basil leaves  
salt, pepper

Put olive oil in a saucepan, heat, add chopped garlic and stir, fry and add the tomatoes, salt and pepper, cook for 15-20 minutes.



## **ARRABBIATA SAUCE**

Once cooked, add to the sauce some green and black olives, 1 tablespoon of capers, 1 tin of anchovies in olive's oil, 1 red chilli or few or.... many Tabasco's drops, you will have "Arrabbiata sauce", heat a bit then pour this sauce on your pasta

## **OR...**

To the basic tomatoes sauce you could also add also ; tuna fish, shrimps, or any other seafood  
.....

---

## CLASSIFIED ADS

---

### **CATERING**

SAMOSAS & SPRING ROLLS at a reasonable rate - as enjoyed at the 2010 Christmas Bazaar.  
Contact: Papa Tiala , 099 870 4035

**ASSISTANCE WITH SETTING UP, PACKING UP, WASHING DISHES, FOOD SERVICE:** Joyce ably assisted the IWC during our monthly coffee mornings and the '*pot luck* lunches' held at the SA Recreation Centre, as well during our 2010 Christmas Bazaar, with all of the previously mentioned tasks in a professional manner.  
Contact: Joyce Katende, 089 725 8331

**A NEW MEDICAL CLINIC** has been established by an Indian Doctor and laboratory technicians from Bangalore. He has imported brand new laboratory equipment, scanning, echography, XRay machines etc to ensure the provision of good medical services. He has specific specialisms also, and he invites anyone with health related issues to contact him.

Contact: Dr. M. Mannan Sharieff, M.D., 0818095363 / 0854106950

Pulse Africa Sprl Medical Laboratory and Cline, Avenue de la Gombe, No. 8, Commune de la Gombe

# ABOUT US

---

**THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB OF KINSHASA (IWC)** is a philanthropic and social membership based organization comprised of women and men from the local and international communities. In addition to providing assistance to local community projects, the Club also provides a social space for women and men from all over the world. The IWC is considered an English-speaking Club, however the language needs of non-English speakers are accommodated when possible. Regular monthly activities are coffee mornings, which provide beverages and confectionaries, lunches and one excursion to a site in Kinshasa. These activities are free for members however open to non-members for a small fee. All are welcome!

The Club by-laws state the IWC's purpose as:

- To provide an opportunity for women and men of all nationalities to meet and to promote good relations within the community.
- To conduct activities for the benefit and welfare of such persons or groups of persons of Congolese nationality as may be designated by the Club.
- To provide information and understanding of our host country through speakers and trips and to help newcomers become integrated into the international community.

Club members are mostly expats based in Kinshasa, however also includes local business, academic, artistic, social, government and international persons. It is a good networking and support space for people and can add value to any newcomer or resident of the city!

## **2010-2011 membership fees are as follows:**

**Members joining in September to December: \$150**

**Members joining in January, February, March: \$100**

**Members joining in April, May, June: \$50**

These memberships are valid from the date of payment until the first coffee morning of September 2011.

Monthly memberships are available for \$20 and entitle the member to activities until the next Coffee morning (primarily for use by temporary residents of Kinshasa).

Membership entitles the member to join in all the activities, browse the website version of the Kinshasa Newcomer's Guide, invite a guest to the monthly lunch and to the Coffee morning, place articles and notices in the newsletter, and more.

Only a nominal % of membership fees are used for administrative and social activities of the club. The major administrative expenses are donated by volunteer members, especially the IWC Board. The majority of fees collected go to the welfare budget which supports organizations and projects working toward development of communities and combat poverty in Kinshasa.

## **IWC AND PHOTOS**

We thank you in advance for respecting the following requests regarding members' privacy:

No photos should be taken at any residence the IWC is invited to, unless permission is given by the hostess. No photos taken during outings, lunches or any club event should be shared on Facebook unless permission given by all persons concerned.



## International Women's Club of Kinshasa

### Activities Calendar – June 2011

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sunday
		1	2	3	4/5
6 <b>Operation Smile week</b>	7 <b>9:30am IWC Coffee Morning</b>	8	9	10	11/12
13	14 <b>8:30am Welfare Outing: Camp Luka &amp; Lukunga School Visit</b>	15	16 <b>9:30am Club Outing: Village des Artistes</b>	19	19/20
21	22 <b>7:30am Welfare Outing: Father Guido &amp; Pot Luck Lunch</b>	23	24	25	26/27
28	29	30			

**Priority given to members where places are limited, activity charges may apply for non members**