



Presidents' Message

Welcome to the 2009/2010 year of the International Women’s Club – Kinshasa

Most but not all of our regular members have returned from holiday. On Tuesday 1 September 2009, we will hold the first meeting of the 2009/2010 IWC year at Av Nzongotolo No. 2; photo identification required. See you there!

Last year was a wonderful year of growth for the International Women’s Club. We ended the 2008/2009 year in June with more than 80 members. We gave away a lot of money!!

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ORGANIZATIONS IN 2008/2009

	<u>USD</u>	<u>Francs</u>
Stand Proud	6955	24500
Christmas Food	3000	
Mikongo Project		
Inauguration	200	
Père Guido	10000	
Camp Luka	13500	
Mutombo Hospital	5000	
EEV/EDEN	<u>740</u>	<u>3000</u>
	39395	21500

Sept 1 Coffee Morning

At Linda Garvelink’s house at 9h30
U.S. Ambassador’s Residence,
Nzongotolo No. 2
(please bring **photo id**entification)

9h30: Hospitality: Membership & Dues
10h30: Nelson Arias-Martinez,
Presentation of IWC website
11h00: Upcoming Activities

This is only possible because of your contributions in time and money. Congratulations! This is our benchmark for the 2009/2010 year; we want to meet and exceed this mark – our work never ends!

In May, your Board of Directors made a hard decision to increase dues to \$US150 per year. **Where does this money go, what is it used for?**

Your Board is proud to say that very, very little is required for administrative expenses. For at least most of this year, we do not expect to have to pay fees to rent meeting space, audiovisual equipment or for food and beverage services. All of the above are donated by members. Both the money we take in from dues and the money we earn at fundraising events are used for our charity work. In fact, in the 2008/2009 year, 75% of our charitable gifts were funded through special fundraisers; 25% of our work was funded by member dues. Your dues payment is not an administrative fee; a better description would be that it is a donation to the charities the Club chooses to support. We use zero-budgeting; that is, when money comes in, we put all of it to work to make life in the greater-Kinshasa community just a little bit better.

Although we strive to have interesting and enlightening speakers for every monthly coffee morning, the IWC is much more than a “coffee club.” To be effective, we need many, many volunteers. And, we guarantee, if you volunteer, you will increase your enjoyment and the value of your membership.

Our new Board assumed their duties at the August 2009 Board meeting. Please decide which committee you are willing to donate time to, and then contact the chairs to get involved.

Welfare: Maryse Houadjeto, Hélène LePivert, and Modieh M Tsele This committee makes recommendations to the Board for charitable projects.

Activities: Joan Mietes and Sylvie Sereshgi This committee selects and makes arrangements for monthly speakers and coordinates outings and other activities for Club members.*(cont on next page)*

Fundraising: Alexandrina Matos Maia Trindade and Teresa Moreno Diaz This committee is key to funding our activities, designing and implementing our fund-raisers such as the Holiday Bazaar, possibly a Dinner-Dance, and occasional mini-bazaars throughout the year.

Hospitality: Yvette Pennacchia and VACANT This committee is responsible for maintaining the member roster, greeting members, arranging for members to donate snacks for the monthly meetings, and they oversee the Web page and prepare the “Newcomers Guide”

Note: each committee has additional members; these are only the people who chair the committees.

HELP WANTED: We need YOU!

Because of her growing business commitments, Joan will not be able to contribute as much time to Club activities as last year. So we need someone who has good organizational skills to step forward to help on the Activities Committee.

All of our committees have multiple chairs except Hospitality. That is because Candice Liscomb moved to Johannesburg, South Africa in June 2009. Therefore, Yvette needs a co-chair. If you are friendly, kind and organized, this is the committee for you.

Fundraising...Alexandrina and Teresa are wonderful co-chairs and they have help from other committee members. Nevertheless, they need many more members to help with the organization and creative ideas that make our fund-raisers into great successes.

The Welfare Committee is responsible for finding worthy projects that are well-managed and that will use our contributions wisely to better the greater-Kinshasa community. If you have a warm heart, contacts into the Kinshasa charitable community and are dedicated to leaving Kinshasa a wee bit better than when you came, this is the committee for you.

Consider your time and talents and get involved. Your life will be richer for it; I guarantee it!

Here's to a successful, productive and fun 2009/2010 year for the International Women's Club – Kinshasa.

Sincerely,

Linda Garvelink

Co-President

**Tasok library club! Books, DVD's.
open Saturday mornings
\$100 membership/yr per family
+ \$50 refundable deposit
Membership encouraged & Volunteers needed.**

About us

The International Women's Club of Kinshasa (IWC) is a philanthropic and social organization comprised of women and men from the local and international communities. In addition to the work of providing assistance to local community projects, the Club also provides a social connection for women and men from all over the world. Meetings are conducted in English with French translation and feature a speaker from the local or international community. All ladies and gentlemen are welcome.

The Club's 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 leaders in Kinshasa diplomatic, business, academic, artistic, social, government and international communities. The speakers are substantive and the monthly extra-curricular activities are always enlightening and fun.

The membership dues are \$150 for the year September 2009 - August 2010. Guests may attend their first meeting at no charge and members may bring a guest to the monthly lunch. Only paid members may participate in other activities.

Treasurer's Report

We are pleased to report that the IWC had a very successful year financially, raising more than \$41,000 from memberships and activities such as the Black and White Dinner Dance, December Bazaar and Bake Sale and the sale of Newcomer's Guides. Of this total almost \$40,000 went to various local organizations engaged in important charitable works. This left a balance of about \$1000 to add to the more than \$3000 with which we started the 2008/2009 year, meaning that we start off this year with a positive balance of \$4197, 45,460 francs and 20 Euros. Any member who would like to receive a copy of the full accounts for the year should advise Don McMaster at sigridon@yahoo.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Don McMaster, Viviane Azemchap and Hazzar Azzam

Co-Treasurers

2009-10 Executive Board

Co-Presidents: Hanne

Dokolo & Linda Garvelink

co-Vice Presidents: Kerstin

Baroncelli & Manuela

DeBoever

co-Treasurers: Viviane

Azemchap, Hazzar Azzam &

Don McMaster

co-Secretaries: Odile

Brock & Myriam Flamigni

Welfare Committee:

Maryse Houadjeto, Hélène

Le Pivert & Modieh Tsele

Activities Committee: Joan

Mietes & Sylvie Sereshgi

Hospitality Committee:

Constantine Haykin,

Masako Kitazawa, Candy

Liscomb & Demet Zylidiz.

Fundraising Committee:

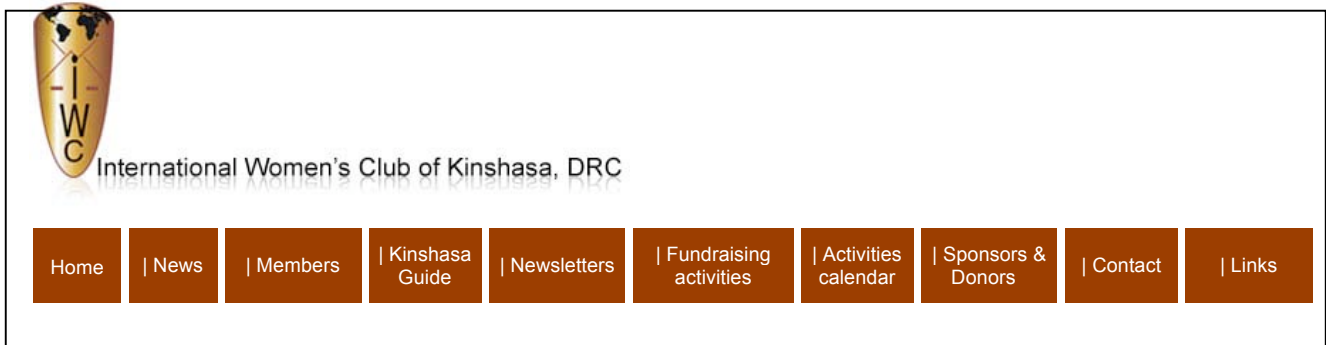
Teresa Moreno Diaz &

Alexandrina Matos Maia

Trindade.

To submit items for publication in the newsletter, please contact one of the co-Secretaries.

Introducing the IWC WEBSITE!



Thanks to the hard work of volunteers Nelson Arias-Martinez and Yvette Pennachia, our club is proud to present its new website, whose Internet address is:

www.iwckinshasa.org

Part of the website is public - anyone can look at it. Part will be accessible only to members (members will be given the password with the receipt for their dues).

The public part of the site includes information about the IWC, News, Contact, etc. For example, two people living in other countries have already contacted us through the "Contact" page to get information or announce their upcoming arrival in Kinshasa.

The "members only" part is even more interesting. The list of members is only available to us, and so is the ONLINE version of the new Kinshasa Newcomers' Guide, which will be updated regularly and so be even more useful than the paper version.

The website also has links to partner organizations, photos and stories about our fundraisers and other activities, and a special page to thank the sponsors and donors who enhance our donations and have helped us throughout the years.

Welfare Committee accepting requests, new members.

The Welfare Committee has started meetings to research which charities IWC will support this year through dues and fundraising activities - and let's not forget "elbow grease," which IWC showed we had in strength last May when we prepared 400 lunches for the doctors and volunteers of Operation Smile! Next meeting, September 8.

Now is the time to submit requests for funding. Please direct them to the committee co-Chairs, Maryse Houadjeto, H el ene Le Pivert & Modieh Tsele. Projects must be:

1. Within driving distance of Gombe
2. Less than \$20,000, and
3. Self-contained, i.e. the project will be finished and ready to put into use without further financing than that which is requested from us.

New volunteers are most welcome on the welfare committee. Our work involves evaluating requests, visiting the sites, and making recommendations to the IWC Board.

Going to Pretoria? Some tips.

In the past few months, I had reason to be in Pretoria for about 5 weeks – some planned, some unplanned. In case you go to Pretoria, I hope only for happy reasons, this information may be useful to you.

I stayed in 3 Guest Houses and used a very safe, prompt, efficient and courteous car service.

The **car service** took me anywhere I wanted to go and arranged tours for my visiting family and me. All were reasonably priced and very safe; the drivers were both knowledgeable and personable. The car/tour service is **ANTS**. That is not an acronym or a nickname, it is just **ANTS**. Maybe they chose the name to illustrate their diligence and hard work. If that is the case, it fits! **ANTS** provides airport transfers as well as tours and about-town car service. The website is <http://www.antsevents.com>; the email is info@antsevents.com. The telephone number is +27 12 346 2400.

The guesthouses we stayed in were:

The **Elstree Mansion** on East Ave, Arcadia, Pretoria; it is part of the **Rose Guest House** family. This is a very basic, self-catering flat. It was perfect for my family's visit. We had a 3-bedroom flat with 2 bathrooms, a small kitchen and a very nice size living room. The **Elstree Mansion** is extremely private. The maid comes in to clean once a day, other than that you are on your own. It is a short, safe walk to restaurants, a **Woolworths grocery**, and the **U.S. Embassy – Pretoria**. The website for all **Rose Guest Houses** (located in Arcadia and Brooklyn areas) is <http://www.therose.co.za/>; the email is info@therose.co.za, and the central telephone number +27 12 460 8075.

Matisse's Nook a 4 star guesthouse located on Rigel Street in Waterkloof, Pretoria, only a short distance (2 km) from Brooklyn Mall. The rooms are very attractive, each featuring the works of different artists: Matisse, Toulouse, Degas, Van Gogh & Diego Rivera. The beds are comfortable and the hosts are friendly, generous and kind. The breakfasts are made to order and delicious. Dinner can be catered from another guesthouse for an additional fee or Mr. Delivery comes right to the door and delivers food from a wide variety of restaurants. Two adorable black rabbits and a very friendly (but unobtrusive) yellow Labrador roam the premises. The website is <http://www.matissesnook.co.za/>; the email is lize@matisses.co.za, and the telephone number is +27 12 346 0310.

Capital House a 5 star boutique hotel favored by the U.S. Embassy Pretoria. It is located on Victoria Street in the heart of Waterkloof Pretoria's "diplomatic enclave." **Capital House** offers an elegant environment with a family feeling. The price of the room includes both a made-to-order breakfast and a delicious 3-course dinner (on non-holiday weeknights only) served family style at 18:30 sharp. Guests may take their meals in their rooms or order from Mr. Delivery. If you choose **Capital House**, be prepared to be surrounded by Americans somehow connected to the U.S. Embassy. It is the lodging of first choice for medevacs (not critically ill or contagious) and for TDYs. The website is <http://www.capitalhouse.co.za>; the email is info@capitalhouseboutiquehotel.com and the telephone number is +27 12 346 0330 or +27 12 346 0327.

Pretoria is delightful. I hope you enjoy your time there as much as I did.

-Linda Garvelink



Announcing the premiere of the ANUARITE Woman of Courage Award

The International Women's Club – Kinshasa is supporting the efforts of the AMICUS (AMlitié Congo-US) Club in partnership with UNESCO and the American Cultural Center to create the

ANUARITE Woman of Courage Award.

The award will be granted on

International Women's Day, March 8, 2010,

to one or more Congolese women who earned the distinction of being positive role models in their communities for the courage they have shown through their life's work or by a single courageous act.

The award is named *ANUARITE* after Marie-Clémentine Anuarité Nengapeta (December 29, 1939 – December 1, 1964) who was a member of the Holy Family Sisters and was killed during Zaire's civil war in 1964 by Simba rebels when she resisted an attempted rape.

The Woman of Courage Award Committee, including representatives IWC and of each of the other partnership organizations, chose Anuarité to highlight the sexual and gender-based violence that is too commonly suffered by so many women throughout Congo to this day.

The criteria required for nominees are 1) to be Congolese and 2) to be resident in Congo. Posthumous nominations will be accepted as long as the two requirements were met during the life and work of the nominee. Other factors such as educational level, profession, social background, religion, etc. are not important qualifiers.

Nomination forms are available for downloading at the AMICUS website, www.amicusalumni.com. The primary distribution channel for the nomination forms is the Internet.

Please help us and spread the word and forward the link to the documents throughout your Congolese network so that the Committee will receive many worthy nominations.

[having trouble finding your way in Kinshasa?](#)

The new International Women's Club [NEWCOMERS' Guide](#), completely revised and redesigned, is nearing completion,
Target print date in October.

The online version will be an [IWC members' exclusive!](#)

Pots for Tots!

Earlier this year, the IWC received an urgent call from Maman Esther, director of the EEV Eden orphanage in Limete. Although she receives regular assistance from a Dutch group of current and former Congo ex-pat residents, she needed food for the children. The IWC Welfare Committee stepped forward to provide \$US500 of food supplies (see May 2009 newsletter). While there, **Alexandrina, Manuela, Maryse, Viviane** and **Odile** noticed that Maman Esther was cooking with pots that had holes in them. At the next Board meeting, the Welfare Committee proposed that the IWC use some of the “Helping Hands Fund” to purchase new pots for EEV Eden Orphanage.

Manuela purchased 3 very large pots for a total cost of \$US240. On Thursday 13 August 2009, **Corrie, Marianne, Viviane** and **Linda** as well as Linda’s visiting family delivered the pots to the Orphanage. We were, of course, greeted with the “Welcome Song.” Then the children sang a very nice English rendition of “If You’re Happy & You Know It... Clap Your Hands, ...Stamp Your Feet, ...Turn Around.” Not to be outdone, Linda made her family and the others join in the singing of “Itsy Bitsy Spider,” the story of a poor spider that does not let adversity overcome him; he keeps striving to meet his goal!

It was a nice visit; Maman Esther was very happy to have new pots for cooking the children’s meals. The children enjoyed the candy we brought and I am sure they loved our singing (although I don’t think Corrie, Marianne & Viviane will let Linda sing on future visits!).

Thank you to all who contribute regularly to the “Helping Hands Fund.” It really does help those with immediate needs.



The Pots..... the Tots!



International Women's Club of Kinshasa Activities Calendar – September 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sunday
	1 Coffee Morning 930h-1130h	2	3	4	5/6
7	8	9	10	11	12/13
14	15	16 Outing Atelier Liyolo 930h-1200h	17	18	19/20
21	22	23	24	25 Luncheon O Poeta 1230h-1430h	26/27
28	29	30			

Members Activities: For Paid Members Only! Join today and join the fun!

Coffee Morning	Our first Coffee morning of the year will be held at the American Ambassador's Residence. In addition to our Welcome Back and Membership program, we will be viewing the new website. (Please bring picture id.)
Luncheon	This month's luncheon will be held at O Poeta Restaurant on Ave du Cercle on 25 th September at 1230h. Cost is USD30 per person.
Social/Art/Industry Outing	<p>Atelier Liyolo: Please join us for a tour and presentation at the workshop of world-renowned sculpture and artist, M. Alfred Liyolo. We will meet in the lower parking lot of the Grand Hotel at 930am on the 16th.</p>



Please give us your ideas and your support for member activities.