

April 2011

President's Letter

Dear Members:

The March Luncheon at the Aurola Holiday Inn was a big success. It was certainly a great start for the year. The decorations were lovely with help from Norma Ogryzlo who made the centerpieces. The food was yummy and the movie theme music was just right. A very special thank you to Pauline Walker for organizing the event with help from Linda Manoll. And we couldn't have done it without all the volunteers who pitched in to take care of all the necessary details.

It is now time for everyone to get busy and help a little with the upcoming fundraiser.

If you have a favorite restaurant and can get a certificate for a dinner for 2 or 4 people, please contact Anne Kreupeling at 2244-3669 or gumbolimbo@hotmail.com to let her know that you are soliciting a restaurant dinner or a hotel for a 2 night stay. She will send you the necessary letter in English or Spanish along with a certificate that the business can fill in. With just a little help from our friends we can make this event a big success. Thank you in advance for your support. If you think you can sell some tickets, see the contact information below.

Pat MacKinnon

A Night at the Museum Saturday, May 14, 2011



The recently renovated Museum of Costa Rican Art is opening its doors for the Women's Club! The landmark building, international airport terminal in La Sabana, was inaugurated in 1940. Gather a group of friends and come join us! Enjoy guided tours of the museum, delicious bocas from local restaurants, music by a group of Columbian musicians for listening and dancing, silent and live auctions (see page 2 for a sample of the auction items).

One hundred percent of funds raised will be devoted to our charity projects.

Tickets are on sale from Board and Advisory Committee members at a cost of ₡20,000. Contact Margie Arias at 2268-0975 (margieawccr@gmail.com) or Jeannine Hurd at 2239-8619 (gregoryhurd@racsa.co.cr) for ticket sellers in your area.

The **NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM EVENTS COMMITTEE** is actively seeking sponsorships and auction prizes. The Committee would greatly appreciate receiving any contact information from members or assistance in obtaining sponsorships and prizes. The Committee also needs volunteers to sell event tickets and to assist on May 14th. Please contact Margie Arias at 2268-0975 (margieawccr@gmail.com).

**Take a look at some of the limitless variety of prizes we have gathered for our
May 14th Event - A Night at The Museum:**

Restaurants Dinners for 2 from:

Tin Ho (value \$50)
L'Olivo (value \$60)
Hotel Bougainvillea Restaurant (value \$60)
Hotel Casa Antigua Restaurant (value \$40)
Ristorante Il Padrino (value \$40)
Sash Restaurant (value \$40)
La Esquina de Buenos Aires
Don Wang Restaurant (value \$40)
La Casona de Mi Tierra (value \$30)
Rosa Blanca Bed and Breakfast

Hotel packages for getaways:

Villa Alegre Bed and Breakfast 2 nights (value \$350)
Hotel Mono Azul 2 nights deluxe room (value \$150)
Vista del Valle 2 nights (value \$310)
La Selva Verde Lodge – 2 nights (value \$250)
La Quinta de Sarapiquí – 2 nights (value \$250)
Hotel Punta Islita

Other fabulous prizes for your “bidding” pleasure:

2 Nature Air plane tickets (value \$400)
Painting by Maya Menon
Quilt made by Silvia Tandlich
7" Portable Digital TV (value \$100)
Assortment of Lekkerland cheeses (value \$100)
Assortment of Sibü Chocolates (value \$90)
Jewelry from L.E.S. Accesorios
Various Royal Copenhagen statues, vases and decanters
Italian gastronomical basket
Table with hand painted tiles (value \$120)
Yoga lesson (value \$50)
Massage session (value \$55)

And more to come!

Sponsor Restaurants & Catering Services providing delicious bocas:

Aya Sofia
Bagelman's
Beso
Café Moro
Deli-Arte
Muro-Ji
Mya
Saga
Tin Jo
Dos Pinos

COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

READING IS FUN REPORT



11-15 Escuela Paso Marcos, Simirak, Río Pacuare, Limón. Requesting 50 copies of a special Cabecar/Spanish dictionary. Cost per copy ¢2.700. Total: ¢135,000.

Text Books – all the text books have been delivered to the schools being sponsored.

Anne Kreupeling, Chair

POST SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



The Committee had its first Scholarship Meeting of the year in March at the Centro Cultural in Los Yoses and it was well attended. We have several new *Madrinas* this year including Ana Torres, Grace Woodman, and Nelleke Bruyn.

In 2011, the WCCR is supporting 15 second year university students and 15 in their first year. Last year the Committee decided to only help students who attended the “state” or national post secondary schools which are as follows: Universidad de Costa Rica (all campuses), Universidad Nacional (all campuses), Universidad Técnico Nacional (all campuses), TEC (Cartago engineering & sciences), and La Universidad Nacional Estatal a Distancia (UNED done mainly from home by internet but exams are taken at the university campus). INA is a state/national trade school but with some similar courses to the universities such as computer and English). We have two students studying at UNED and one at INA. The INA student does not have as many classes as the other students and her scholarship is less. All of UNED and INA students live in isolated communities and did not have enough money to attend one of the larger universities this year.

Our focus since the March meeting is to get all of the students to choose a volunteer project and to get started on their volunteer work. The first year students have to do 90 hours of supervised volunteer work during the year and the second year students have to do 40 hours.

With the schools being on different schedules, the *Madrinas* are busy from March through August insuring the students have a volunteer project, getting grades after exams, and following up with the students’ volunteer work. Some schools are on a trimester system and some are on a semester program.

Currently, Elena Austermuhle pays the students a monthly payment of ¢40,000. All students have been paid twice. The Committee is very appreciative of the work Elena does paying the students.

Student Profile -- Ana Gabriela is a new scholarship recipient this year from El Roble, which is out in the country between Barva de Heredia and Poás. She had a 96 grade point average for her years in high school. Ana Gabriela lives about two kilometers from a main road; it is too dangerous for her to walk the distance alone to catch a bus to the university in Heredia. Her family pays an uncle to pick her up at her house each morning and drive her to the bus stop. The uncle then meets her every afternoon at the bus stop to take her home.

The first time I talked to her on the telephone and asked her what she planned to study I thought she said “fotografía” (photography). I knew she was pretty from the copy of her cédula. When I went to the Universidad Nacional two weeks ago to meet her in person, she was petite, was even prettier than I had thought and looked like she could be a cheerleader. When we began talking, I realized what an erroneous concept I had of her. Her father works in construction building houses; she has always worked with him and loves that kind of work. She is not studying “fotografía”....she is studying “topografía” which is surveying. She wants to get her university degree and work in the construction business with her father. Ana Gabriela hopes her university degree will benefit her and her family.

Mary Jo Miller, Chair

2011 HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS



The High School Seniors -- 2011 is the last year for the majority of this group of award winning students. There are 14 students receiving a *beca*, 12 of whom will graduate this year and the remaining 2 in 2012. The school year is in progress with the Easter break rapidly approaching. We will keep you informed of any news regarding the students.

Thank you to all our generous sponsors who have supported these students through their high school program.

Anne Sobel and Roslyn Beswick, Co-chairs

CONDOLENCES

The Club extends its condolences to Giselle Paris for the death of her father.

We are saddened to communicate that Joyce (Joy) Kober's husband, Harry, passed away in the States on March 19th. Our thoughts are with, you, Joy.

It is with great sadness that we communicate the death of Rhoda Obolenksy's husband, Georges. He died peacefully, while napping on March 26th at a Hospice in Alajuela with its beautiful landscaped surroundings.

MEMBERSHIP – NEW AND DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

Members, if you missed getting your 2011 WCCR Directory, stop by the membership table and pick yours up. Your 2011 dues must be paid in order to receive a Director.



NOTE: *identifying information will be deleted from the newsletter posted on the website.*

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS! (Approved by the Board of Directors April 4, 2011):

Broomfield, Juletta (David Stubbs), Cullum, Margaret Caroline, Fafard, Janine, [Francisco, Alida, Hesse, Marlene (Marnie) (Guy Hesse), Prince, Sylvia (Wayne Prince), Saborío, Elisabet (Eli) (Javier Castro), Sánchez, Sandy and Van Hussen, Monique.

PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S NETWORK 2011 KICKOFF MEETING

By [Margarita Persico](#)



"If you want something said, ask a man. If you want something done, ask a woman," said U.S. Ambassador Anne Slaughter Andrew during the Professional Women's Network (PWN) kickoff meeting, quoting Margaret Thatcher.

On March 19, over 100 PWN members and guests gathered at the Auroa Hotel Holiday Inn, in San José, to listen to the first speaker of the "2011 Women in Leadership Speaker Series," Ambassador Slaughter Andrew.

A subgroup of the Women's Club of Costa Rica ([WCCR](#)), the PWN encourages personal and professional development through networking with other professional women. One of its main goals is to develop programs such as the woman of leadership speaker's series to empower businesswomen in Costa Rica.

"We want to help as many women in Costa Rica that desire to grow professionally," said Stacey Auch, PWN Chairwoman.

Ambassador Slaughter Andrew, the first female ambassador to Costa Rica, noted that as this year marked the hundredth anniversary of International Women's Day, it should remind us of the remarkable progress made.

"The Women's Club of Costa Rica a great example of that progress," she said, referring to the Club's 70-year-history. The Ambassador added that those women were visionaries, committed to improving the world for women and their communities. And they have progressed, she said, by launching the PWN.

Ambassador Slaughter Andrew emphasized during her speech the "tremendous opportunity for women to network."

The power of networking is an exposure tool for entrepreneurs, said the Ambassador. For example, the Ambassador held a recent reception where she introduced John Murphy, President for Latin Center Business Unit of The Coca-Cola Company, to a woman from [Banco Mujer](#), a non-profit women's organization aimed at supporting startup businesses.

Banco Mujer supports small local businesses run by women who make crafts, jewelry, souvenirs, and other goods. The Coca-Cola Company has a need to buy gifts for their international visitors; they realized that, at the same time, they could "support a greater cause" by helping these local women, said Ambassador Slaughter Andrew noting again the importance of networking.

Worldwide, women are being recognized as the largest driving force in global economy recovery said Ambassador Slaughter Andrew. The Harvard Business Review recently called it "the [female economy](#)" because it is estimated that in the next five years the global female income will increase more than the GDP (Gross Domestic Product) "growth expected from China and India combined." Both are part of the BRIC (Brazil, India, China) countries, which have the fastest worldwide growing economy.

"The real drivers will be women. Women entrepreneurs. Women business, political, academic and cultural leaders. Women innovators," the ambassador said, quoting [Muhtar Kent](#), Coca Cola, Chief Executive Officer and *Chairman*.

"Economic empowerment of women is a very important part of that change and progress," said Ambassador Slaughter Andrew. "It is a priority for President Obama. [...] It's been a priority for me throughout my professional life and it's certainly a priority for our embassy."

As for WCCR's [PWN](#) with its planning committee members—Elle Alexander, Stacey Auch, Phylliss Crist, Sanola Daley, Marissa Fayer, Nicole Joos, Suyze Lawson, Christine Little, Adele Lurie, Christina Marin, Jennifer Smith, Tara Stone, and the synergy of the whole organization—they plan on continuing their efforts to help empower women with entrepreneurial goals.

"We have heard from President Obama and the Secretary of State Clinton, and that is that investing in women is not just the right thing to do, but it's the smart thing to do," said the Ambassador who at the beginning added, "I hope to be a part of the long and successful history of the Women's Club and also of the innovative new Professional Women's Network."

Wanted: Leader(s) for Costa Rican History and Politics - invite historians/teachers to bring us up to date on these topics. Please contact Cindy Marshall for further details cindypariz2000@yahoo.com .

Wanted: Leader(s) for OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH -- Requirements:

1) Interest in area restaurants; 2) willingness to visit and schedule monthly lunches for WCCR members and friends; and 3) to contact members who are interested in attending (at their own expense).

This job can be shared by several people who can divide the responsibilities. It's a FABulous way to get to know other WCCR members, potential members, and local restaurants! Please contact Cindy Marshall for further details: cindyparis2000@yahoo.com.

CLUB CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS



APRIL 13TH GENERAL MEETING for additional information contact Pauline Walker: 2268-2182.

Directions to the Costa Rican-North American Cultural Center (Centro Cultural Costarricense-Norteamericano) 150 meters north of Gasolinera La Favorita (Gas Station) There is street parking in front of the Center; but during the day, it is often filled. The best places to park are the Auto Mercado parking ramp or a parking lot about ½ block further. The street in front of the Center is **ONE WAY SOUTH**.

Taking the Circunvalación Road

1. Get off at the San Pedro exit
2. Go towards SAN JOSÉ (west), passing the San Pedro Mall, Subaru dealer & Auto Mercado
3. At the 3rd STOP LIGHT (La Favorita Gas Station on right-hand corner), turn RIGHT
4. Go (north) 1 block; turn RIGHT (east)
5. **PARKING:**
 - a) Go about 1/2 block, to the entrance of the Auto Mercado Parking Ramp on right or
 - b) Go 1 block to a parking lot at the end of the street

From San José:

1. Take Avenue 2nd all the way through San José towards San Pedro (EAST)
2. Merge onto Avenue Central at KFC
3. At the 1st STOP LIGHT, turn RIGHT & take the service road that parallels the main street
4. Go about ½ block to the first STOP LIGHT
5. Veer LEFT, crossing the main road (pass La Favorita Gas Station on northeast corner); follow STEPS 4 & 5 above

FROM THE PARKING RAMP

Walk to the street behind the parking ramp (north)

Go LEFT ½ block

Go RIGHT for about ½ block (long one)

The Cultural Center is a big building on the right; there is a ramp for those who have trouble with steps

FROM THE PARKING LOT

Walk back down the street you drove west on to the lot & follow # 3 & 4 in "From the Parking Ramp".

REMINDER: It would be helpful if you have exact change for the ₡1,000 we pay at General Meetings

PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S NETWORK MEET & GREET NETWORKING EVENT, Friday, April 29th, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Caracas Lounge – Barrio Amón (behind the Holiday Inn and 50 meters east, parking next door).

Come meet professional women in the corporate, NGO, academic, consulting and services worlds. There will be a structure networking activity with prizes available. Bring your business cards.

RSVP to:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=bxww8yn6&oeidk=a07e3ge1ota69db576f&oseq=a013fqcduiivk>

PWN has been developed specifically for women of all nationalities to encourage personal and professional development through networking with other professional women and to develop programs to contribute to all women in Costa Rica. PWN is an English speaking group and beginner level English is welcome. For more information email pwn.wccr@gmail.com.



General Meeting: May 11, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. at Robledales Restaurant in Santo Domingo de Heredia. Our third meeting of the year celebrates art work that is integral to the Costa Rican culture and features Aisling French, the owner of the Namu Gallery in San José. Aisling has worked extensively with indigenous groups in Costa Rica and has learned much about the various groups during her travels to their villages. She will display examples of masks and other art as she enthusiastically discusses the history and background of the art work she displays in her gallery

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Salute for a Job Well Done!

By Phylliss Crist



Adriana Bogantes Cabezas
(WCCR member and U of CR
student) with patient

Christina Marin joined Women's Club through the Professional Women's Network in 2010 while she was writing investigative reports for The Tico Times as Chrissie Long. She recently became Executive Director of *Niños sin fronteras* or Children Without Borders. In March she organized a bilingual volunteer corps which included many WCCR members and friends to assist some US Professors of Optometry and their students in examining 960 low-income patients with vision problems in 4 different communities in the San José area. The optometrists and students brought hundreds of pairs of used glasses that had been donated...they meticulously categorized them and, after eye exams here, were able to distribute the glasses to the patients.

Chrissie pointed out that while the CAJA provides eye exams, they do not provide glasses when needed. So this service was "heaven-sent." Volunteers were asked to work at least one 4-hour shift in one of the communities. Several worked two or more shifts and have reported the experience to have been well-organized and highly rewarding. The patients seen, by date and area: March 21 Bajo Los Anonos: 200; March 22 Leon XIII: 260; March 23 Obras del Espiritu Santo in Crystal Rey: 260; March 24 ACAI: 240. In thanking the bilingual volunteers, Chrissie said, in part, "You gave them the invaluable gift of sight, and while a...pair of glasses might seem like something small, it is life changing for the people you served. For me, very few things can replace the experience of watching people's face fill with gratitude as they look through new lenses." If you would be interested in volunteering for similar programs in the future, contact Christina at cmarin@cwbfoundation.org, www.cwbfoundation.org.

Little Theatre Group presents *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* Directed by Noel Montagano, running from April 15th to May 1st, 2011 at Laurence Oliver Theater, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 pm. Reservations call 8858-1446 or visit www.littletheatregroup.org

The 2011 SASY Golf Tournament. All proceeds go to ease the dog and cat population through spay/neuter clinics & education. Sunday, May 22nd -- 7:00am - 10:00am, Valle Del Sol. 2228-5578 or mvuurman@gmx.de \$100 per person, 3-person team, scramble format; 6:00 am breakfast compliments of Bagelmen's; lunch provided by Time Out Tavern; Longest Drive, Closet to the Pin, prizes, gifts and much more. Please contact Mark D. Gibson for sponsorship information at 2214-5291 & Marjan at 2228-5578 or mvuurman@gmx.de for general information and registration. SAVE THE DATE & secure your space for a day of fun.

MEMBERS CLASSIFIED

WANTED an Electric Floor Polisher - please call Roslyn Beswick 2293-5118



For Sale, 2 microfibers couches in mint condition. Original prize \$3,200, being sold for \$1,200 must provide own transportation. Contact Ana Maria Booth, 8823-0444 or anamaria.booth@gmail.com

FOR SALE: Full size bed with semi-orthopedic mattress, rustic style with wrought iron, original from Muebles Akiro and in perfect condition. Asking price €150.000. Photos provided by e-mail upon request. Silvia Mora Arias, 8832-8605, silmora@hotmail.com

FOR SALE: Ford Explorer XLT 1997 in EXCELLENT CONDITION. Only one owner, bought from Ford dealer in Costa Rica, always maintained, and operating perfectly. 104,000 kilometers. Asking \$9,000. Photos available by e-mail upon request. Contact Phylliss Crist 2268-6130 exotics@racsa.co.cr

COUNTRY HOUSE FOR RENT -- in San Luis, Santo Domingo, Heredia for \$550/month. 12 minutes from San José by car. Bus to and from San José stops in front of the gate. Three bedrooms with closets, one bath with hot water, living room, dining room, small kitchen, space for washer and drier hookup, telephone, internet. Grocery store, hardware store, vegetable stand, cafes, etc. right down the road. Price includes water and gardener for the landscaped property. Telephone, electricity and internet/cable service not included. Friendly neighbors in a tranquil environment with many birds and wild life. E-mail martha_rollins@yahoo.com or call cell phone 8828-2785.

COUNTRY HOUSE FOR RENT in Vista de Mar, road to Rancho Redondo, 14 kms. from San José. Beautiful view of the entire Central Valley, green areas, paved driveway, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room with chimney, terrace, dining room, maid's room and bathroom, covered parking space for 4 cars. Tranquil environment. \$1,200.00 per month. Contact Gloria Lehmann at: 2292-0156, 2229-1001 or e-mail: ayacam@racsa.co.cr

FOR SALE with house and 2nd floor studio, constructed in 2002, 5½ blocks from the central park of Santo Domingo de Heredia in a quiet and private street with access through a monitored gate. The plot measures 217 sqm., the house approximately 80 sqm., a covered car port 25 sqm. and the remainder is garden. The house has a master bedroom with bathroom, 2 single bedrooms, 1 bathroom, a sitting room with dining area and open plan kitchen, and solar heated water. Above the house, with independent entrance to the street, is a fully furnished studio of 50 sqm. which has good income potential. Price: US\$ 167,000. Anne Kreupeling -- fraluchi@yahoo.com – Tel. 2244-3669 or 8810-6923

FOR SALE - single storey home, 4,800 sq. ft., Bello Horizonte, Escazú. Close to all amenities. Completely renovated. 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. See photos www.pbase.com/phxphrank/smith_house&view=slideshow. Contact Liz Smith onionsincr@yahoo.com

CARIARI HOUSE FOR SALE: A 2 bedroom, 2½ baths home is for sale in Bosques de Doña Rosa, Cariari, a very secure and friendly neighborhood. This is the perfect home for a retired couple or a single person. Contact Ana Maria Booth, 8823-0444, anamaria.booth@gmail.com or hankins.joan@gmail.com. Finder's fee to any WCCR member whose referral results in a successful sale.

FOR SALE 1862m lot in Vista de Oro, Escazú, 400 m above CDS, in the heart of the neighborhood. Views, zoned for 3 homes in condo. One of the lowest per meter & per home site prices in Escazú - \$110m/best offer and financing available! A real deal!!! Diane Globerman 8377-0060, 2289-9880