



IN THE WHEEL

INNER WHEEL U.S.A.
INNER WHEEL U.S.A. FOUNDATION
innerwheelusa.com



JANUARY 2013

2012/2013 IWUSA GOVERNING BODY

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Vice President/Deputy National Representative

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK..



Dear Inner Wheel Friends,

The prediction that Spring will arrive means that winter months are flying by. We had subzero weather conditions to make sure that we felt the winter. A trip to San Francisco to visit the family made January fly by. Our daughters and grandchildren were happy to see us and to concentrate on family matters. We had our list of projects but did not neglect food and fun. Nicholas enjoyed his second birthday party and so did everyone else.

With Lola Chase's help San Leandro Inner Wheel held a luncheon for me to meet many of the ladies of the club. The meeting was good food and good friendship. The enthusiastic attitude was contagious. Their club activities and service is inspiring. I have an even greater respect for each of the Inner Wheel USA Clubs.

As we work our way through the month of February we will gather to celebrate Foundation Month. Friendship and fun are connected with raising funds. It is also the month that we have the election of officers in our Districts and Clubs.

Frances Rose, past IWUSA President and past Foundation Chair has asked us to recall our founding members. For the Conference in Charleston we want to share that history with all of Inner Wheel. It's that celebration of service and commitment that makes each Club significant. We will celebrate this spirit and the accomplishments of the last three years.

In February we also have the chance to appreciate each other on Valentine's Day. I will end my letter with a wish for everyone from Mary Lubeck.

*Like a Garden
we must tend the hearts
of those we call our Friends.*

In Inner Wheel Friendship,
Donna Weiler

FEBRUARY IS FOUNDATION MONTH

A Message from Public Relations Trustee,
Christine Becker

I am sure you are all aware that the month of February is set aside as Foundation Awareness Month. IWUSA Foundation encourages that this month be used by Inner Wheel Clubs and Districts to make individual members aware of the Foundation and its vital link to Inner Wheel USA.

On our website www.innerwheelusa.com and in Jumpstart materials you will find many suggestions to help you promote the Foundation, its work, individual contributions and club involvement. It is also a good time to recognize club members who are Sustaining Members and Rose Council Members. You may wish to recognize a member or leader in the club by providing a gift to the Foundation in their name. Speakers for your club may include the Foundation Chairperson, past or present Foundation Trustee, a local prothesist, orthotist or professional dealing with children's myo-electrics.

Fund raising can be large or small and is as individual as the communities in which we live. List of ideas include: Rotary involvement in breakfast lunch and dinners, auctions, sales or raffling a basket of goodies.....all to benefit the children who need our help.

Remind members to use the iGIVE program when making internet purchases. This is becoming a growing resource for the Foundation as individual members are using internet and supporting the Foundation at the same time.

Hope you all have a successful Foundation Awareness Month!



AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL CLUBS

VOTING FOR IIW GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS FOR 2013/2014 IS NOW AND INTERNATIONAL MUST RECEIVE THESE PAPERS NO LATER THAN MARCH 31, 2013.

The USA has three persons on the ballot - **Norma Trillia** for Vice President, **Joan Cotton** for Treasurer and **Suzanne Robinson** for Board Director.

If your club has not received the voting package in the mail act now and download them from the International website. Click on this link -

<http://www.internationalinnerwheel.org/IIW-Official-Documents.html> and you'll be directed to the International Inner Wheel website page containing all the documents and instructions you'll need.

If you do not have access to the international website contact IWUSA secretary Mary Wall at 704.849.7018 and she will assist you in getting the papers.

Your vote counts. It's your voice in the future of Inner Wheel.

GET YOUR PAPERS and VOTE!!!!!!



Foundation Officer & Trustees met in San Diego last October to report on Foundation activities and share plans for giving in the coming years. Standing (left to right) Christine Becker, Suzane Sadofsky, Donna Stevens, Gill Broadaway, Connie Abram, Lillie Tonkin. Seated (left to right) Yolanda Gonzalez, Linda Hall, Heidi Case.

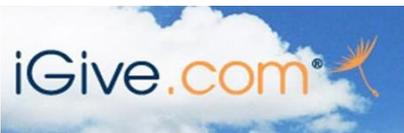


We have nearly 100 persons registered for our 9th Triennial IWUSA Conference and there's still time to add you name to the attendees who will gather in Charleston between April 18-21. This is your Conference - for every member. You'll have an opportunity to meet representatives from clubs across the country and learn what Inner Wheel means to them, what they're doing to grow their friendships and serve their communities.

Our Conference will take on an International flavor as well with Inner Wheel members from Canada and Mexico in attendance. Charleston offers an outstanding venue for gathering with friends and sharing in the many activities the Conference committee has scheduled. The famous Citadel Dress Parade is on our agenda and for your guest or spouse there's a tour of the HL Hunley and Patriot's Point Naval and Maritime Museum. Shopping is on every women's agenda and not far from our hotel is the famous Old City Market. On the Wednesday before the Conference begins we have the opportunity to take Charleston's famous House & Garden tour in the historic Battery area.

The last day to register is February 18th. Why not *be a friend* and ask a friend to join you. Go to innerwheelusa.com where you'll see the famous Charleston pineapple fountain. Alongside the fountain are links to further information and all the forms you'll need to register.

It's Charleston...Where friends meet.



The iGive Program has returned \$225.14 to the IWUSA Foundation through their give back program. You may recall

that Foundation Chair, Heidi discovered this opportunity and registered the Inner Wheel Foundation on the iGive website. If you're an online shopper and haven't registered to shop through this program, please consider doing so now. Here's the link - <http://www.igive.com/welcome/lp2/cr27.cfm> Click on it and follow the step by step instructions for registering. The next time you order from places like QVC, Macys, Home Depot, Overstock.com, to name just a few you can be making a donation to the Foundation anywhere from 1.5-7%. Remember....every penny counts.



Clubs Welcome New Members

Inner Wheel USA extends the hand of friendship to the following new members. You've joined a group of dynamic women making a difference in their communities, their country and throughout the world. May you enjoy many years of friendship!

- Dunedin North**
Jan Clark
Jade Seibert
Leslie Shaw
Carol Thompson
Ebbie VandenBrink
- Fair Oaks**
Trudy Vasquez
- Fort Myers**
Sandi RinkerKnecht

- Sacramento**
Maidi Simpson
- Shawano**
Gloria Gryg
Sally Rank
Joni Shebuski
- St Thomas**
Patricia Bailey
- Yuba City**
Marsha Conkey



Commitment to Non-Violence

IN 2013, LET US COMMIT TO HELP END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

2012 unfortunately showed too many times over that violence against women remains pervasive worldwide.

Today, UN Women expresses our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of the young Indian student so brutally raped. This horrific crime committed against a young woman who simply aspired to building a life in the service of others, is a call to action for all of us. Her death is a call to do what is necessary to eradicate senseless violence against women just for being women.



We have to work much harder to change those deeply ingrained biases that begin at birth—or even before. We know that the persistent health, education and economic participation gaps for women are detrimental to the growth and wellbeing of societies and countries.

It is the duty of law enforcement and political leaders to promote gender equality and challenge a biased culture.

We know that with women's growing political and economic roles, women will not stay silent about violence. Women expect authorities to take responsibility for keeping the streets, public spaces and public transport safe. They expect equal rights. And that is something that benefits us all—men and women, girls and boys in society.

Our action is what will truly honor a senseless death. We need to show the leadership and the determination to give women the respect, dignity, choices and freedom every human being should enjoy. Our shame would be not to wake up and act—millions of nameless women and girls count on us to show that courage and leadership.

LET US COMMIT

I would like to follow with the words of Sarita Lunani, President/National Representative 2012/13 of The Association of Inner Wheel Clubs in India

"As the whole country mourns the death of a young woman we should look forward to a year of renewed enlightenment towards transforming ourselves and the world, making a more meaningful contribution towards our society and making the world a better place to live in. Let us pledge to respect, understand and honor one another in the new year."

So let us commit....to be always present when women are wounded, injured, murdered and make our voices strongly heard.

Catherine Refabert

IIW Past President 2011/2012

Make It a Sun Shiny Day

Our Sunshine Chairs are waiting to hear from you....



Lola and Jody are ready, willing and able to send Inner Wheel wishes and support to our members who are ill, celebrating marker moments in their lives or coping with the loss of a loved one. Contact them via email, telephone or snail mail.

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Jody Griffing
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HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL MEMBERS EVERYWHERE

Welcome to 2013 and (for January 10th) I wish you all a "Happy International Inner Wheel Day". This is a special day in our calendar when, whatever the day is called in your country, we all think of our members world-wide. In many parts of the world, special projects are undertaken on this day to mark the date. For those of us in the southern hemisphere, it is usually part of the Christmas/New Year holiday period and many of our members are sharing family time. Whatever you are doing and wherever you are, please take a moment in your day to salute our members everywhere who are creating "Happier Futures" for children. I look forward to reading how members spent the day by sharing true friendship, personal service, and international understanding.



Last month I was honoured to share celebrations at both ends of our spectrum. The first was when I attended the 80th birthday of the Inner Wheel Club of North Sydney – this is the oldest Club still functioning outside Great Britain and Ireland. What a wonderful history some of our Clubs have. Later in the same week I attended the Charter ceremony of the first ever Inner Wheel Club in Indonesia, the Inner Wheel Club of Bali Seminyak. In that one week I attended the oldest and the youngest Clubs in the southern hemisphere. What an historic week it was. It was wonderful to meet members from both Malaysia and Australia who had travelled to Indonesia to be part of the Charter celebrations. We do truly have an international organisation. There have been many Charter Ceremonies in various parts of the world in recent months and I welcome all of these new Clubs (do read our IIW web site for reports of some of the Charters). I am also receiving reports of Clubs gaining new members through the use of Proposal 17 – this is wonderful and it is achieving exactly what we had hoped for.

Please continue to e-mail reports and photographs of events and projects to our IIW Past President Catherine so that they can be posted on our web site for all to share. It is also good to read the informal reports and comments on Facebook.

I urge our members everywhere to start thinking about, and talking about, proposals for Convention 2015. Right now "May 2015" seems a long way away but as you will read on page 14 of the 2012 Constitution and Handbook, any proposals must be received at Headquarters not later than 18 months prior to the Convention.

To our members everywhere I extend my good wishes for 2013. I wish you all happiness and good health. While I was in Bali I read in my friend's home, "Health is not everything, but without health, everything is nothing". How true that is. If we have our health, we can do anything.

Please keep sharing the friendship as you "Be A Friend" to those around you as well as those further away from you.

In friendship
Carole Young.

First International Day of the Girl Child



The United Nations declared October 11, 2012 as the International Day of the Girl Child. The day was focused on raising awareness of the persistent challenges girls are facing, highlighting education as a key empowerment factor and celebrate girls as powerful agents of change.

The **Because I am a Girl** campaign will fight gender inequality, promote girls' rights and lift millions of girls out of poverty. The Campaign will reach millions of girls worldwide, ensuring their access to schools, skills, services, livelihood, participation and protection.

While we celebrate the opportunities and equality that have been afforded to girls and women in this country we should also be aware that there still remains so much to do. 84% of single-parent households in the United

PROPOSAL 17 BRINGS NEW CLUB OPPORTUNITIES



On December 1st the Inner Wheel Club of **Annmasse Lemon** received their charter. This club joins 10 other clubs in District 71 (France) thanks to the membership changes that were passed at last years IIW Convention in Istanbul. 8 members are coming from the Rotary/ Inner Wheel family and the remaining 6 charter members have no links to Rotary or Inner Wheel except their total devotion to Inner Wheel's ideals, ethics and commitments to service. In the coming months Club President, Natacha Bonhomme, plans to grow 18 members full of enthusiasm and giving meaning and life to the ideals of Inner Wheel.

Women for Africa Seminar–2012

Inspired by the Women of Europe Conference, Inner Wheel members in Nigeria organized a Women for Africa Conference in November 2012. The purpose of the Conference was to deliberate on issues that affect women in Nigeria and develop a set of action items that could be taken on by the IW members. They understood the power women have when they band together. With only 610 members in the country, these women dare to dream of making a difference in the quality of life in their country for generations to come. Here are just a few of their resolutions...

HYGIENE ISSUES CREATED BY FLOODING. Inner Wheel will make personal inspections of communities to teach proper hygiene, purchase refuse containers to cut back on disease created by roadside dropping and lobby to assure timely drainage clearance.

BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY. Inner Wheel members in the field of Education will join school PTA's to tutor young parents at the primary school levels.

MICRO CREDIT EMPOWERMENT. Members will assist women in obtaining microfinancing to support their business endeavors and lobby the Government to assure that this process is available to a larger number of women.

PEACE EDUCATION. Girls' education must be emphasized. Womens' empowerment is paramount as this is the best way to assure that culture and social values of the country are not being lost.

States are mothers. 27% of these households live below the poverty line compared to 12% of single parent male households. This article doesn't provide the space to comment on the various factors that contribute to these statistics, but it is safe to conclude that the unique challenges single mothers and their daughters face will certainly affect their educational opportunities and overall self-esteem.

Inner Wheel Clubs in this country have historically focused on issues surrounding women and children and in 2013 it appears we will not break that tradition. The girls of today are the women of tomorrow. Let us never forget that we have a responsibility to encourage every young girl, every young woman to reach for the stars and use the power of education to be all they can be. Someone may have given you that extra push that has made you the woman you are today. Pass it on.

All Those Comfortable Shoes



There's a great short story about friends being like a comfortable pair of shoes and that's surely what it felt like when 49 members of clubs in **District 517 and 519** gathered together at Zio Fraedo's Restaurant in Vallejo, CA on October 20th to celebrate their friendships and achievements in Inner Wheel. Hanger representatives, Christianne and Jon Wilson, updated members on the advancements being made in the world of prostheses. A special guest was 2 year old, Unique, pictured here with Mom, Yves, one of the newest limb recipients that Inner Wheel has helped through the Foundation. Through a raffle and member donations \$450 was raised for the Foundation. Thank you ladies! You're helping children turn a disability into a possibility.



What's Happening in District 519

Judy Shearer hosted the holiday party for her **Carmichael Club** at her home. Members brought a shower of gifts for the Crisis Nursery, a facility where parents can bring their children, newborn through 5 years, for emergency child care.

Prior to enjoying a leisurely December lunch (and a little Christmas shopping) members of **Citrus Heights** paid a visit to The Meadows, an assisted living facility for seniors, where they helped them with a holiday craft project. The Club's famous Soup and Salad event took place late in January. Perhaps we'll hear more about that in the next news report.

East Sacramento was a buzzin' during the holiday season. Members stuffed 20 stockings for Sierra Forever Families, a program for adolescent foster children. At their club party gifts were collected for the Wellspring Women's Center. They raised some funds when they did a gift wrapping day at Barnes & Noble and finished off the holidays by cooking for their Rotary Christmas party which garnered them some funds for the Club. And then they all rested.

Small but mighty the **El Ceritto** club paid a visit to Family House at Children's Hospital in Oakland where they delivered donations of toiletries and paper products. The sisterhood of Inner Wheel is never forgotten and a trip to San Pablo was a must to visit and support member Pat Berndt, who is undergoing cancer treatment. All of Inner Wheel's prayers are with Pat for a speedy recovery.

Talk about longevity, **Elk Grove** must hold the record. For 26 years now they have wrapped the Christmas gifts for Rotary that's presented to the Jessie Baker School children. They tout themselves as expert in wrapping hula hoop, basketballs and all odd shaped things. In the spirit of the season members donated food for the Elk Grove Food Closet and clothes and diapers for Chicks in Crisis.

The wizard in the Emerald City would certainly have welcomed **Fair Oaks'** good witch, Janet McWilliams as she and other club members supported a Fun Day for kids. The event is part of a literacy project focused on getting children interested in reading. During last summer's band concerts books were collected for the event and children were then invited to select a book of their choosing. The Club also donated 23 blankets to the Nepenthian Foster Home Program.



Sharing with other less fortunate than themselves seems to be a common thread running through the clubs in District 519. **Marysville** is no exception and President Connie Cary reports that the Club received thanks and appreciation from St Andrews Church Food Bank for their donation of canned goods. Members also donated children's toys for the annual charity drive.

Nevada City reports a busy December supporting a number of initiatives for the less fortunate in their community. The local domestic violence shelter was able to refer the needs of a mother and 3 children to them and the members shopped till they dropped securing everything on the needs' list. They also supported Santa's Workshop sponsored by the KARE Crisis Nursery for children under 10.

The ladies of **Orangevale** report a busy Fall/Winter season starting with the selection of various charities they would contribute to, namely, Dolls for Nursing Homes, Laird Smith Mem. Scholarship, Operation Gratitude, Orangevale Food Bank, Sacramento Crisis Nursery, Salvation Army, St. John's Shelter, Women's Wisdom and Wounded Warriors. A total of \$1,338.79 was donated to these organizations. As they celebrated the holidays at the home of Joyce Fitz each person wrote a personal Christmas greeting to a number of Inner Wheel clubs around the world. Last month Chris Wagner opened her home to Inner Wheel members for Clay day. Chris and Judy Sowa showed the gals how to drape slabs of clay over forms to create delightful and useful garlic graters/serving bowls. They ran an article in the Orangevale and Folsom newspapers regarding their Baby Doll Project and were rewarded with an assortment of dolls. At their January meeting they culled through the dolls, cleaned and dressed them. They will be distributed between the Crisis Nursery and local Alzheimer facilities.

Members of the **Sacramento** Club enjoyed a special treat at their Christmas dinner party with spouses when an English troubadour entertained them with songs. Their couples bridge club and the women's daytime bridge and book club keep the members engaged on a regular basis.

Members of **Yuba City** celebrated their charter date (November 2nd) with a luncheon at the El Zarape restaurant. Former club members joined them for the occasion. Happy 38th anniversary and best wishes for many more to come!

WE'RE WALKING FOR THE FOUNDATION



If you're attending the Conference be sure to pack your comfortable walking shoes and join your "sisters" in raising money for the Foundation with a 5K Walk on Friday, April 19th. Early bird registration is \$25 and includes a t-shirt, goodies, water and a snack. Participants will gather at Starbucks at 6:00 a.m. with the walk starting promptly at 6:15. For more information, including the registration form go to <http://www.innerwheelusa.com/> and click on "Walkathon" next to the Charleston pineapple.

YOUR CLUB COULD BE A WINNER

Your Club could be the proud winner of the "Coin Box" Contest organized by our Foundation to bring awareness to the fact that every coin counts in growing our IWUSA Foundation investment.

Using a 4x4x4 inch box cut a slit on the top for coins. One side of the box must contain the picture of a child the Foundation has helped; other than that, let your imaginations run wild. Use whatever tickles your fancy to embellish the box. Submit your entry by sending up to three pictures of your box to Foundation Chair, Heidi Case at rtc@optonline.net



Submissions must be received by March 15th for judging. An additional prize will be awarded to the Club that's collected the most coins by March 31st. Winners will be announced at the Conference.



YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT

Yes you did and congratulations are extended to the following clubs for having qualified and been awarded the 2011/2012 Year of Achievement Award.

- SLIDELL, LA
- MATTHEWS-MINT HILL, NC
- EAST SACRAMENTO, CA
- ORANGEVALE, CA

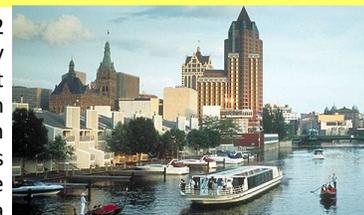
Was "Rosie the Riveter," the WWII poster that symbolizes the power and strength of women the inspiration for these Clubs? We need to ask them, but whether or not she was, these clubs need to give themselves a round of applause.

This is the fourth time Slidell and the second time Matthews-Mint Hill is receiving this award. For East Sacramento and Orangevale it's the first, but we hope it won't be the last for any of them. Great job ladies!!!

It would give IWUSA President, Donna no greater pleasure than to put her signature on your Award this summer. If your club is working on this award, keep up the good work. If your club hasn't started, there's still time to qualify. Go for it girls! You can do it!

Menomonee Falls Never Falls Short

They may be a club of only 12 members but as we've heard so many times, it's quality not quantity that counts. That's certainly the case with the Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin Club. Menomonee Falls is Wisconsin's "Largest Village" located in the southeast corner of the state with a population of 35,000. It's named after the Menomonee River that flows through the town. Menomonee Falls has brought us two IWUSA Presidents, Virginia Wittlin (1992/93) and Doris Stolz (2004/05) and our current Zone 3 Representative, Carol Winget.



This past holiday season President Nancy Laguna and her members reached out to women less fortunate than themselves and donated six hand-made quilts to a shelter in Waukesha. In the spirit of "giving a child a hand" Carol Winget surprised her club members at the December Christmas luncheon by making a holiday donation to the Foundation in the name of each member.

The Club's Newslady, Doris Stolz, always concludes her Newsletters with a dose of laughter and here's a few humorous thoughts she recently shared with members. Did you ever wonder.....

Why we say something is out of whack? What's a whack?

Why does fat chance and slim chance mean the same thing?

If all the world's a stage, where is the audience sitting?



Sweet Carolinians



Remember the words of Neil Diamond's famous *Sweet Caroline*? "Hands, touching hands, reaching out.. touching you". The Ladies of North Carolina District 767 did just that on September 29th at their Fall Luncheon in Cornelius, NC. IWUSAPP Miriam Fisher (seated, 3rd from the left) spoke about the IIW Constitutional changes regarding membership and IWUSAPP Frances Rose (seated far left) then shared additional information about recruiting new members. Julia Hite (standing far left), Zone 1 Representative, announced that the **Matthews-Mint Club** was a recipient of the 2011/2012 Year of Achievement Award having met all six of the Awards' objectives.

Taken right out of the pages of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* is Dunedin North's own Melba Rilott, past Foundation Chair and Past Club President, Sara Wartenberg as they greeted guests at the club's Christmas brunch held at Melba's home. Notice their stylish mop caps. Very becoming girls.

Entertainment included "Stump your Inner Wheeler" where members had to guess on the veracity or falsehood of statements made about their fellow members. Pretty amazing what we don't know about one another?

Their January event carried on the traditions of merry old England with an English tea. Can't wait to hear about that.

February always pays tribute to the work of the Foundation and this year Fred Langdale will make another guest appearance at Dunedin's dinner meeting on Thursday, Feb 21st. Dunedin is the only club in IWUSA having achieved Emerald Status.



On January 15th members of the **Stamford Hobart Club** visited S. Kortright School and distributed 26 dictionaries to third graders. The Dictionary Project has been part of the Club's community service work for over 12 years. This project is funded by the Club's annual walkathon and by the sale of ice cream sundaes at the Stamford Rotary Classic Car Show every summer. Students gathered for a photo op with some of the members who participated in the presentation. Missing from the photo are Janet Pitelli and photographer, Chris Becker.

Teen Pays Visit to District 696

His name is Kaleb "Fred" Langdale from Moore Haven, Florida and last July while swimming with friends in the Caloosahatchee River an alligator bit his arm and dragged him underwater. After a fierce fight Fred knew he had to pull away in order to survive. His arm was gone and although the alligator was captured and the arm retrieved too much time had elapsed and the arm could not be re-attached. Hanger Prosthetics and the Inner Wheel Foundation came to Fred's aid and he was quickly fitted for a myoelectric limb. On Saturday, January 26th Fred and his Mother were the guests of **District 696** at their Luncheon in Sebring, Florida. Pictured here, Fred demonstrates the use of his limb. Fred plays the guitar, welds and hunts using his new prosthesis.

