

ppseawa news

Pan Pacific and Southeast Asia Women's Association of the USA, Inc.
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News from our President

From Teresa A. Hintzke

PPSEAWA's Fall National Board meeting was held November 6, 1999 in Toledo, Ohio and was hosted by the Toledo Chapter. In conjunction with the Board meeting, the Chapter organized a one day workshop, "Children: Our Window to the 21st Century." The workshop was sponsored by UNESCO, WHO and the Nestle Company. The workshop was a great success and involved PPSEAWA members, local nurses, social workers, and other educators. The speakers included doctors, nurses, social workers and leaders from a number of Family and Children organizations in the Toledo area. More than 80 people attended. The thanks of the Board and myself go to the Toledo Chapter, and in particular to their president, Fran DeLamater and to Ginny Schlicher, who were the driving forces behind this successful endeavor.

In December, I participated in the New York Chapter's annual Christmas luncheon and fundraiser. It was good to touch base with so many of their members and experience their warm hospitality. In February, the Northern

California Chapter invited me to their meeting in Stockton. They are a small group, but Kharen Pella and Cindy Green are working on membership expansion and PPSEAWA awareness by making contact with the University of the Pacific.

In November, we received notification from Libby Zinman Schwartz that the New Jersey chapter had been dissolved. This chapter put forth a valiant effort to maintain its activities despite the dispersion of the members.

On the other coast, the plans for starting a new chapter in Seattle, Washington are well underway, with hard work from Kathy Adler. I am scheduled to go there in mid March to consolidate their efforts and help them to get started. The members are anxious to be part of PPSEAWA-USA and go to the International Conference in the Cook Islands.

In addition to chapter activities, two of our members, Akari Yamada and Anita Yamada, upon my request, attended a conference "Women 2000: Beijing Plus Five" that was held in Chicago in December, 1999.

Last but not least, as you all

know, Eleanor Donnenfelt has energetically been working to raise money for a PPSEAWA-USA special fund that would enable the National chapter to pay some of its necessary expenses. Because of her efforts the fund has increased substantially. Many thanks to Nornie Donnenfelt for her wonderful and much appreciated job.

"The Asian Economy" Subject of Speech for U. N. Luncheon

Linda Yuen-Ching Lim is Director, Southeast Asia Business Programs, University of Michigan. She has taught at Swarthmore College, the National University of Singapore, and the University of Michigan, where she is Associate Professor of International Business. Professor Lim also founded and served as the first Director of the University's Center for International Business Education. Professor Lim's research and expertise focus on industrialisation, international trade and investment, multinational and local business in Southeast Asia. She has consulted for various US companies, United Nations agencies, the World Bank, the OECD, and the American Enterprise Institute. She has published over 90 monographs, reports, books chapters and journal articles, including recent papers on intra-Asian trade and investment, the Asian economic crisis, and Overseas Chinese business. Her current research focuses on the competitive advantages and strategies of Asian companies in the aftermath of the financial crisis.

The Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, 19 May at the UN in New York at 12:30. At 8:45, there will be a board meeting on the 12th floor of the Church Center across the street from the UN. All PPSEAWA members are welcome to attend and invited to the luncheon after the board meeting. Our speaker at the Annual Meeting will be Linda Yuen-Ching Lim, who will discuss the Asian Economy.

Linda Yuen-Ching Lim is Director of Southeast Asia Business Programs at the University of Michigan. She has taught at Swarthmore College, the National University of Singapore, and the University of Michigan, where she is currently an Associate Professor of International Business. Professor Lim also founded and served as the first Director of the University's Center for International Business Education. Professor Lim's research and expertise focus on industrialization, international trade and investment, multinational and local business in Southeast Asia. She has consulted for various US companies, UN agencies, and the World Bank. Her current research focuses on the competitive advantages and strategies of Asian companies in the aftermath of the financial crisis.

Reminder, if you have not already sent in your notice of intent to attend, please send \$25 to:

Teresa Hintzke, President,
PPSEAWA-USA,
416 Maple Street
Winnetka, IL 60093

if you intend to go to the International Conference in the Cook Islands, November 12-18, 2000.

For more information about the conference, see www.ppseawa.org



Darina Siv, President, Minnesota Chapter; Elizabeth Balint, Workshop Co-Chair, Toledo Chapter; and Bimala Prasad, Chicago Chapter



Minnesota Report

Last year we supported a woman from the Solomon Islands studying nursing at Normandale Community College. She became a vital student member of our group. Diane Darr and her husband had met Martha Rongo when they served in the Peace Corps in the Solomons. They also knew Martha's fiancée and had previously sponsored him to study in Minnesota.

We joyfully received the news that Joey and Martha were married October 16, 1999. We shared their adventure of getting out of their boat transport when the motor died out and walking across the island with wedding guests to be married. We hope to see Martha again at the conference in the Cook Islands.

This year, PPSEAWA Minnesota has also been fortunate to know another exchange teacher living in the Darr home. Mayuko Ogawa has returned to Japan and will be missed by us all. She shared her expertise of Japanese cooking and observations about women in Japanese and US cultures. She told us that her father was surprised to learn that US women do heavy physical work, construction or even mowing the lawn!! We have happy memories of our sticky hands and fun making rice balls with her.

Our chapter is planning



Adeline Talip, Toledo Chapter and Children's International Issues speaker, S. Amjad Hussain, MD, FRCS, FACS Toledo Surgeon, Writer and Explorer

fundraising projects to help establish a Cultural Museum in St. Paul, Minnesota with United Cambodian Association of Minnesota. Few examples of Cambodian culture survived the Khmer Rouge purge of the countryside.

An effort to locate and purchase quality examples of the lifestyle and culture which have been lost was initiated by Drina Siv, current president of PPSEAWA-Minnesota and newly appointed Executive Director of United Cambodian Association of Minnesota. The chapter made an initial payment towards an oxcart, chief form of transportation of rural Cambodians.

Other artifacts on the "shopping list" include books inscribed on palm leaves, carved statues and temple artifacts. Donations to this effort may be made to:

The Shirley Boberg Munyan Fund
c/o Jane Bates
2980 Old Hwy. 8
Roseville, MN 55113

Board meeting - February 26, 2000

The treasurer reported that as of the end of January, the national chapter has \$1704. The conference fund, has \$2750 as a result of Eleanor Donnenfelt's solicitations to members. Chapters are also still donating money to the conference fund. These funds will be used to sponsor women who are not able to afford the conference fee or the accommodation fees. Shirley Munyan is also working with Air France to obtain favorable airfares for the women being sponsored to come to the Cook Islands.

The Conference fee of \$200 must be paid in US dollars by July 15. The hotel bills must be paid in full by July 15 if members are using the service of the Cook Island conference committee. The hotel bill will be in New Zealand dollars and either funds can be sent directly to Shirley Munyan or a personal credit card number. If you are making your own arrangements for housing, contact the hotels directly.

Ginney Schlicher has volun-



Darina Siv, Minnesota President is pictured with the oxcart being purchased by PPSEAWA-Minnesota for the Cambodian Cultural Museum.

teered to produce the US tableau at the conference. The theme will be a Thanksgiving tableau – she asks everyone who is attending the conference to bring a dark skirt. For the opening ceremony, all participants will wear white skirts and blouses and Shirley will provide red, white, and blue sashes. A recommendation was made to carry the white outfits in your carryon luggage in order to ensure you have them for the Opening Ceremony!!

Participants are asked to bring children's books and crayons and school supplies for the children of the Cook Islands. Anyone who is not attending the conference can send contributions to Shirley Munyan who will arrange for them to be sent directly.

Want to read about the Cook Islands: Check www.ck/books2.htm on the Internet or here are some suggestions from that list: Biographies: *Island of Dreams* by Tony Williams, published by Penguin Books, 1994; Fiction? *Legends from the Atolls*,

by Kauraka Kauraka, published by Institute of Pacific Studies; or *Sidewinder* by Alistair Campbell, Reed Books, Auckland.

Nonfiction: *Ancient Polynesian Society*, Irving Goldman, University of Chicago Press

Travel: *Cook Island*, Elliott Smith, Pacific Publishing Co., *Cook Islands – A Guide*, Norman and Ngaire Douglas, Creative Associations, Sydney



Pamela Loga, LA Chapter, speaking to a joint session of PPSEAWA & International Women's Association of Chicago

PPSEAWA Workshop: "Children: Our Window to the 21st Century" held in Maumee, Ohio on November 6, 1999.

Written by Amari Yamada,
Chicago Chapter

The purpose of this intensive and enlightening workshop was to examine ways in which we can help to improve the well-being of children from birth through 10 years and help them to survive in the next millennium. Similar regional workshops, sponsored by PPSEAWA, UNESCO, and WHO, were held in Hawaii, Singapore, and Vladivostock, Russia. Ginney Schlicher was the chairperson for this regional workshop; attendees were greeted by members and guests in international costumes symbolizing that women and mothers are concerned about the lives of children around the world. PPSEAWA International President, Elizabeth-Louise Girardi, gave the welcoming address.

The most compelling speaker was a surgeon from Toledo, Dr. S. Amjad Hussain who addressed international children's issues. He began with an anecdote about his home town of Peshawar, at the foot of the Khyber Mountains in Pakistan. He contrasted rural poverty with urban modernity in this city, where ragged children run along the same street as sleek cell-phone toting businessmen in their Mercedes.

Dr. Hussain pointed out that although South and Southeast Asia have enjoyed relatively good economic growth in the past two decades, these regions have some of

the poorest citizens in the world. Dr. Hussain noted that several Asian countries have spent a disproportionate amount of their country's GNP on building up their military strength, leaving less funds for education and human and social services. Children's nutrition and literacy have not been a priority.

The main issue facing children is SURVIVAL. As we come to the end of the 20th century, the problems of hunger and sanitation remain. In Pakistan, more than 30% of the children are underweight. In China, 15-30% of children are underweight. Malnutrition affects a child for life by retarding development of the mind and the body. Despite modern medical advances, infant mortality rates have not changed significantly in Asia. Over 11 million children under the age of 8 die every year of preventable diseases, like diarrhea.

What can one person do to change this situation?

Dr. Hussain reminded everyone that humanitarian efforts from individuals work just as well as macro-economic solutions at the governmental level. He gave an example of such a "micro-solution." Over 5 years ago, Dr. Hussain and other Pakistani doctors in North America started an organization that focused on improving public health in a dozen villages in Pakistan. They found volunteers to bring vaccines from the UN for the children. The volunteers also showed villagers how to use hand pumps for clean water and to dig ditches for better sanitation. They taught the women how to make a simple rehydration fluid from water, baking soda and salt for diarrhea. This micro-solution only costs about \$5000 per village, or about \$1 per person per year.

This project, which was started by a group of concerned individuals and staffed by volunteers, resulted in better health, a drop in infant mortality, and even increased prosperity for these Pakistani villages. Thus, Dr. Hussain reminded us, that change ultimately begins with the individual.



Program for Children, the Family and Health Regional Workshop
Front Row: Gloria Baez, Chicago' Toledo Members: Ci-Ping Anderson-Huang; Ginney Schlicher, Chairperson; Joan Searles.
Back Row: Elizabeth Balint; Greta Ullman; Doris Daneking; Louise Bankey; Mary Helen Welch; Sharon Vass; Fran De Lamater, President Toledo Chapter; and two guests Vicki and Marlene Lehman, Walbridge, Ohio



Hosting Toledo Chapter. Far right: Fran Delamater, President Toledo Chapter, Ginny Schlicher, coordinator of the Toledo meeting



Attending members at Toledo meeting: Anita Yamada, Chicago guest from Hungary; Shirani Stanislaus L.A.; Corrine Pearson, Minnesota

New Jersey

Unfortunately, the New Jersey chapter of PPSEAWA will be disbanding. The chapter president, Libby Zinman Schwartz writes "because most of our members are still rearing children and nurturing careers as well, it has been difficult to maintain full participation at meetings.

We will continue to participate in the New York chapter meetings and email one another of special events."



Bettie Laudauer-Menchik, member at large, and Betty Landauer at the Toledo meeting



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Just to let You Know

New Jersey:

Medicine for the Soul : Doctors Truong Thin and Le Hung visited New Jersey recently to share their unique combination of Oriental and Western medical practices. PPSEAWA member, Libby Zinman Schwartz, sponsored the visit of the Vietnamese doctors to the area. The doctors use music and other creative arts as part of the treatment for drug addiction and chronic pain. Le Hung and Truong Thin demonstrate techniques for acupuncture, massage, meditation, music and art and are showing American health care workers how they can incorporate some of these practices, together with Western medical practices, into their work with patients in the US.

Chicago:

Chicago hosted Pam Logan, author of the book "Among Warriors," who gave a lecture/slide presentation on women in Tibet.

Pam is a member of PPSEAWA-LA and heads a group which is restoring frescos in one of the temples in Tibet. The lecture was held jointly by the International women's Association of Chicago and the local PPSEAWA chapter.

Royal Buscombe, chapter president, enjoyed an extended visit from her daughter Eve Buscombe – a member of PPSEAWA-Australia. While here, Eve attended the Chicago chapter meeting.

Northern California:

We were greatly saddened to hear that a long time PSEAWA member Cisco Kihara, passed away in June, 1999.

New York:

On another sad note, Fran Todd, president of the NY chapter lost her mother and best friend in late December, 1999.

Toledo:

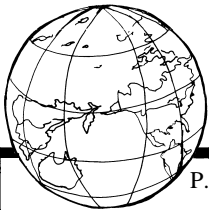
Featured in the Toledo Blade

recently was a story about Ella P. Steward, a Toledo pharmacist and civil rights activist, who was a PPSEAWA member. Mrs. Steward, who died in 1987 at age 94 spent more than half her life in a segregated society yet never relinquished her insistence on equality between the races. She was vice-chairperson of PPSEAWA's American Committee and also

president of the highly political National Association of Colored Women. She was selected as a delegate to the International Council of Women of the World in Greece, and, in 1954, the US State Department asked her to serve as goodwill ambassador and to study social conditions in Asia. She traveled to India, Pakistan, Indonesia, and the Philippines.



Toledo meeting attendees from the Chicago chapter: Gloria Baez; Teresa Hintzke, President USA; Betty Lou Girardi, International President; Bimala Prasad; Royal Buscombe, Chicago President; Ada Kolmodin



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