

February 1, 2012

Hello, CIWC Members,

I hope you all had a happy New Year celebration. Are you back in Chengdu and ready to enjoy 2012? I would encourage you to check out our calendar for February. Chase the winter doldrums away by coming to our events, seeing some old faces, and making some new friends.

A friend of mine recently asked if I had “short timer’s disease,” and I confess that I absolutely do. I will be turning over my duties for the CIWC during this month and the next. Thanks very much to those of you who have contacted me and volunteered to help with leading the club forward. You will be contacted over the next couple of weeks to discuss the jobs and hand over duties.

We still have some vacancies that need to be filled. We still need a **Treasurer** and a **Christmas Bazaar Coordinator**.

The **Treasurer** job is not a busy task, with the exception of the weeks surrounding the Bazaar. At that point, you pay the vendors we use for items such as tables and chairs, take in and deposit the contributions, help get the change needed for bazaar day, organize the workers who count the cash on bazaar day, and finally disburse the money earned to the charities. A Chinese speaker who can communicate at the bank would be a plus, but is not required. Anyone with a friend or employee who can translate could also do the job. As with all of the CIWC positions, we are happy to have you and a friend be co-treasurers. Our past treasurer Laura Li has prepared notes about the job. Contact us at [chengduiwc@gmail.com](mailto:chengduiwc@gmail.com) if you want more information or to volunteer.

**Christmas Bazaar Coordinator** is a position that also remains vacant as of this newsletter. Kim Dallas will be a tough act to follow, but she is preparing extensive notes about the tasks involved that she will hand over to the next coordinator or co-coordinators. You will not be starting from scratch or having to re-invent the wheel. You are supported by a committee, many of whom have been active in this event in the past and remain willing to help again. We do need someone to come forward this Spring, or there will not be time to get things organized for a date in November/December 2012. Contact us at [chengduiwc@gmail.com](mailto:chengduiwc@gmail.com) if you are interested, or reach Kim Dallas directly for more details: [berlydallas@hotmail.com](mailto:berlydallas@hotmail.com). And if no one is interested in taking charge, we will just have to take it as a sign that the event has run its course. It certainly will have gone out on a grand note, with over 220,000 RMB earned for charity in 2011.

Many of you are seasoned expats and have been in international clubs in other cities. From your experience, you have ideas about events that were successful elsewhere and that you would like our club to try. We would love to expand our activities. We welcome your ideas, especially if you want to take the lead organizing them. Contact us at [chengduiwc@gmail.com](mailto:chengduiwc@gmail.com).

Take good care of yourself and each other.

Jane Glass, Acting Chairperson

\*\*\*\*\* **Monthly Activities** \*\*\*\*\*

**Tuesday, February 7 ----- Coffee at the Bookworm**

We gather at the Bookworm for our Monthly Coffee on the first Tuesday of every month at 10 AM, to meet with friends, old and new. Quite a few newcomers have arrived since our last coffee in December. We hope many of you can join us to make them feel welcome and answer questions they may have about Chengdu.

As mentioned in our January Newsletter, our format this month will include giving a few minutes to those of you who are in business in Chengdu and who would like a chance to address us. Would you like to bring a sample of your wares, pass out flyers or brochures, or come to address the group for a few minutes to describe your services? Contact Jane Glass no later than Saturday, February 4th, if you are interested in participating. We will work up a program and assign you a time slot to share information about your endeavor. Email is [janeg50@gmail.com](mailto:janeg50@gmail.com).

**Tuesday, February 14 ----- Daytime Book Club**

We meet the second Tuesday of each month at about 10 AM, to order coffee and visit before beginning our discussion at 10:30 AM. Location is the A4 Book Store at Luxe Town in the Luxe Hills complex. All are welcome. We are not a hard core group, come even if you have not had a chance to read the book.

Our books for the remainder of the season are:

February 14: Girl in Translation by Jean Kwok

March 13: Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosney

April 10: The Wishing Tree by John Shors

May 8: Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford

June 12: The Sandalwood Tree by Elle Newmark

For further information, contact the group's organizer, Lori Martz. Her email is [lhmartz@yahoo.com](mailto:lhmartz@yahoo.com)

**Wednesday, February 15 ----- Potluck Luncheon**

The **Monthly Luncheon** is a long-standing CIWC event and a great way to meet new people and catch up with old friends. A different CIWC member hosts the lunch at her home on the third Wednesday of every month. The hostess provides tableware and drinks, while everyone else brings a dish to share. We always enjoy a delicious lunch with many international flavors. The February Luncheon will be at 11:30 AM at the home of Kattis Appelquist. She lives at the Waterfront, 6---2804. Email Kattis if you need more directions and to RSVP, so that she knows how many women to expect.

Kattis has been coordinating the monthly luncheons for the past year. If you would like

to host the luncheon at your home in March, April, or May, please contact her at [katarina.appelquist@gmail.com](mailto:katarina.appelquist@gmail.com). Also, Kattis and her family will be leaving Chengdu this summer. If you can take over coordinating the club luncheons, please contact Kattis.

#### **Thursday, February 16 ----- Evening Book Club**

This month the group is meeting Thursday, February 16th at 7:30pm, to discuss the book Tallgrass by Sandra Dallas. If anyone is interested in joining, please email Lindsey Stolte at [lindstar34@hotmail.com](mailto:lindstar34@hotmail.com) for the meeting location and directions.

#### **Friday, February 17 ----- French Speakers' Group**

The **French Speakers' Club** is intended for French speakers and for anyone who would like to dust off their high school French. The group usually meets for lunch and to speak "Moliere's language." Contact Sylvia Fosse for where the group is doing this month. Her email is: [sjfosse@yahoo.com](mailto:sjfosse@yahoo.com).

Sylvia also coordinates the **German Speakers' Club**. Contact her for details about their meeting in February.

#### **Tuesday, February 21 ----- Field Trip**

Join us on **Tuesday, February 21st**, for a trip to **Sanxingdui Museum**. A minimum of 14 persons taking part in this outing is requested. Price would be 110 RMB per person. In addition, you pay your own museum entrance. The transportation charge of 110 RMB would be less if more than 14 people participate. Departure at 9 AM, heading back to Chengdu at the beginning of the afternoon. For more details and to reserve a space, please contact Ariane Desaedeleer. Her email is: [arianedesaedeleer@yahoo.com](mailto:arianedesaedeleer@yahoo.com)

#### **Tuesday, February 28 ----- Documentary Study Group**

We will meet at Kirsten Allen's apartment on Tuesday, February 28th. This month will be a late start at 19:45. The documentary will be either the BBC's Panda Makers (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00wmvl6>) or Buck (<http://www.buckthefilm.com/>), although options might be added depending on what everyone brings and what downloading happens between now and then.

Kirsten lives in Orchard Villas (the side with the pool) on Tong Zi Lin Dong Lu. For directions or help getting there, contact Kirsten at [kirstenallen01@gmail.com](mailto:kirstenallen01@gmail.com) or 1861578775.

Friends and spouses are invited. Please RSVP to Kirsten in advance so she knows how many people to expect. Don't forget to bring a snack or food item to share.

Kirsten has been the organizer of the Documentary Study Group this year, but she is leaving Chengdu in the next few months. We need someone to take over the organizer position in April if this group is going to continue. Contact Kirsten for details.

### ***NEW ACTIVITIES!***

Are you interested in a **Wilton Method Cake Decorating Class**? One of our members is working on arranging one for April 2012. We need a minimum of 10 persons. If you would be interested, please contact Annette LeBlanc as soon as possible. Her email is [amtleblanc@gmail.com](mailto:amtleblanc@gmail.com). She is working out the details such as cost, date and location of the class.

Annette is also looking for **Bunco** enthusiasts. You can email her for information if you are interested. What is Bunco, you ask? A dice game of chance that has become popular in the US. Little to no skill is required, which is one of the reasons for its popularity. It is a fun time to socialize with no pressure attached.

### **\*\*\*\* Weekly Activities \*\*\*\***

#### **Playgroup (Monday AM)**

This playgroup meets once a week on Monday mornings at a member's house, and every few weeks they visit The Music Box. Everyone with pre--school age children is welcome. Your ayi can accompany your child, if you are at work but would like your child to mix with other English-speaking children. For more details, please email Natasha Devalia: [nat.devalia@gmail.com](mailto:nat.devalia@gmail.com)

#### **Playgroup (Tuesday PM)**

This playgroup meets from 2--4 PM in Luxe Hills. Everyone with pre--school age children is welcome. For info, contact Alex Mays at [Alexandra\\_mays@hotmail.com](mailto:Alexandra_mays@hotmail.com).

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#### **Babes n' Babettes (every other Wednesday)**

This is a support group for mothers with a "babe" or "babette" under the age of one. Mothers and babies generally meet every other Wednesday for some songs accompanied by sign language and to discuss topics relating to babies' eating, activities, sleep, etc., and then . . . you time! This month, the group will meet on **February 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>**. For more details, email Jackie Wu: [asianadventures.10.w@gmail.com](mailto:asianadventures.10.w@gmail.com)

#### ***New, starting mid-February!* Babies In Motion**

This group is geared towards parents and their 1-2 year old babies who are interested in discovering and enhancing their child's life experiences as an increasingly active and

independent baby. As such, we will meet in a variety of social settings decided based on group interest (e.g., parks, play gyms, etc.). This group will also occasionally discuss topics such as loving your child through discipline, boundary setting, etc. For more information, please contact Jackie Wu by cell, 13551334073 or by email, [asianadventures.10.w@gmail.com](mailto:asianadventures.10.w@gmail.com)

### **Craft Group (Wednesday AM)**

The Craft Group meets at 10:30 AM every Wednesday (with the exception of holidays) at The Millennium Hotel. Everyone is invited to join us. In the past there have been a wide variety of crafts represented at the group such as quilting, sewing, knitting, crocheting, scrapbooking and painting. Bring along whatever you enjoy doing. You do not have to be an expert, come along just to have some fun and meet some new people! For more information, you can contact Hilary Oliver @ 15928992707 or Kisoons Lees @ 13088080267.

**NEW! Tennis Anyone?** If you play tennis and are interested in forming a new tennis group in the Tongzilin area, this is the group for you! Nothing planned for January, but beginning in February, we will try to organize both daytime and evening groups for people interested in playing tennis. Please email to Kim Dallas at [berlydallas@hotmail.com](mailto:berlydallas@hotmail.com) the following information: 1. time you are interested in playing (morning, afternoon, evening); 2. name of your compound, so we can possibly rotate between compounds; and 3. skill level (beginner, intermediate, advanced).

### **Mahjong (Friday)**

The Mahjong group meets on Fridays, 1:30 to 3:30 pm at: Cheng Du Ying Xiang Restaurant, 4th floor Tea House , Zi Jing Bei Lu Yuan Hua 2 Xiang Zi Jing Chun Tian 1 dong, telephone : 028---85145678. The restaurant is behind Summers International Supermarket. They have the automatic Mahjong tables! Please phone Kisoons Lees (130 8808 0267) for more information. Call on Thursday mornings if you want to play. She has to book the room in advance. Play and tea is about 30---40 RMB.

### **Canasta (Friday)**

Canasta players have found their way to the Bookworm most Fridays from about 1---3 PM. All are welcome to join in. If you don't know how to play, don't worry, they will teach you. If you prefer another game, bring your friends and ask the Bookworm to look in their game closet. They have Scrabble, Mahjong and others available for your use.

**Classified Section** of our website is active, please be sure to check it out. Some members are looking for ays and others are looking for information about life in Chengdu. Email [chengduiwc@gmail.com](mailto:chengduiwc@gmail.com) if you have something you want posted. The postings remain on the website for 30 days.

**News from outside CIWC:**

The **Bookworm** has posted information about their Spring 2012 activities on their website. Their Annual International Literary Festival, always a fun and informative event, happens in March. Quiz nights are resuming, the photo and creative writing groups are going strong. Check it all out at [chengdubookworm.com](http://chengdubookworm.com)

Member Jennifer Perras advises that her Yogalates classes resume February 9<sup>th</sup> at Egret Island. Contact her for enrollment information: [Jennifer.brettschneider74@gmail.com](mailto:Jennifer.brettschneider74@gmail.com)

US football fans, the **Shamrock** is one of several restaurants around town hosting a Super Bowl XLVI Live telecast on Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 AM. Breakfast served from 7 AM.

**Deadline for the March Newsletter is February 26th. Send postings to [chengduiwc@gmail.com](mailto:chengduiwc@gmail.com)**