

AIW President's Letter



Another year of AIW is underway. Many thanks to Harriett and her Board for the countless hours and effort put into making our Association the best it can be. I am very grateful to Harriett who has gently mentored and coached me into the position of President! Also, thank you to my Board members for so willingly agreeing to take on the various positions.

I am proud to be the first African President of our Association and I feel honored to take on this role. Our family arrived in Indianapolis from South Africa on the 4th July 1999, thinking that we would be here on a two to three year assignment. Now we have been here for 11 years, we have our green cards, and in 2 years time we will be in a position to apply for Citizenship. I joined the AIW shortly after arriving in the USA and the friendships and connections with women that I have met through AIW have been invaluable to me. When I first joined AIW it was not easy for me to come to AIW events not knowing anybody. However, looking back, it was worth the effort because I have met many interesting people from all corners of the globe, and my life is enriched because of that. I encourage the membership to reach out to our new members and to make them feel welcome. This year my goal is to reach those women living in the Indianapolis area who would benefit from our Association. Please help me to find those people and to draw them in.

A highlight of my summer was watching the FIFA soccer World Cup being played in my home country. Other than those noisy, annoying “vuvuzelas”, South Africa put on a wonderful show hosting the tournament. Congratulations to Spain on a well deserved win!

We have some exciting upcoming events. Our Special Events committee has planned an exciting day trip to the *Historic French Lick resort and Casino* in Southern Indiana on the 12th October. Refer to the article in this newsletter for more details. Look out for the reservation form and waiver, which is being sent out by e-mail.

A volunteering and philanthropy seminar is planned for early November. Come and hear about the many volunteering opportunities in Indianapolis, and if you have had experience in volunteering and/or philanthropy please consider coming along to share your information with our members.

Our thoughts go out to those members who are going through difficult times, the loss of a loved one or health issues. Let's continue to provide support and comfort to one another in the months ahead.

I hope you plan on joining us for the garden party at a beautiful old Zionsville home on the 16th September.

See you soon.

Andrea Muller, President