



In the Wheel

Inner Wheel U. S. A.

Inner Wheel U. S. A. Foundation

Charlotte deVos, 2015-16 International President

Betty Tucker, 2015-16 IWUSA President

Unique & United



Editor ~ Becky Donhost

It is with a heavy heart that I begin this newsletter with sad news. On the morning of July 6, our President Betty Tucker died after her short courageous battle with uterine cancer. This newsletter will be dedicated in her memory and all that she cherished to make Inner Wheel an organization that serves those in need in each of our communities while living the Objects of Inner Wheel. Her husband John wanted to share his feelings with you. Following this page, the newsletter will begin. Rest in peace, dear Betty.

Dear Inner Wheel Family,

My heart breaks to tell you of the passing of my life partner for the last 55 years. Elizabeth "Betty" Tucker passed away on July 6th, 2016. In January, Betty was diagnosed with Uterine Cancer and had surgery in early February. After the surgery she had six weeks of chemo and radiation. In March, we were told that the cancer seemed to have been stopped but her health did not seem to improve. Near the end of April, we were told that she had several lesions on the brain. We started a program of rehab and additional round of radiation. In the last two weeks her health declined rapidly. Our family has had Hospice care for her, around the clock, for the past two weeks. We knew that there was no hope for recovery, but we wanted her to be comfortable, pain free, and at home.

Inner Wheel has been such a special part of our lives for many years. She received hundreds of cards, phone calls, e-mails, and flowers from Inner Wheel members from around the world. It would not be possible for us to respond to each of you, but please know that our son John, daughter Debra and I would like to thank all of you for your kindness during this difficult time. We will hold a celebration of her life on Saturday, August 6th, at the First Presbyterian Church in Haines City.

The local obituary will list Inner Wheel Foundation as a place to give in her memory, so that she may do one last good deed for Inner Wheel. I know that she would want her last act as President of Inner Wheel to be a donation to the Foundation.

Thank you again for your kindness towards Betty and me.

John Tucker



Volume 29 Issue 2

Spring 2016
Becky Donhost, Editor

2015-16 Governing Body:

- Betty Tucker, President, National Representative
- Joan Cotton, Vice President, National Representative, & Constitution Chair
- Suzane Sadofsky, Immediate Past President
- Fran Beers, Secretary
- Linda Howard, Treasurer
- Becky Donhost, Editor
- Naona Monroe, Non-Districted Club Coordinator
- Jeanetta Arenott, Dist. 517 Chair
- Margie Jones, Dist. 519 Chair
- Donna Weiler, Dist. 627 Chair
- Ellen Erickson, Dist. 696 Chair
- Anna Moore, Dist. 767 Co-Chair
- Frances Rose, Dist 767 Co-Chair

Foundation Bd. Of Trustees:

- Yolanda Gonzalez, Chairman
- Christine Becker, Vice Chairman
- Linda Hall, Secretary/Investments
- Connie Abram, Financial Officer

Sunshine:

- Lola Chase, ggccre@aol.com
- Jody Griffing, jodyg1@embargmail.com

When we do the best we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life, or in the life of another. ~Helen Keller



Betty Tucker, Inner wheel U. S. A. President

In June of 2015, I was installed as IWUSA President/National Representative. In the USA, many of the IW clubs and Districts go dark for the summer months. Little did I know that my year as President would also go dark within six months for at least three months. My plans for the winter months came to a halt shortly after attending the Fall governing Body meeting in San Diego. In October, I served at my first Governing Body meeting. It was a lovely weekend organized by Foundation Chairman Yolanda Gonzalez and her board. I was also able to attend a lunch with the 'Chula vista ladies. What a lovely group of ladies to meet and visit with. In October, I was able to travel to North Carolina and attend a District 676 meeting.

I had planned to return to California in January and attend meetings and celebrations of Districts 517 and 519. On the day after New Year's 2016, my world went dark. I was diagnosed with cancer. All my winter plans came to a halt. Now I am once again putting my life together to continue on with my plans. Although my plans went dark, I have been followed by many lights of prayers, cards, and phone calls and support from all my Inner Wheel friends. I am now ready to continue on during the National Conference and at the conclusion of it to get back on the road again. I have felt the love and prayers from everyone I heard from. I know your prayers have gotten me to this place. It is said that every person can make a difference and the proof is here.

I hope to make a visit to the Midwest to give them encouragement to continue on. I would also like to visit the northeast again. I thank you for hanging with me for the past 3 months and I say onward and upward to better days ahead.



*Disney Grandma!
Thanks for your
love, your laughter,
your support, your
dedication. May
you rest in peace
with the angels
above.*



Immediate Past President—Susan Sadofsky

This is a synopsis of my 2 years as IWUSA President/National Representative. At my first meeting of my Presidency, I suggested that we replace the Zones Reps with the District Chairmen. At the October 2014 Governing Body meeting in Scottsdale, AZ I had the pleasure of installing 5 District Chairmen as members of the IWUSA Governing Body. During my 2 years, I had the pleasure of visiting all 5 Districts and several N/D clubs.

I suggested that Non-Districted clubs join a District. While this was not feasible in some cases, several N/D clubs did join a District. IWC Dunedin North and Slidell joined District 696. IWC Stamford-Hobart and my IWC Westchester joined District 767.

As the N/R, I received emails from all over the world. In May, 2015 I had the honor of representing IWUSA at the 16th IIW Convention in Copenhagen, Denmark. There were 2,50 IW members from 53 countries. Eleven of us represented the USA. This was my first IIW Convention and I was deeply honored to represent our country. I even spoke in favor of Proposal 11. It had to do with an IW club that can be started with 10 members rather than 12. The proposal passed. I exchanged banners, pins, pens and business cards with many of the IW members from all over the world. When IIW VP Charlotte DeVos gave her report about her visit to the UN in March 2015, she honored me by telling the Convention that I met her for lunch in NYC. She even showed a photo of Martine Gayon, our UN Rep in NY, Heidi Case, PFC, Charlotte and I. It was great to meet so many wonderful IW members and we all believe in the object of IW. I also saw my friend Janet doing, NR of Italy and Francis Lucas, a PP from Metz, France. The next Convention will be in Melbourne, Australia in April, 2018.

As I traveled around visiting clubs, and even around town, I proudly wear my IWUSA PP pin, PNR pin, and my Rose Council pin. I am also a Rotarian and wear my Paul Harris pin as well. I cannot tell you how many people ask about my pins. This is a great opportunity for me to explain what we Inner Wheelers do. This makes for a good conversation. I urge you to wear your pins all the time, not just at meetings. You never know who you might meet—a future member or donor to the Foundation.

I was impressed by all the volunteering our members do in their communities. The support of the Foundation by our members, clubs, and districts continue to be outstanding. Once again, I thank you for giving me the honor and privilege of being your President/National Representative for 2 years. It is something I will cherish forever.



**When I stand before God at
the end of my life, I would
hope that I would not have a
single bit of talent left and
could say:**

**I used everything
you gave me.**

~Erma Bombeck



Treasurer's Report ~ Linda Howard

IWUSA FINAL BUDGET 2016-2017

INCOME

	<u>850@</u>	
IWUSA	<u>\$12.75</u>	\$ 11,432.50
IW Cap. Fees	<u>850@ \$8.80</u>	\$ 7,480.00
Liability Insurance	<u>850@ \$3.45</u>	\$ 3,187.50
IW Directories	<u>48@ \$15.00</u>	\$ 720.00

IW Foundation (1/2 of D &) Ins. D & O Ins.)	\$ 875.00
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TOTAL INCOME	\$ 23,695.00
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EXPENSES

International IW Cap. Fees (850 x 6.9037 GBP)	\$ 4,963.83
Insurance :	
Liability	\$ 3,003.00
D & O Ins.	\$ 1,700.00
President's Expense	\$ 3,000.00
Immediate Past President	\$ 50.00
Secretary Expense	\$ 250.00
Vice President's Expense	\$ 50.00
Treasurer's Expense	\$ 90.00
Postage & Shipping	\$ 72.00
Printing (Printer Ink)	\$ 85.00
Board Meetings	
Travel	\$ 5,000.00
Hotel Meeting Expense	
Rotary Convention Luncheon/Tea	\$ 500.00
Accounting (Year End Audit)	\$ 550.00
Int'l Directory & Postage	\$ 250.00
Newsletters, Including Postage & Labels	\$ 1,100.00
USA Directory & Postage	\$ 620.00
Donation to Foundation (Pres. Honor)	\$ 100.00
Florida State Fee	\$ 75.00
Bank Charges (wire fees)	\$ 75.00
Website	\$ 500.00
Regalia	\$ 300.00
Brochures	
Handbook Update	
IWUSA Banners	

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 22,333.83
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Miriam Fisher, Benefactor Trustee

It is my honor and joy to serve on our Inner Wheel Foundation as Benefactor Trustee. It is wonderful to know that, because of the compassion and generosity of our Benefactors, our Foundation will be there in the far future to help bring normalcy to children yet unborn. Through our Foundation and Hanger Clinics, disabilities have become possibilities for the 75 children who have received myoelectric limbs through the contributions of Inner Wheel friends.

As previously reported report, I contacted the 42 Benefactors in an attempt to update our files. I received 29 their updated forms. One packet was returned to me with no forwarding address. Two were deceased and their estates have been settled. Letters of condolence and appreciation for the two bequests have been sent. A second request has been sent to the ten who have not responded.

Through the generosity of Thrivent Financial, I have received three grants of \$250.00 each for the Foundation. One grant covered the expenses for the first mailings. Two grants were used to pay for the printing of the pictures of our Foundation recipients in the albums which have been distributed to each of the IWUSA clubs.

Another letter was sent to the Benefactors asking for permission to include their names in the IWUSA Directory. They could reply by e-mail, snail mail, or phone. I enjoyed some delightful calls from friends afar. How nice to hear their voices. For those of you who are not yet Benefactors, consider becoming one now. Start out with the minimum of \$100 and add more if you wish. What better legacy can one leave for her/his family but the knowledge that that loved one was a loving person who cared for children with disabilities. Let's show our love.

Foundation Chairman—Yolanda N. Gonzalez

Inner Wheel U.S.A. Foundation Month had many celebrations throughout our districts. I thank all of you that invited me to attend their District Foundation activities and luncheons in celebrating Foundation Month. Clubs from California to Florida had special events, luncheons, raffles, and walk-a-thons.

When I attended District 517's Founder's Day Celebration & Champagne Brunch in Pleasanton, CA, I had the pleasure of meeting Megan Urganas Galarneau. Megan shared her wonderful story of how she had received her myoelectric arm when she was 5 years old. What a remarkable story of how she felt like a "normal child" when she received her myoelectric arm! Growing up she always felt very confident that she could do anything just like anyone else. Megan is a lawyer, married and has two young children. Recently she received her first be-bionic hand. She told us that the be-bionic hand was to help her with her baby. Megan demonstrated how easily she can go from wearing her myoelectric arm to wearing her be-bionic hand. Megan was an amazing speaker and the "sharing of her story" was enjoyed by everyone attending the event.

Our national project: "Give a Child a Hand" continues to be of utmost importance to all of us. It is such a rewarding experience when you get to meet these young recipients and their families. The appreciation and gratitude is seen in each recipient's smile and vast happiness in getting their new limb, turning "possibilities into realities."

Recently on the friendSHIP Conference Cruise, IW members participated in a Foundation Walk-a-thon organized by Patricia Picard, IW Trustee. The total of all contributions from pledges is still ongoing and hopefully we will have an update soon. Thank you all who participated in the Walk-a-thon and my thanks to all who did their own walk-a-thons in supporting the Foundation. The IW members from Nigeria and our two IW members from Mexico attending the Conference Cruise also participated in the Foundation Walk-a-thon on the ship and added their contributions to the IWUSA Foundation. The wonderful and colorful Foundation Three Year Report booklet, that was given to us at the conference and hopefully all the IW clubs have received by now, shows pictures of children that have been helped in the last three years. What a rewarding feeling . . . "Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much!"

On my return from the Conference Cruise, I received an email with a photo of our latest recipient, Memphis hugging his father for the first time. This is what is so rewarding about our National Project, helping children "feel normal and full of confidence" with their myoelectric limbs!



Meet Memphis

*Our newest recipient as of
March 2016*

*As he gives his father a hug for
the very first time!*



*Did You Know?***~ IWUSA/Foundation Website**

Contains information pertaining to the Foundation under the FOUNDATION TAB.

~ Your District Foundation Coordinator

This person serves as your contact person at the District/Club level to answer questions or direct questions to the Trustees.

~ You can send contributions to either address:

Ms. Connie Abram
356 Snapdragon Lane
Lincoln, CA 95648

Or
IWUSA Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 3414
Haines City, FL 33845

~ We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.innerwheelusa.com

~ You can contact the Foundation Chairman

yolanda_gonzalez@q.com

District 517 ~ Jeanetta Arenatt, Chairman

The six clubs comprising Northern California Bay Area's District 517 have demonstrated they are "Unique and United" this year.

On Halloween our district joined with District 517 in a Friendship Luncheon. Many donated gifts were raffled to benefit the Foundation. Speakers educated us on service dogs for diabetes.

ALAMEDA invited San Leandro to a joint meeting to hear a speaker on Medicare. That club continues to support Young Musicians.

CUPERTINO held events benefiting West Valley Community Services, as well as sponsored 10 students with warm jackets and other essentials over the holidays.

LIVERMORE assisted Rotary with a generous donation for the annual Children's Christmas Party. The funds were used to purchase books and for the Rotary Christmas Family Project.

NILES-FREMONT held their annual Victorian Holiday Tea with 75 in attendance. Foundation Trustee Patricia Picard spoke on "Giving a Child a Hand" resulting in generous donations to the Foundation. During the holidays, Club members also adopted two families as well as donated fifteen \$25 gift cards from Target.

SAN LEANDRO volunteered at Meals on Wheels, raffled a Mexico Spa Trip raising over \$4,000 for Alzheimer's, collected socks, sweats and sleeping bags for the Warming Center, and held a Chili Cook-off/Gin Tournament.

SARATOGA donated their 'Thanks-for-Giving' proceeds to Sunday Friends, which the club has supported for a number of years.

The San Leandro club hosted District 517's annual Founder's Day Brunch on February 21, at the Castlewood Country Club. One hundred were in attendance to hear a myoelectric limb recipient speak about her growing up and becoming a mother and attorney. Each club provided a gift basket for raffle-the goal being to raise \$10,000 for the Foundation.

District 517 is sad to report the passing of Inner Wheel members Lisa Geddes, Linda McLeod, and Bobbie Millpointer.

All clubs forge ahead helping to benefit our communities and promoting the objects of Inner Wheel.



In Perfect
Partnership
Inner Wheel
&
Rotary



San Leandro

Rape Kare Kits Project: Key Member: Cheryl Miraglia, Grant Writer for \$15,000 and Linda Mahadevan Chairman. Linda did the shopping, ordering and overseeing the project. We took three cars, one driven by Linda, her husband Dev, and me (Barb Mehan) to transport all the boxes to Davis Street where the project was completed with the help of many Inner Wheel members. One of our members owns a Funeral Parlor and with the help of Mary and Guy Dilling who brought the van, they were able to transport the kits to Bawar in one trip.

Children's Hospital School Project: (funded by a \$2,000 donation from San Leandro Rotary) Virginia Theisen Gibbs oversaw the entire project and items were delivered to Children's Hospital in Oakland.

Alzheimer Raffle: San Leandro Inner Wheel was given a spa week for two from Ixtapan Spa & Hotel in Ixtapan De La Sal in honor of Diane Martin for Alzheimer. We raised \$ 4,485. We had 16 attend the spa trip, 5 of which were member of San Leandro Inner Wheel.

Davis Street Family Resource center was given a check for \$1000.

San Leandro Boys and Girls Club were given a check for \$1000.

IWUSA FOUNDATION: FOUNDERS DAY BASKET: \$1850.

Cupertino

January: our annual Salad/Shuvunda Luncheon. Each member brings a salad to share and a "white elephant" gift and the exchange always brings forth a lot of laughs and a good time.

March: our second Bunco Night fund raiser and again everyone had a lot of fun.

April 3rd: our main fundraiser of the year—Bocce Ball Dinner Event & Silent Auction. 53 people signed up for the event; lots of fun and we make approximately \$2,000 for our charitable donations during the year.

We are in the process of making plans for a year end luncheon in May.

This year, we helped 5 veterans and 2 students with tuition at De Anza College in Cupertino; donated to West Valley Community Service; and Inner Wheel Foundation. We gave two gift baskets to Rotary for their Habit for Humanity Projects. A group of our members volunteer one morning a month at Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen in Sunnyvale. We plan to do this each month and have had great feedback from our members who are participating.

We lost Lindy McLeod this year and she will be missed by all of us. Lindy was a past president and charter member of our club.

We have had a great year and are looking forward to next year being filled with similar events and hopefully some new projects. We have one new member coming in July and possibly one or two more.



*"Shuvunda"
Party in January*



*Inner Wheel
Volunteers at a
local soup
kitchen*



*Bocce ball, dinner,
and a silent auc-
tion fundraiser*



*Arath is proudly playing the drums
in the school band!*



*IW of Flagstaff at craft show to sell lighted
bottles as a fundraiser for Foundation.*



IW Club of Flagstaff

Our IW club is small, but growing! Our club is unique and our members are united! Our members have been very supportive of Inner Wheel and the Foundation. Our club works for the betterment of our community and especially for the children that need limbs. Our IW Club has been very supportive of our National Project: "Give a Child a Hand."

During last summer, members of our club hosted a luncheon in honor of Yolanda's installation as Chairman of IWUSA Foundation in Orlando, Florida. What an honor to have all the club members present. The IW Club of Flagstaff was one of the first clubs to contribute each the \$25 per member to the Foundation! That in itself is something to be proud of and hopefully the donations will continue yearly.

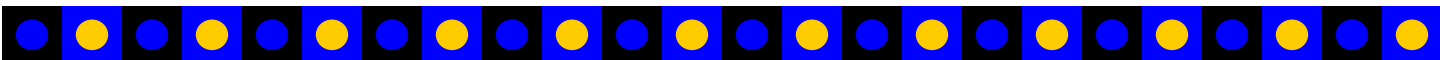
In the fall, IW members sold the "lighted bottles" that are made as the club's fundraising project. The donations go directly to the Foundation for the purpose of helping children get limbs. Our club added three new members to our membership and now we are "the mighty nine!"

IW members and the members of the Sunrise Rotary Club got together in December for a Holiday Social. The dinner was a potluck dinner and there was an ornament exchange. This is an annual event that IW members and Rotarians get together to thank the Rotarians for supporting our IW Club with all of our endeavors. Sunrise Rotary club members are "unique and united" when it comes to supporting our Inner Wheel Club.

Early spring, the Sunrise Rotary Club members and IW members pledged quite a bit of money in support of the friendSHIP Conference Cruise Walk-a-thon on behalf of the Foundation. The donations were deeply appreciated. President Yolanda can always count on their support.

This summer, IW Club of Flagstaff is planning to get together and have a display of the prosthetic devices that are loaned to us by Hanger Clinic. Some of our newer members need to see how efficiently the myoelectric limbs function and what a rewarding experience it will be for all of us and for the Sunrise Rotary members that will also be invited to this event.

The Foundation Children's Picture book will be shown and each IW member will be getting a copy of the Foundation Three Year Report Booklet with information and pictures of children helped in the last three years.



District 519 ~ Margie Jones, Chairman

Our Unique and United IW year winds down this month. Our district has honored and supported veterans this year through speakers, donations, luncheons, the Founder's Day celebration, patriotic service songs and handmade "thank you" cards. What a great year it has been to celebrate our heroes!!

I would like to thank the wonderful group of ladies that make up our district here in the Sacramento area that have welcomed and honored me as the 2014-2016 District Chairman. It was been such a pleasure to meet with IW Club ladies not once but twice to see your dedication to supporting each other, helping the community and the world for the betterment of all. Our local IW Clubs do so much to help others and are indeed leaders in our IWUSA organization. I know that Laurel McFarland will have a fantastic year as District Chairman! And it's so good to have a full slate of officers for 2016-17 year! Hurray!!

Visiting Nevada City IW recently was so enjoyable with these ladies that are so active in their community. I noted that you can tell they live in a small town when their birthdays and anniversaries are announced on a local radio station. Love this indeed! We are looking forward to Nevada City IW hosting the September 13, 2016 District Meeting at the Alta Sierra Country Club in the foothills of Grass Valley!

On a sad note, I am sorry to report that one of our district's clubs, IW Club of Arden Arcade, has decided to disband. Due to recent passing away of many members, Maggie Harrington announced that they will no longer be able to be a club. The good news is that Maggie plans to join with the Carmichael IW and help their numbers grow! Thanks for your diligent work Maggie in keeping Arden Arcade together for so many years!

Thanks to Phyllis Christopher for doing such a fantastic job of installing our officers for 2016-17 at the June meeting. She had personalized items for each person being installed that signified their positions for the upcoming year. Phyllis put a lot of thought and effort into finding just the perfect gift for each person installed! Super job!!

A big thank you to our speaker Barbara Kennedy, from Sacramento IW who shared her story about being a pilot in WWII. It was fascinating to hear her tell of her training, job and challenging times in her pilot career. Barbara received the Congressional Medal of Honor a few years ago and a standing ovation from our District 519 members. We also honored her with a dozen red roses in a Unique and United cup and a donation to our Inner Wheel Foundation in her name. What a perfect way to end our year celebrating our veterans and the freedom that we enjoy each and every day.

Sacramento IW did a fabulous job of hosting the June meeting with the "Love to Read" center pieces to honor Laurel McFarland, oodles of raffle prizes and MANY of the Sacramento IW members in attendance at the meeting—thanks ladies for your great work!

Wishing each and every one of you a wonderful summer! I'm looking forward to carrying on the excellent work we do for Inner Wheel as I become the Vice President of IW USA for the 2016-17 year!

IW of El Cerrito

El Cerrito Inner Wheel Club celebrated their 30th anniversary with a dinner for 30 guests at Mira vista Country Club. At this same lovely location 30 years prior Marianne Shearer IIW Representative presented the charter to the new club, those visiting dignitaries from District 519 included, Norma Prince, Bee Dillard, and Laura Wilkes. There were four Past District 516 Governors present that day.

El Cerrito IW was honored to have Past District 5160 Adrian Mendes speak as he did 30 years before. Norma Trillia, Charter and current President, was presented with a bouquet of red roses by the members as well as a lovely rose jewelry music box. Many cards and letters were received as well as a certificate from Dist. 519 Chair Margie Jones.

El Cerrito IW continues to knit teddy bears which they will donate to El Cerrito Police department and other worthy recipients during the summer.



District 519 members help IW Club of El Cerrito celebrate 30 years. Charter member Norma Trillia was honored with a bouquet of red roses.





These are the little dresses that Bobbi Williams is making for 3rd world countries. Linda Blanchard, above lt.; Phyllis Sawvell, above rt.; Margie Jones, below lt.; Bobbi Williams, below rt.



IW of Nevada City

We had almost 100% attendance at the April Meeting to welcome Margie Jones for her official visit. Our member, Bobbi Williams presented a program with pictures of the "Dress a Girl Around The world Project". The project originally used pillow cases to make little dresses for girls in 3rd World Countries. They are now using brightly colored cotton fabric. Bobbie has made some of these dresses and brought samples to share at the meeting. Other members will be helping Bobbi with this project. They will be collected and mailed from a central location.

District Chairman, Margie Jones, spoke of the news of the District and USA and noted some changes to the national organization rules.

Our meeting in May, Claudia Edwards confirmed arrangements for the Alta Sierra Country Club for the September District Meeting that will be hosted by Nevada City IW. At this meeting we were fortunate to have Chelsea Bryan and Katie DeMota, founders of a program called "The Nest" - a source for a growing family. They provide breast feeding resources, postnatal fitness, and parent groups, doula services, birth workshops, events and classes from preconception through parenting. They are currently working with about 40 Families. We presented Chelsea and Katie with some copies of Who's Who Books and they thought they would be perfect for their mothers.

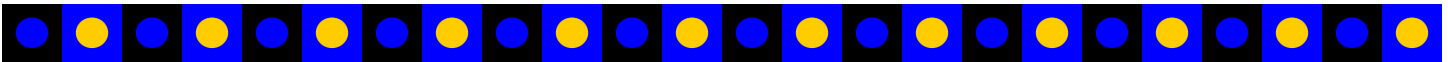
IW of Orangevale

Our ongoing main project is providing and delivering baby dolls and music to patients in local memory care facilities. We present the dolls to the residents and tell them they can keep them; we talk and socialize with them and then play music on the flute with songs they are familiar. We all sing as they hold their 'babies'. This experience exemplifies the Unique & United theme: unique presentations bringing the residents and us to feel and be united. Giving these dolls out every 3 months this year, we have given over 30 dolls.

Other activities of our small (14 members) but active club include: raising funds for the Crisis Nursery by collecting money in baby bottles placed in local businesses; made and decorated patriotic pillows and neck pillows for hospitalized veterans in a local veteran hospital and played the flute for them as well; celebrated our club's friendship with a book club; held a monthly meeting at a local restaurant where member Judy Sowa had her sculptures on display.



Orangevale members Joyce Fritz, Pheobe Swaney, Annelise Graf, Bert Smith, Judy Sowa, the artist, Christy Neilsen, Claudia Nelson, Mary Guzik, Carol Hart and Barbara Harris enjoy a meeting among the whimsical sculptures by Judy Sowa.



District 627 ~ Donna Weiler, Chairman

The membership in District 627 has 36 members. The membership decrease due to deaths in our district has had new members. The three clubs in our district have a total of 36 members. The Shawano IW Club has 16 members as a non-districted club. There were no new clubs formed in District 627.

The Rotary District 6270 invited us to the Rotary District Conference. We had a booth in the Friendship room. IWUSA, IWUSA Foundation, and IOW information was provided to attendees. IWUSA fliers, a CD, a computer presentation plus poster presentation were made. The conference allowed us to reach three different Rotary districts (District 6270, 6220 and 6250). In cooperation with our non-districted Inner Wheel Club of Shawano, we reached further into Wisconsin as well as Michigan and Minnesota. A breakout session was not held.

Meetings in District 627 are rotated with each club hosting 2 meetings a year. Kenosha IW hosted at the Birchwood Restaurant both the fall and spring meetings. Reports and information was available to all members.

We were privileged to have IOW Director Phyllis Charter visit us. Phyllis and husband Paul were attending the District 6270 Rotary World Affairs seminar. IW membership, individual clubs and service projects were discussed. The Foundation project of the myoelectric limb was discussed. Our Foundation and its funding were of interest to Director Phyllis.

The Strategic Plan has guided us to increase communication with other clubs, both locally and internationally. The family relationship of our IW member with the Philippines disaster enabled monetary efforts to help rebuild her family's homes. The IWUSA collection helped the boats for fishing fleets. Racine Inner Wheel is in communication with IW of Ilaga, District 386 of the Philippines with their contribution to the cleft lip surgery, "The Smile Train." The Nepal earthquake response was money for Shelter Boxes in cooperation with the US Rotary Project. Orangevale, CA ISO reached out to Kenosha IW as a correspondence with other clubs in the United States.

The objects of IW were highlighted in an article about Kenosha IW. The restoration of Rotary Park honoring the birthplace of Paul Harris highlighted Inner Wheel's history with Rotary in a special article. Racine IW has participated for 30 years. Menomonee Falls IW picnic in Rotary Park was a fund raiser for the special equipment at the elementary school for the handicapped children was newsworthy in their generosity.

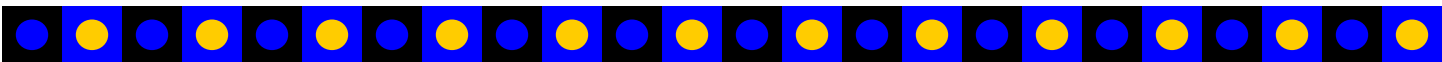
Every club gives to its' community. In this year as we live out the theme of International Inner Wheel "Unique and United", we find that each club has similar contributions to their community.

Racine IW gave books, backpacks, and school supplies to Cops and Kids. Kenosha IW provided lunches in the summer months. They also started a collection of books for the mentally handicapped reading program. Traumatized children were given stuffed animals through the police and fire departments. Our district project collectively created warm comfort blankets for homeless children. 100 children's hats, mittens and scarves were collected and given to schools with an 86% poverty rate in Kenosha.

Battered Women Shelters were given needed supplies of towels, washcloths, pajamas, nightgowns, and new clothing in Kenosha. Information on forming the Women's shelter in Shawano was shared. The Kenosha Nifty Thrifty Store received donations of cookware and clothing for the women shelter. Homeless families' personal product needs and gift certificates made Christmas brighter in Kenosha at the dinner for homeless. Contributions to food pantries were made at every meeting or dinner gathering. Handicapped playgrounds were given financial assistance for the completion of a project in Menomonee Falls. An IW member provided matching funds. Military that are overseas received gift boxes from Menomonee Falls. Ronald McDonald House of Milwaukee was given funds donated by Menomonee Falls IW. The fund raiser (Picnic in the Park) for Rotarians was given with matching fund from an IW member. Donations and fund raisers were raised for the IWUSA Foundation at the 30 year celebration for Kenosha IW and at district events with participation from all clubs in the district. Our participation here in Wisconsin raised money from our District for the IWUSA Conference cruise Walk-a-thon.

The theme "UNIQUE AND UNITED" has been lived out by every club in our District 627. Every member helps women and children in need.





IW of Menomonee Falls

Our IWUSA Foundation myoelectric limb project unites us with other Inner Wheel clubs in helping children. In fall -winter, we donated to the Inner Wheel USA Foundation as individuals. In spring 2015, we gave a \$200 club donation to the Foundation. We appreciate IWUSA thank you notes sent by regular postal mail.

Due to physical health problems of many club members, attendance is low so it is difficult to have outside speakers at club meetings. However, our club has talented members who share. In February, one member shared her craft snowmen-many handmade by her or craft group friends. Carol also organized and shared old photos of Menomonee Falls Inner Wheel and printed information in three unique sections: the 1980's, 1990 to 2005, and the most recent 10 to 15 years. All three time sections are united in one club. About one-third of our members joined during each of those times. Doris shared interesting and beautiful memories and souvenirs of her trip to Africa years ago. At our club meeting in April, each made and took home a bright little light-up 3-D craft with sunny yellow beads, varied nature color beads, 10 red rose of Inner Wheel friendship beads and beads for each 2015-2016 club member with 10 golden heads symbolizing Inner Wheel leaders. It lights up when times or places are dark and in need of light. Each member and club is unique but all are united in Inner Wheel friendship, service and international understanding. In May, our club plans a social meeting and review of business from the District 627 spring meeting, April 2016 Inner Wheel U.S.A. Conference news, and summer and fall meeting plans.

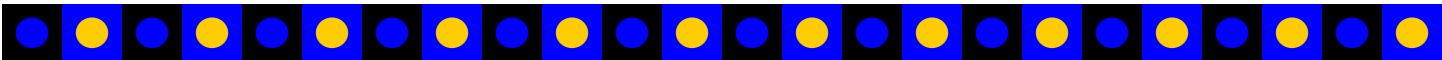
Our club helps children and families in our communities by promoting Inner Wheel objects and strategic plan goals. Ways our members individually help the community: volunteer regularly at Ronald McDonald House; volunteer each week at ReStore in an outer part of Milwaukee near Menomonee Falls; participates as a Boy Scout troop committee member; helped the Menomonee Falls Rotary with the Menomonee Falls community's Reality Check; helped with Youth Futures, an organization that provides informal education and healthy fun activities for middle school students led by high school students working with adults in activity areas to promote healthy fun and help prevent drug and alcohol abuse; chaired a special Memorial Day activity and led a brief program at several public elementary schools. Many of us were busy with family gatherings for Mother's Day and decorating graves of family and former U.S. military members. We are active in issues for children, families, women, and our communities in many ways. Each member helps others in her own unique way; we unite with appreciation of what the others do.



IW Club ND Harare West

The Happier Futures project at Jairos Jiri Children's Centre was launched in September 2014 by our current President, Sue. This is a school for the physically handicapped children. Money is extremely short with staff not being paid and therefore maintenance and upkeep is a big problem. We shall be completely renovating an eleven bed dormitory housing young girls aged 6 to 8 years. Curtains, bedding and towels will be replaced. The walls are to be freshly painted with murals. The bathroom off the dormitory will be completely renovated from plumbing to tiling and fixing the ceiling. Financial assistance is coming from two UK based churches and IW Club of Hazelgrove have also raised money for this project on our behalf.





District 696 ~ Ellen Erickson, Chairman

District 696 clubs and members have embraced this year’s theme, which was “Unique & United.” We celebrate the uniqueness of each club, yet we have been united through our wonderful district newsletter, by the sharing of club newsletters each month, and the many emails, cards and phone calls which occur between us since we are so geographically spread out. We also embrace our friendships between members from different clubs – by members visiting other clubs’ activities. Coming to mind is the Thanksgiving meal hosted by IWC Avon Park, the Foundation Dinner hosted by IWC Dunedin North, and the Bean Soup Luncheon hosted by IWC Haines City. All these meals included members from other clubs around the table, even though there were road trips of several hours to achieve these visits!

IWC Slidell supported women and children through their charity for the year, Rainbow Child Care Center, a non-profit day care providing child care preschool to low income and disadvantaged children. They also provided lunch for the Women’s Build for Habitat for Humanity and organized a craft activity for older citizens (primarily women) at the Parc Provence Assisted Living Facility. Because cancer has touched so many of their members, they also were very involved with the Relay for Life, sponsoring a team, raising money and selling concessions during the event.

IWC St. Thomas supported many children with their book/backpack/reading project which was a joint venture with Rotary to help with shipping costs. The Inner Wheel logo appeared on the backpacks which were distributed to several schools, giving hundreds of children an educational boost. They also sponsored a disaster relief drive with collections of clothing, nonperishable goods and over-the-counter medications to assist residents in Dominica that were affected by Hurricane Erica. They were able to collect and contribute over 25 boxes of goods which helped many families in Dominica. They donated over \$16,000 to purchase a baby warmer for the NEA-Nato/nursery ward in a local hospital, which was very needed. Their visit to Sea View Nursing and Rehab Facility with their songs and smiles and roses brought smiles to the faces of both female and male residents.

IWC Ft. Myers collected socks and underwear for the emergency closet at a local elementary school, which was almost bare before their efforts. They also coordinated a warm clothing drive through local media, resulting in hundreds of jackets, sweatshirts, socks and other articles of warm clothing which were distributed by a local church outreach organization to the homeless and needy in their community. Hundreds of candy canes, coloring books and crayons, and stuffed animals were donated to a local Rotarian Santa Claus who used them with his visits to children (one school alone had over 800 students and all received a gift and candy cane from Santa through their efforts) and residents of an Assisted Living Facility. Besides their annual donation, at each meeting members make cash donations to the Harry Chapin Food Bank, which helps local families since each dollar contributed buys \$6 worth of food by this charity.

As you can see, each club and the projects they sponsor are “Unique & United,” – they are very different projects, yet all have the same goal of helping the less fortunate in their communities. They are all enthusiastic and successful.

We had one Planning Meeting in June of 2015 while attending the Orlando IWUSA meetings, and three District Luncheons, held in Avon Park, Dunedin (which included a tour of the aquarium and program regarding the joint venture with Hangar), and will meet again in Ft. Myers in May. Our communication has been wonderful via email, visits and phone calls. I think all of our clubs in District 696 are strong and healthy.

As District Chair, I have reached out often to the three non-districted clubs in what used to be Zone 2 (Jacksonville North, Metairie and Baton Rouge), trying to keep them connected to IWUSA activities and deadlines, and a connection to District 696. There is very little response back from them.



IW Club of Fort Myer

IWC Ft. Myers members had a wonderful Christmas Party luncheon at the home of Mandy Stotler with a lively gift exchange. Our collection of warm clothing and socks for the homeless and less fortunate was very successful with hundreds of items donated by IW members and from the public, after reading about the collection in our local newspaper. The collection of candy canes and stuffed animals for Santa Fred, a Rotarian, resulted in boxes and boxes of items for Santa to distribute to children and senior citizens. Both are great projects!

Our January meeting was special with six IW guests joining us – Kerstin Jansen and Gudrun Vogel from IWC Wesel-Dinslaken-Walsum in Germany; and Heidi Case, Babette Gold, Marilyn Mayo and Anna Prah from IWC Westchester, NY. We learned about activities in their clubs and watched a video of a successful Duck Race project in Germany hosted by IW, Rotary and a Lions Club.

Our big project for the year, the Creative Living Booth at the Southwest Florida & Lee County Fair, runs from February 19 to March 6. We have been soliciting entries for the booth from the public and are ready to build the best booth ever! New this year will be a dance contest, a pie eating contest, and a cake decorating contest! Many members also enter items in the Fair and they are busy finishing quilts, making jams and cookies, sewing clothing and finishing up other projects to enter. The big project is a labor of love, and the donation to Inner Wheel from the Fair Board at its completion allows us to donate to our local Food Bank, to the IWUSA Foundation, and to other worthy charities. It also allows us to share information about Inner Wheel with thousands of Fair-goers!



Fort Myer's 2015-2016 officers are given a warm thank you for their year of service.



Inner Wheel Club Ft. Myers is busy with their annual project of making the Creative Living Booth at the Southwest FL and Lee County Fair. Over 1,000 entries were received and displayed for the public's enjoyment! Beautiful quilts and handcrafts, wooden projects, plants and yummy baked goods and jams.



**PROMOTE
TRUE
FRIENDSHIP**

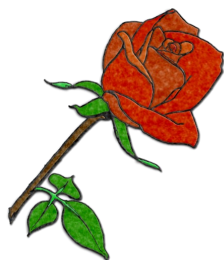


**PROMOTE THE
IDEALS OF
PERSONAL
SERVICE**



**FOSTER
INTERNATIONAL
UNDERSTANDING**

FriendSHIP Cruise



The Editor wants to thank the Ft. Myer club for having a Facebook page! This is where I found the pictures on these pages!!

IW Club of Dunedin North

Our Club Projects this year are:

Women On The Way (WOW) - Women on the Way (WOW) is a resource and support center developed to help women succeed in college. Many women trying to enter or return to college face time and resource challenges. In addition to meeting some basic needs for members, WOW offers opportunities for leadership, friendship and community service. Clothing and Toiletries are donated.

Random Acts Of Flowers- Random Acts of Flowers (RAF) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charity improving mental health through the power of giving flowers. RAF volunteers collect donated flowers from weddings, memorial services, florists, special events, grocery stores and churches – to recycle and repurpose them into beautiful bouquets for delivery to patients in area hospitals, nursing homes and hospice care centers. As a recycling “green” charity run almost entirely by volunteers, Random Acts of Flowers is committed to nourishing the health of the environment, individuals, and the community.

Dunedin Historic Society Children’s Programs-The Dunedin Historical Museum provides students the opportunity to borrow History Kits from past exhibits, containing photographs, artifacts and curriculum material related to Dunedin and Florida. Teachers may request Outreach Programs for the classroom including lectures and living history programs. A Teacher’s Guidebook on Dunedin History is available for Elementary Schools. Students may participate in the museum’s annual summer History Camp that teaches how museums prepare artifacts for exhibits.

Inner Wheel USA Foundation-The Inner Wheel U.S.A. Foundation, Inc., provides myoelectric prosthesis to children born without or lost an arm or hand through disease or accident.

Fort Myer President Sheila exchanges banners with Kerstin & Gudrun from IWC Wessel-Dinslaken-Walsum, Germany.



Dunedin North's Christmas party and ornament exchange.



District Chair Ellen Erickson visits IW Club of Haines City for their January meeting and pins new members Carol Vasquez and Dani, pictured with IWUSA President Betty Tucker.

*I wish you enough:
 sun to keep your attitude bright and enough rain to appreciate the sun more;
 happiness to keep your spirit alive and enough pain so that the smallest joys in life appear much bigger;
 gain to satisfy your wanting and enough loss to appreciate all that you possess;
 And hellos to get you through the final goodbye.*

It is said that it takes a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, a day to love them, and an entire lifetime to forget them.

Slidell Inner Wheel Club President, Gay DiGiovanni helped Santa and Mrs. Claus distribute donated books and toys to the children of the Rainbow Child Care Center



Members assist at Parc Provence Assisted Living Facility

JW Club of Slidell

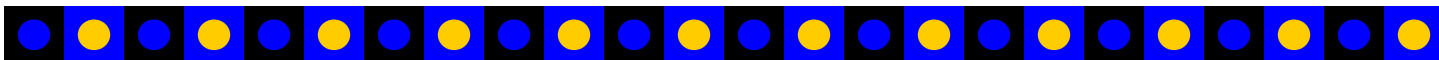
This year's theme of Unique and United ran throughout our year. We started off with the installation banquet in June with each board member receiving a flowering plant to cultivate and grow throughout the year, each flower unique, each plant united with others to create a beautiful garden. We supported Rotary at two events hosting international students and inviting local Interact students. We encouraged play and conversations, recognizing their unique cultures and sharing ours. One event was a typical southern summer picnic, with American and Cajun food, swimming, and a boat ride down the bayou. The other was a trick-or-treat Halloween party where the students gathered canned goods as their treat for a local charity.

Our club events focused on supporting women and children in several ways. Our charity this year is the Rainbow Child Care Center, that provides child care and preschool to low income and disadvantaged families. We donated craft and school supplies and books, helped with their Christmas party, read on Dr Seuss's birthday, and provided Easter basket fillers. We also promoted Rainbow's fundraising activities by donating to My Girlfriend's Closet, a clothing resale store, and attending their major fundraising event, Bubbly on the Bayou. We provided lunch for the Women's Build for Habitat for Humanity and organized a craft activity for older citizens (primarily women) at the Parc Provence Assisted Living facility. And because cancer has touched many of our members, we are very involved in the local Relay for Life event which supports local individuals and families dealing with cancer. We sponsor a relay team, raise money, sell concessions during the event, engage the student Interact clubs, and donate items to raffle and for the silent auction.

Our other events and activities are related to fundraising for our charity of choice, and supporting our members, our two Rotary clubs, two Interact clubs, and our community.

As a new President, I was not aware of the strategic plan until now. In reviewing this, we have been successful in many ways that are suggested. We have encouraged new members to be involved and we communicate with our members about all activities and meetings through our monthly newsletters and via email. We also share with our members all the news we get from our two Rotary clubs, our District, the Foundation, and the International and United Nations representatives. We have monthly board meetings that are separate from our general membership meetings and follow the suggested structure and "do's and don'ts". The board meetings are used to create policy, make decisions, and do the "business" of the club. Our membership luncheon meetings feature guest speakers and an opportunity to socialize and communicate about our club news and activities. We offer social luncheons in the summer and a field trip in the spring.

What we generally have problems with is engaging long standing members who are not on the board. We will incorporate more ideas and suggestions of the Strategic Plan from this point on. Also, since this is our first year in District 696, our members have been reluctant to become fully involved in District business and meetings. We have not yet hosted or attended a District event. Our club has been successful in remaining active in our community, supported Rotary and Interact students and we have consistently been recognized with the Year of Achievement Award.



IW of St. Thomas

Our first project of the year was a joint venture with Rotary as far as a bulk order for the backpacks while saving freight and shipping, to purchase backpacks with our Inner Wheel logo affixed to the outside pocket of each bag. The Rotary Clubs also had their logo affixed to their bags. In each bag provided school supplies. The packs also contained books donated from an anonymous person. There were approximately 10,000 books donated. Rotary and Inner Wheel combined efforts to distribute the backpacks and books while some members attended after school programs to read to the kids. In essence this project afforded kids the opportunity improve reading skills while making an impact on the community with our contribution and visibility via media and more importantly with the packs we were able to share with the kids.

We visited various schools on the island including the elementary school - Lockhart Elementary School that our club sponsors. The book/ backpack/ reading project was successful and resulted in our sponsor school presenting us with a certificate of appreciation. The certificate had a picture of the kids with the backpacks reflecting the Inner Wheel logo.

The main project held by the IWC of St Thomas was our annual family beach picnic. The picnic was extended to all Rotary clubs on St. Thomas and our community at large. Every Rotary Club in the St. Thomas/St. John District was represented. This event was our largest fundraiser for the year and provided a venue and environment for the renewal of friendship & fellowship amongst members of the various Rotary clubs and Inner Wheel members, and well as avenue to encourage new membership.

The highlight was the raffle prizes to include a Caribbean cruise for two. Additionally, two visitors walking along the beach joined us for an afternoon of food, fellowship and fun.... by all means they were tourists that were actually visiting Rotarians from Italy. One of the Rotarians attending the picnic invited the guests to join us for food and drinks of which they accepted and stayed at the event for the remainder of the afternoon.

The picnic not only served as a fundraiser, but it also provided an atmosphere for new friendships with all the club members present and their guests. This event vaulted our club to be in line with IIW Presidential theme – Unique and United as we are the only Inner Wheel Club in the USVI giving us a unique opportunity to take the leadership role in providing the atmosphere to have a united front with the participation of all Rotary Clubs in our location. The picnic had a large number of Rotarians in attendance along with our Inner Wheel member which allowed for new and bonding friendships. Lots of fun was had by all.

Another project sponsored by the Inner Wheel Club was a disaster relief drive where members coordinated relief effort to collect clothes, non-perishable goods and over the counter medication to assist residents in Dominica that were affected by Hurricane Erica. The relief efforts included a pick up and a drop off service. Members were able to pick up goods from residents in the community that did not have transportation while taking the goods to the relief drop –off point. Inner Wheel Club of St. Thomas was able to contribute over 25 boxes of goods.

Inner Wheel International day was spent with members of our club singing, reading and dancing with the residents of our Sea View Nursing and Rehabilitation Facility. The residents joined in with the facilities staff and had an enjoyable and entertaining afternoon. The female residents and staff were presented with pink roses and the men were presented with red roses. It was heartwarming to see the smiles we brought to the folks there. Additionally we were able to present lunch and raffle tickets for our annual beach picnic to the staff of the Sea View Facility while expressing our appreciation for the work and service provided to the residents there. This event was covered by our local electronic new media and surely brought awareness to the public of one of the service that the Inner Wheel Club provides in our community.

The club donated \$16,249.00 to purchase a baby warmer for the NEO-Nato/ Nursery ward in our local hospital. The hospital expressed the need, and funds raise by our club helped to honor their request.

The “Movable Feast” is another fund raising activity that is scheduled & planned for June 26, 2016. This activity is a great fund raiser where we will be able to build new friendships and embrace existing friendships between various Rotary Clubs and community members.



District 767 News



The Stamford-Hobart Inner Wheel Club held a joint Christmas party with Stamford Rotary and Hobart Rotary. At the party the Inner Wheel Members raffled off a basket containing donated items from members. The total amount received from the raffle was \$160 which was sent to the Inner Wheel U.S.A. Foundation, Inc.

Pictured are Jean Kopp and Betty Bergleitner (Co-Presidents of Stamford-Hobart Inner Wheel), Art Turner (President of Hobart Rotary Club) and David Numbers (President of Stamford Rotary Club).

Christine Becker, Vice Chair IWUSA Foundation (rt.) stands with Cindy Keyser (lt.) as they make presentations to three different arenas:

Adults attending college for Continuing Education, to high school students studying robotics, and to high school students for career awareness.

IW of Stamford-Hobart Club challenged each member to pledge \$5 for 5 months to attain 100% of club members donation to Foundation.

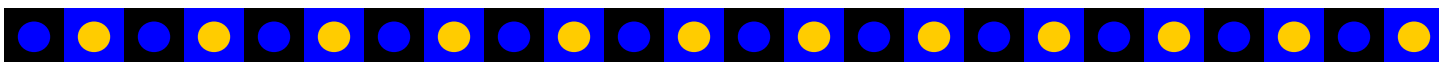
Way to go!!



Save the Date! Monday, June 12, 2017

The Rotary International Convention will be held in Atlanta, Georgia from June 10—14, 2017. It is never too soon to make plans to attend the convention and plan on attending the Friendship Luncheon that IWUSA will be hosting for IIW members attending the RI convention. The luncheon will be held at the Atlanta Marriott-Midtown, which is conveniently located close to MARTA (rapid transit system), and just two miles from the convention. If you have never attended an international IW event, this is your opportunity to meet IW members from around the world. IWUSA and IWUSA Foundation will be meeting just prior to the start of the RI convention at this hotel. Come early and attend the meetings of your national organization. More information will be forthcoming. Contact Sue Robinson or Gill Broadway for immediate information.





From the IIW President

My dear UNIQUE Inner Wheel Friends,

As the Inner Wheel year 2015-2016 comes to an end, I want to thank you all for your Unique support.

By all the reports for our website and by all the messages on social media I realise the great work that you have done all together.

Thousands of Unique & United projects have been supported, giving Happier Futures – better lives to mankind.

During my visits I have experienced the uniqueness of our members but the uniqueness of the countries as well. Several times I was asked which visit I prefer, and honestly I can't answer that question. Each visit was Unique and you made it Unique for me.

In a few weeks the magazine 2015-2016 will be released. I hope you will enjoy it. It's not possible to have all projects in it, but you will realise that there are some really Unique projects.

Thanks for having shared my logo on so many unique ways.

It was for me a UNIQUE year, and I will cherish all the memories of it.

My grandchildren were very happy to see their hands all over the world. In the beginning they didn't realise why I asked for that painting, but now they are very proud, and they were very happy to have shared with you my UNIQUE year.

Maxime, Nathan, Thomas, Alexander, Vincent, Annelies and Nick (my half a football team and the nurse) say goodbye to you.

I wish you all a very good Inner Wheel year 2016-2017, by touching a heart.

Let's stay UNITED in our UNIQUE Organisation.

Yours in Friendship, Charlotte De Vos
IIW President 2015-2016

