

November 2011

## 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Letter

### Dear Members:

As you are aware, Pat MacKinnon has resigned and, as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, I am completing the term of office.

The next two months will be an exciting and fun time. I urge you to support WCCR's fundraiser on November 20<sup>th</sup> at the Little Theatre Group's presentation of **Laughter on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor**. Volunteers are needed to help with the event. 100% of the proceeds go to WCCR's programs. Little Theatre Group is also organizing a toy drive, and donations can be brought to this performance. Additional information can be found on page 3 of this newsletter.

On December 7<sup>th</sup>, the Past President's are hosting a lunch at Zamora Estates for members and guests. This is a time to renew old friendships, make new friends and learn about WCCR's activities. Tickets at a price of ¢10,000 will be on sale at the November General Meeting. Additional details and

directions to Zamora Estates can be found on page 9 of this newsletter.

We can all look forward to an exciting 2012 under the leadership of Roslyn Beswick, the members of the Board and the Advisory Committee. Several activities are in the planning stages, and I urge you to find out areas where you can be of assistance and to participate in any way which suits you best.

I'm looking forward to meeting and speaking with you during the meetings of November and December.

Thanking you in advance for your participation in our events.

Michele Côté

For our November 9<sup>th</sup>, General Meeting, we have been invited to meet at the main building of La Nación in Llorente de Tibás. Arrive at 9:30 for coffee and for the program at 10:00 a.m. **Please remember to bring the ID you used to make your reservation.** Call Pauline Walker at 2268-2182 for questions. See page 9 for directions.

**REMINDER:** Please bring the correct change for the ¢1,000 entrance fee at General Meetings.



**WCCR LITTLE THEATRE GROUP FUNDRAISER!**  
**Laughter on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor**  
Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>  
Boca Reception 1:30,  
Theatre 2:30 pm  
Teatro Laurence Olivier  
(Avenida 2, Calle 28 - next to Sala Garbo).  
See page 3 for details.

**Our condolences and heartfelt wishes and prayers go to Victoria Jirón on the death of her spouse Julio, on November 5<sup>th</sup> after a lengthy illness**

## PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE XII OF THE CONSTITUTION – GENERAL MEETINGS

The Women's Club has convened 10 General Meetings a year as established in the Constitution. The 2011 Board and the 2012 Board elect are recommending a change in the number of meetings based on the following:

### ✚ APPROVAL OF DONATIONS

In the past, each Social Service donation, because of the wide variety of projects, was approved on an individual basis by the General Assembly, making monthly meetings essential. The Social Service Committee changed to focus on Reading is Fun. Because the Club's 3 major projects (Scholarship, Reading is Fun, Textbooks) each have a specific line item in the budget, monthly approval from the General Assembly is not necessary. The allocation of the funds to each is approved at the December General Meeting when the budget for the year is presented. Members would continue to receive information about the 3 programs in the monthly newsletter in articles and at the General Meetings in a report form.

### ✚ ATTENDANCE AT GENERAL MEETINGS

The most popular meetings of the year are held in December and March. The membership supports these luncheon meetings with 100+ women in attendance. The rest of the year the majority (54%) of those attending are members of the Board and Advisory. Total attendance averages 33 members. Clearly the membership is not supportive of monthly meeting as presented. The proposed change would require the Board to schedule a minimum of 4 general and the mandatory one extraordinary meeting a year and allow the Board the flexibility to set a calendar of events more attractive to the membership. Consideration can be given to cost of facilities, cost and time required for travel, national holidays, typical vacation breaks for members, timing of major functions of other organizations, and the creativity and energy of the members of the program planning committee.

The October Annual General Assembly is obligatory under the law of Costa Rica. This will remain as stated to be held the second Wednesday in October. A minimum of 4 general meetings will be held through the year as established when the elected Board sets the calendar of events for the year.

### CURRENT TEXT IN THE CONSTITUTION:

The General Assembly will meet in ordinary session once a month during **March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November and December**. In addition, there will be one Ordinary Annual General Assembly that will be held on the second Wednesday in October. Convocation of this Assembly will be made through the newsletter or by mail to each member with no less than eight days notice. The Board shall be elected at the annual general assembly.

### PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

The General Assembly will meet in ordinary session **a minimum of 4 times per calendar year; the Board of Directors will determine the dates for these meetings at the beginning of each year**. In addition, there will be one Ordinary Annual General Assembly that will be held on the second Wednesday in October. Convocation of this Assembly will be made through the newsletter or by mail to each member with no less than eight days notice. ....

La Asamblea General Ordinaria se reunirá **un mínimo de cuatro veces durante el año calendario; la Junta Directiva determinará las fechas de estas reuniones al principio de cada año**. Además se celebrará una Asamblea General Ordinaria anual, la que se realizara el segundo miércoles del mes de octubre de cada año. La convocatoria se realizara mediante Boletín o comunicación escrita que se le enviará a cada una de las asociadas, con al menos ocho días de anticipación.....

## WCCR LITTLE THEATRE GROUP FUNDRAISER!

### **LAUGHTER ON THE 23<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR**

Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>

Boca Reception 1:30, Curtain Goes Up at 2:30 pm

Teatro Laurence Olivier

(Avenida 2, Calle 28 - next to Sala Garbo).

It is 1953, in the writers' room of "The Max Prince Show", a television variety show. It is on the 23<sup>rd</sup> floor of a building on 57<sup>th</sup> Street between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenues in New York City. Inspired by the playwright's youthful experience as a staff writer on Sid Caesar's "Your Show of Shows", Neil Simon's comic drama has the harried writing staff scrambling to top each other with gags while competing for the attention of star madman Max Prince. [www.littletheatregroup.com](http://www.littletheatregroup.com)

Bocas will be served starting at 1:30 pm and during intermission. There will be a cash bar, operated by the Shakespeare Bar.

### **TICKETS**

Our goal is to fill the 160 seat venue so please bring all your friends and their friends! Tickets are \$7,000 each and must be purchased in advance. They are available from Board and Advisory members, or by calling Pauline Walker at 2268-2182 or [walkerpauline@gmail.com](mailto:walkerpauline@gmail.com).

### **BOCAS/VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Cindy Marshall is looking for volunteers to donate bocas and to "welcome and direct" (to mind steps) the audience. If you would like to help out, please contact Cindy at 2244.3330 or send her an e-mail at [cindyparis2000@yahoo.com](mailto:cindyparis2000@yahoo.com). The more the merrier!

### **POSTERS DISTRIBUTION**

The posters were circulated as an attachment to the October 20<sup>th</sup> announcement. Feel free to print and post or distribute at popular locations in your area for maximum exposure for our event.

### **JOIN US FOR A WONDERFUL SUNDAY AFTERNOON THEATRICAL EVENT ON NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>!**

The Little Theatre Group is also doing an **OPEN ARMS COSTA RICAN CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE**. You can participate by bringing education toys or arts and craft materials to any performance.



## **GOODBYE PAT AND OUR BEST WISHES GO WITH YOU**

By Ana Cecilia Torres and Grace Woodman



Pat MacKinnon fell in love with Costa Rica soon after her marriage with Mac 31 years ago.

They started their life project with a series of six trips to Costa Rica. Grace Woodman remembers, "In the late 1990's when I spoke at the ARCR seminar, I saw one couple's faces repeatedly. It was Pat and Mac, doing their research about living in Costa Rica." They finally took the big step and moved. They lived here 11 years, longer than any other place in their married life.

Pat visited all of Costa Rica from Golfito and Playa Zancudo in the south to the

canals of Tortuguero in the north and the volcanoes and rainforests. She went by car, by bus, by horseback, and by foot, taking in Costa Rica's diversity.

Living in El Carmen de Guadalupe, a beautiful town in the green mountains, Pat and Mac started their travels to different countries in Europe, South America, and Asia; they had many multicultural experiences.

Ana Cecilia noted, "I consider Pat a good friend and supporter of many social assistance projects and activities in benefit of Costa Rican children and youth." She was sensitive to the Costa Rican community needs, which was reflected in her leadership as co-chair and chair of Social Service, Reading is Fun and the University Scholarship programs. She was instrumental in the transition of both the Reading is Fun and University Scholarship Programs to what they are today.

During her time as a member, Pat worked on the Directory, served as Corresponding Secretary, First and Second Vice-Presidents. This year as President, Pat worked to strengthen the Club's communication. A new, full color English/Spanish tri-fold brochure was produced for the May fundraiser; it is easy for Club members to carry and give friends and potential sponsors. She worked hard to get the new website up and running. Another communication tool is our new Face Book page, allowing the Club's news to reach yet more people.

In 2006 Pat volunteered to help with a gala fund raiser. She said she had never worked on a big event but was willing to do so. Pat co-chaired "In the Mood" dinner dance at the Intercontinental Hotel. She suggested a raffle with 5 categories: Dinners at well known restaurants, Trips around Costa Rica, Wine, Art, Airplane tickets. Tickets sales started several weeks before the gala and ended that night with the drawing. This raffle was part of the next 2 fundraisers. Pat continued fundraising, co-chairing the 2007 "Carnaval" at the Marriot Hotel, the 2008 "Fiesta Brasileña" at El Rodeo, and the 2009 "Under the Rainbow, where Dreams Come True" at the Aurola Holiday Inn. She came up with the idea for "A Night in the Museum", this year's fundraiser.

A few days before Pat left Costa Rica, Ana Cecilia interviewed her in a cafeteria in Sabanilla. Ana noted, "It was a cloudy and rainy day; Pat was waiting for me, smiling at my Tico timing as I arrived a "little" late! We enjoyed a cup of tea and talked more about her plans to go back. Their cats Angus and Luna were not happy in the hotel room. They were ready to fly away!"

Pat and Mac are returning to start a new life chapter in the United States. They chose an American small city, Asheville, North Carolina, with lots of cultural life and activities. We wish Pat the best of luck and happiness. The time we have shared is a good example of friendship and zest for life!

### GET WELL AND SPEEDY RECOVERY TO

**Bonnie Murry** on her recent surgery. E-mails are always welcome.

**Penny Santomenno** who is now home from her recent hospitalization and would enjoy receiving telephone calls or e-mails.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

### READING IS FUN REPORT



Over the last 2 years, the Women's Club has joined the campaign launched by La Nación, to provide textbooks to as many children as possible attending state primary schools. It had been estimated that the incredible amount of more than 285,000 children and youth in Costa Rica attended class without a text book in their hands!



The project, with the cooperation of many companies and thousands of individuals, managed to provide 42,345 children with a set of text books. The Women's Club is proud to have been able to donate these text books to 486 primary school children.

Please help us with your donation! ¢6,000 buys one set of 4 books for a primary school student. Donations will be collected at the December General Meeting. Donations will continue to be collected through January and February 2012. For information on making a donation, please contact Anne Kreupeling at [gumbolimbo@hotmail.com](mailto:gumbolimbo@hotmail.com).

We will be concentrating on helping rural or poor neighborhood schools with whom we have previously worked through our Reading is Fun program.

La Nación is also going to publish two more books, one for 1st grade and one for 3rd grade, to help the children learn to write correctly (3rd grade for the transition to cursive), which will be included in the package at no extra cost.

For additional information: [www.librosparatodoscr.com](http://www.librosparatodoscr.com) or better still, join us at the headquarters of La Nación for our next General Meeting on Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> when they will talk about their textbook program.

Thank you for all your support and I hope to see many of you at this important and interesting general meeting!

*Anne Kreupeling, Chair*  
Artwork provided by La Nación

## POST SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Nidia Viquez, one of the Scholarship "madrinas" recently visited this UNA university student and the following email is the gracious thank you letter the student sent me, thanking the WCCR. Angie is completing her first year at UNA with impressive grades. Nidia met her early in the school year and has been in touch with her many times by phone and email.



Señora Mary Jo

Mi nombre Angie soy una de las estudiantes universitarias becadadas, por ustedes. El fin de este correo es enviarle un gran agradecimiento por toda la ayuda brindaba durante este periodo lectivo, y en año de quinto del colegio, que también fue beneficiada por su ayuda.

Sinceramente, su apoyo a sido sumamente importante, en el desarrollo de mi carrera, ya que me ha sido de gran utilidad para la compra de libros, el uso de fotocopias es continuo, para los pases de autobús, entre otras cosas que gracias a su ayuda me he apoyado!!!

Mil gracias por su apoyo!!!

Bendiciones para usted y su institución que ayuda a muchos y muchas estudiantes, a poder continuar sus estudios!!

My name is Angie. I am one of the university students receiving a scholarship from your Club. The reason for this email is to send you a huge thank you for all the help you have given me during this first year at the university and in my last year of high school.

Sincerely, your help has been highly important in the development of my career for buying books, paying for photocopies, which never stop, and paying for bus fares to and from the university, among other things. You have helped me with everything!!!

A thousand thanks for your support.

Bless you and your organization, which helps many students to be able to continue their studies.

*Mary Jo Miller, Chair*

## 2011 HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS



The high school students have received their fifth and final payment for 2011.

Those graduating are receiving application forms for the University Program Scholarships. Their acceptance in this program will depend on their grades, their needs and the amount of money available in the scholarship account. Of course the students must apply for places in the public university system to be eligible for our help.

At present many of the students will be away from school doing their practical studies or taking the “bachillerato” exams. The graduation ceremonies will take place in December.

*Roslyn Beswick and Anne Sobel, Co-chairs*

**2012 MEMBERSHIP DUES** – on September 5<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Directors approved maintaining the membership dues at ¢10,000. In order to be included in the 2012 Directory, your 2012 dues must be paid by December 15, 2011.

### MEMBERSHIP – NEW

**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 Directory.**



*There were 4 new members and 1 rejoin in October.*

**D’Larenti, Chantel, Gallegos, Merlinda, Matson-DeKay, Andrea, Plant, Patricia and Chandler, Laura** (rejoin)



**Women’s Club of Costa Rica Book Sale** -- The WCCR will be collecting book donations for a book sale in early 2012. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Reading is Fun and scholarship programs. So start gathering. Drop off locations will be announced in the near future. If you would like to volunteer as a drop off location or require additional information, please contact Kathi Garrison at [kathigarrison@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kathigarrison@sbcglobal.net).

### WCCR PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER 2011 GENERAL MEETING

**Sibú – a mystical word, the name of an indigenous god.**

By Sylvia Prince  
Photos by Sibú and Kathi Garrison



Julio Fernández, historian, and George Soriano, journalist, owners of Sibú Chocolates, turned to investigating the chocolate situation in Costa Rica following a question from the audience at one of Julio’s talks on Central American history. After spending a great amount of time reading about the history and cultivation of cacao and the art of chocolate making, they decided to turn their reading into action. Thus, with no experience in either making chocolates or the world of business, Julio and George created Sibú.

Julio gave us an interesting, amusing and delicious presentation at their establishment and soon-to be shop and café. I would like to share some of that experience with you.

The cacao tree, native to the Americas, was first cultivated by the Olmecs in Central America. For the indigenous of Costa Rica, the fruit was a gift from the god Sibú. Cacao has been cultivated for thousands of years and became an important export, until an airborne fungus in the late 70's swept through the plantations, reducing cacao production in Costa Rica by 80%. Now there are more resilient varieties, but still, 30% of the crop is usually lost.

Cacao beans were used as currency all over Central America from pre-Columbian times and into the 1850's. Those were the times ... 4 cacao beans got you a rabbit, 8 got you a chicken, 10 bought the services of a prostitute and for 100 you could have a slave!

The Mayas traded with the Aztecs and gave them "cacao". The Aztecs, in their Nahuatl language, called it "cacahuatl", meaning bitter water and saw it as a gift from their god, Quetzalcoatl. They ground the beans in their *metates*, added spices, including cinnamon, pepper, vanilla and chile, thickened the liquid with cornmeal and frothed it with a *molinillo*. This "champurrado", unsweetened chocolate porridge, became the drink of the upper classes.



**At this point, our chocolate-tasting experience began with vanilla bonbons...** and a reminder from Julio that vanilla is an orchid that grows in the wild in our rainforests. Attempts to cultivate the vanilla plant outside Mexico and Central America were not successful: the vine that produces the vanilla orchid has to be pollinated by the local species of the *Melipona* bee. Once this fact was discovered, pollination of the orchid in other countries was done (and still is) by hand. No wonder vanilla is the second most expensive spice after saffron!

Hernán Cortes was not overly impressed by the bitter drink and suggested the addition of sugar (in Europe they added achiote to make it red). The sweetened drink was much in demand in later, colonial years when society ladies could not live without it – even taking it to church, along with the slave to carry the ingredients, the cup and the *molinillo* to froth it – so they could drink it during Mass. This turned the church into quite a noisy, non-worshipping scene which forced the Bishop to forbid the practice. The Bishop was found poisoned soon after the edict and the mystery is yet to be solved: did the ladies order the poisoning? All for the love of chocolate, you know.



**Julio now had us taste the wonderful *colmenero* truffle - cinnamon, cardamom, nutmeg, and a dash of chile covered with dark chocolate** WOW! Different! Awesome!

The Spanish kept chocolate a well-guarded secret for many years, but eventually, others discovered it and took it back to their own countries. In 17th century France, chocolate in an ornate box was given to the King as a gift. The word of chocolate spread even more throughout the world.



**It was time for the *caramel* truffle - caramel with infusion of ginger and coconut milk in dark chocolate** Caramel will *never* be the same after this exquisite combination.

Chocolate is a 19<sup>th</sup> century confection. The Dutch first attempted making chocolate bars, but the bars were not very good. It was not until the infusion was accidentally left mixing for 72 hours that the result was a smooth and silky milk chocolate bar.

In the 1700's, chocolate factories appeared in Europe. Joseph Fry opened the first factory in England. A decade later, Cadbury's was opened. In the late 1800's, Milton S. Hershey's was opened in Pennsylvania.



**Julio doesn't forget his vegan friends. We now try the lemon/cilantro/white chocolate, covered with dark chocolate truffle** ... to die for ...even after we are told that white chocolate IS NOT chocolate since all the cocoa is taken out to make it white.

What is "bad" chocolate? It's all in the cocoa butter...or lack of it! Started by the U.S. Military asking for chocolate bars that wouldn't melt in soldiers' pockets; Victory Beans (predecessors of M&M's melt –in-your-

mouth-not- in-your-hands) were developed, in which cocoa butter was substituted by hydrogenated fats, milk fat, oils, and even paraffin! Have a piece of candle, would you? Yum!



**Instead of a piece of candle-tasting chocolate we savored Julio' berry delight truffle: a milk chocolate truffle with wild blackberry ganache**

Does the chocolate taste like gasoline? garlic? industrial fumes? Don't be surprised. Chocolate absorbs the fumes in its environment and will taste as such. That is why Julio and George chose to have their business in a place away from traffic, with clear air and wonderful surroundings; they buy their cacao beans from a single grower; and do not add artificial ingredients.



**We finish with a classic cappuccino truffle and a cardamom bonbon.**

The chocolate tasting has only left us with a craving for more of these delectable truffles decorated with designs of indigenous origin, so we thank Julio for the great program and wait a little for the opportunity to buy some of what we just tried.

Note: Sibú chocolates may be found at all Librería Internacional stores; for complete listing: [www.sibuchocolate.com](http://www.sibuchocolate.com)

**A quick reminder** for those who attended the October General Assembly at SIBU Chocolate: You have a special invitation to return to the newly expanded artisan workshop for free. Owners Julio Fernandez and George Soriano report that they are still in the final stages of construction, and will be happy to have you back from January 15<sup>th</sup> to March 15<sup>th</sup>. The original date of November 15<sup>th</sup> had to be postponed. All you have to do is make a reservation three days before the date of your visit by calling 2268-1335 or 8871-9646, and bring a paying friend who has never been to SIBU. In case anyone wants chocolate for the holidays, SIBU will also be on sale at the December meeting before lunch. Please bring cash.

## CLUB CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**[Please Note: WCCR's policy is to allow guests/non-members to attend any two meetings of WCCR prior to joining.]**



For our November 9<sup>th</sup>, General Meeting, we have been invited to meet at the main building of La Nación in Llorente de Tíbás. In the past two years, we have forged a strong working relationship with-La Nación by buying books from their "Libros para Todos" series, the beautifully done, inexpensive books for elementary school children, which Reading is Fun provides to schools. La Nación also published an interview with Anne Kreupeling in a Sunday edition, and they display our logo on the text books donated by WCCR and in the newspaper. Our speaker will talk about the development of the "Libros para Todos" series, the support it has had from many organizations and its impact on public schools. Arrive at 9:30 for coffee and for the program at 10:00 a.m. **Please remember to bring the ID you used to make your reservation.** Call or e-mail Pauline Walker at 2268-2182 [walkerpauline@gmail.com](mailto:walkerpauline@gmail.com) for questions.

**DIRECTIONS:** From San José, take the highway north towards Guápiles/Limón, take the first exit to the right (sign will say Llorente) go to the top of the ramp, take a left, follow road until you see La Nación on your right.

If you are coming from the west go to Paseo Colon and continue to the end where the road turns right and then left and turns into Ave 2. At the corner of the Melico Salazar Theater (big cathedral across street), turn left.

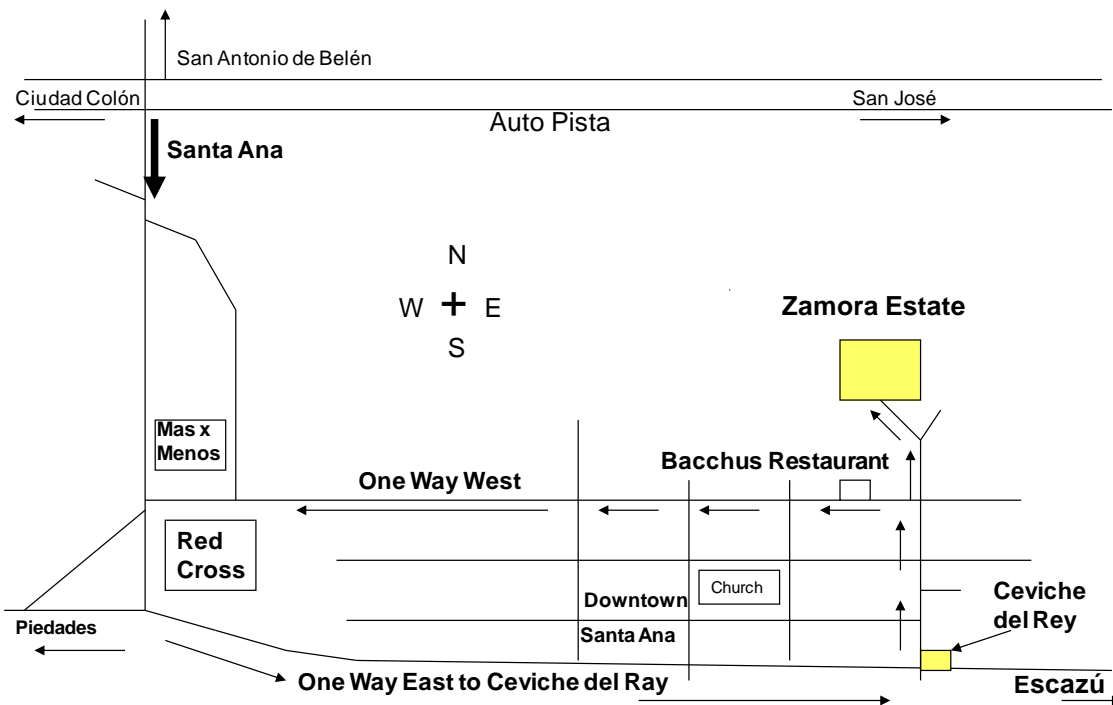
Go 4 blocks and turn right on Ave 7. Go 2 blocks and turn left onto Calle 3. You continue on this road past the Radisson where the highway to Limon begins.



**December 7<sup>th</sup> General Meeting immediately followed by an Extraordinary General Meeting (the only agenda is the proposed amendment to the Constitution) at 11:00 am** – luncheon hosted by the Past Presidents at the Zamora Estates ([www.zamoraestate.com](http://www.zamoraestate.com)) in Santa Ana, a tropical paradise of plants and flowers, located behind the Bacchus Restaurant. Tickets will be on sale at the November meeting for ¢10,000. Please contact Bonnie Murry, 2288-1157 or [bpmurry@gmail.com](mailto:bpmurry@gmail.com) for additional information. Tickets are also available from Board and Advisory Committee members as well as:

Cyndy Vorih 2282-9532; Grace Woodman 2249-1208; Bonnie Murry 2288-1157; Anne Kreupeling 2244-3669 Su Pardo 2235-2424; Anne Sobel 2237-4173; Mary Alice Lesko 2203-1385; or Joan Hankins 2293-3614.

Directions to Zamora Estate: 500 meters north of Restaurant Ceviche del Rey, Santa Ana, just behind Baccus Restaurant. It will be signed WCCR.



**WCCR & PWN are now on Facebook – How to Get the Latest Club Updates in 6 Easy Steps**

- 1) Create an Account ([www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com))
- 2) Create a profile (you can include as much or as little information about yourself as you like, if you are worried about security complete the minimal amount of information needed and then do your own research on security to make educated decisions in the future about what data you share)
- 3 Find Us: In the search field at the top, search for The Women’s Club of Costa Rica
- 4) Like Us: Click on the page in search results and click on the ‘Like’ button at the top
- 5) Follow Our Updates: Return to Your ‘Wall’ and watch our updates come into your newsfeed or visit our page anytime by following step #3 to see our news
- 6) Repeat #3 - #5 for The Professional Women’s Network: Women’s Club of Costa Rica

## INTEREST GROUP NEWS

### PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S NETWORK NEWS:

#### **PWN November 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting - Foreign Investment in Costa Rica - The Art of Negotiation**

*with Anabel González, Foreign Trade Minister of Costa Rica.* We invite you to a presentation from Costa Rica's Foreign Trade Minister, Anabel González. After extensive involvement in the negotiation of the free trade agreement with the United States, and after directing the agriculture division of the World Trade Organization (2006-2009), González was tapped to serve in the cabinet of the first female president of Costa Rica as Foreign Trade Minister in April 2010. She is now leading efforts to attract foreign investment to Costa Rica. Due to her work in drafting trade agreements, she has perhaps the greatest influence on Costa Rica's economy.

González has also worked as a senior consultant on trade and investment issues for the Inter-American Development Bank (2009-2010), directed Costa Rica's Investment Promotion Agency (2001-2002) and served as Director General for Trade and Investment Negotiations at the Foreign Trade Ministry (1991-1997). A graduate of the University of Costa Rica law school and the masters of law program at Georgetown University, González has been published and has lectured extensively on trade and investment issues in more than 25 countries.

*REGISTRATION:* \$5.000 payable ONLY at the door.

6:00 - 6:45 Registration & Networking

6:45 - 7:00 PWN Notes

7:00 - 8:00 Speaker Presentation, Q & A

Full Registration Details at, <http://pwnnovembermeeting.eventbrite.com/>

#### **PWN 2012 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

We would like to thank all of the generous women that have agreed to help PWN grow its programs and services. Next year please look forward to Women in Leadership Speakers Series, Professional Development Workshops, Meet & Greets, Coffee with Strangers, Mentorship Programs and Community Outreach Initiatives.

#### **WELCOME 2012 PLANNING COMMITTEE:**

Marissa Fayer, Elle Alexander, Adriana Bogantes, Nicole Joos, Caroline Cullum, Phylliss Crist, Adele Lurie, Harmony Boulton, Ayn Codina, Barbara Freeman, Merlinda Gallegos, Emma Guitton, Adriana Guzman, Robin Kazmier, Suzye Lawson, Jennifer Kay Smith, Carolina Reyes, Cristina Marin, Amanda Russell, Martha Rollins, Sandra Sanchez, Victoria Schwarz, Monique 't Hoen, Natalie Vargas, Ana Hernández, Juletta Broomfield, Stacey Auch

**ATTENTION:** If you are interested in starting a new Interest Group that you think would be fun, please send an e-mail to Cindy Marshall, Chair, Interest Groups at [cindyparis2000@yahoo.com](mailto:cindyparis2000@yahoo.com).

**WANTED: LEADER(S) FOR COSTA RICAN ART, CULTURE, HISTORY, AND POLITICS** - invite historians and teachers to bring us up to date on these topics. Please contact Cindy Marshall for further details [cindyparis2000@yahoo.com](mailto:cindyparis2000@yahoo.com).

**WANTED: LEADER(S) FOR HIKING** – interested hikers, walkers, nature lovers to meet and explore the great outdoors. If you are interest please contact Cindy Marshall, Chair, Interest Groups at [cindyparis2000@yahoo.com](mailto:cindyparis2000@yahoo.com).

**ESPAÑOL / ENGLISH CONVERSACIONES -- WANTED!** A new group with those who would like to improve their fluency in Spanish and English through conversations. The group will meet at least once a month, more if there is enough interest, at times most convenient to participants. Meeting places to be determined. Contact: Barbara Freeman 2266-0122 or [bejefr.cr@gmail.com](mailto:bejefr.cr@gmail.com) (Also, seeking a co-leader, as she is new to Costa Rica and still learning her way around.)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS



The next theatre production will be ***Laughter on the 23rd Floor***. It will be running for three weekends, from the 18th of November until the 4th of December. Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Sunday at 2:30 p.m. For reservations call 8858-1446 or visit [www.littletheatregroup.org](http://www.littletheatregroup.org)

The Little Theatre Group is also doing an **OPEN ARMS OR CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE**. You can participate by bringing education toys or arts and craft materials to any performance.

Lourdes Lobo announces that the string quartet **ALMA** is now planning its season schedule for 2012. The Quartet's classical repertoire includes Beethoven, Mozart, Ravel, Shostakovich, Haydn, and Dvorak. They can structure programs of various lengths to suit your event. Contact Lourdes at 8387-1671 or [lourlobo@hotmail.com](mailto:lourlobo@hotmail.com)

## MEMBERS CLASSIFIED

**HOME FOR RENT**, in a very special garden above Barva de Heredia on 2 hectares, 2 bdrm, 2 baths, fully furnished with all appliances, lots of light, cabinets and closets, private phone line, very secure. Cable and internet available. \$650 per month, Dianne Rowley or Chuck Jennings, 2266-0123

**CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT IN SANTA ANA**, 2,000 sq. ft., located in Residencial Prados del Oeste, 200 meters west, 500 meters north of the Musmanni bakery. The two-level condo has 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths, living room-dining area, and "cuarto de pilas" with a washer and dryer, a kitchen with granite countertops which includes a stove and refrigerator. There is a spacious terrace with a small-maintenance yard, covered carport area for two cars. Gated community with a 24/7 security guard, direct intercom to the guard and an alarm system in the condo, pool and club house. Close to all amenities. If interested, contact Cindy Marshall at 2244-3330 or at [cindyparis2000@yahoo.com](mailto:cindyparis2000@yahoo.com).

**FOR SALE** house with 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. Anne Kreupeling -- [fraluchi@yahoo.com](mailto:fraluchi@yahoo.com) – Tel. 2244-3669 or 8810-6923

**FOR SALE**, beautiful one-story house in Bello Horizonte, Escazú, 4,800 sq. ft., .close to all amenities. Fully restored four bed/four bath with maid's room. Landscaped garden full of flowers. This house is very light and bright with huge glass windows. Former owner converted the garage to a billiard room with teak floors....ideal for a children's' playroom or artist's studio. Pictures: [www.pbase.com/phxphrank/smith\\_house&view=slideshow](http://www.pbase.com/phxphrank/smith_house&view=slideshow). Contact: Tony and Liz Smith, [onionsincr@yahoo.com](mailto:onionsincr@yahoo.com) 2288-6451

**FOR SALE** – single storey home about 200m<sup>2</sup>, total property 862m<sup>2</sup>. Large living/dining with vaulted wooden ceiling, 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, 2 half baths, maid's room currently an office, rancho in landscaped back yard. Except for a few items, fully furnished. In a gated community with tennis court, pool, club house. Grace Woodman-Fernandes at [gracewccr@gmail.com](mailto:gracewccr@gmail.com) or 2249-1208, 2232-5016, <http://www.realtorcostarica.com>.

**BEAUTIFUL APARTMENT FOR SALE** offered by Marie Hermann-Legueu: Alto de Las Palomas, Santa Ana, San José. Approx. 300 m<sup>2</sup> / Approx. 3.228 ft<sup>2</sup>. Great view. Central AC + floor to ceiling windows throughout. Vestibule with half bathroom. Large social area with marble and hardwood floors. Family room. 3 bedrooms

en suite + views. Two of them with walk-in closets. Master bathroom has Jacuzzi + independent shower + bidet. Modern kitchen with granite counter top + pantry. Laundry area. Maid's quarters with separate bathroom. Four-car garage 24 hr. security. Call Oscar Murillo: [\(506\) 8995.0844](tel:50689950844)

**PLAYA GRANDE BEACH VILLA** -- Beautiful, 3-bedroom villa with shared pool located 1 block from the beach in Playa Grande (a quiet oasis just north of Tamarindo). 10% goes to scholarship funds. REALLY workable with rates till December 15!!! Also available for Christmas and New Years (7 night minimum). <http://VillasCostaGrande.com> Diane Globerman 8-377-0060



For Sale from the **Estate of Norma Lenkowsky, 2 Bing & Grondahl Blue Birds Figurines Denmark Mint**, valued at \$120 each. The factory marks on the bases indicate that these were probably made between 1914 and 1915. There are several Danish porcelain pieces still available. To purchase these charming birds or for information and pictures of other beautiful and unique items available, contact Grace Woodman at [gracewccr@gmail.com](mailto:gracewccr@gmail.com), 8369-7992. *Remember all proceeds go to our*

*Reading is Fun and Scholarship Programs. All reasonable offers will be considered.*

**Deadline...**for next month's Connection: **Thursday, December 1, 2011**. Please submit **COPY READY**: news, classified ads, reports, member information, community events, etc. Contact: [newsletters@wccr.org](mailto:newsletters@wccr.org)