



Dear AIW Members,

As I write you for the last time in my role of AIW President, I am overwhelmed with gratitude. Your AIW Board members have worked long and hard this year to make this organization a marvel of efficiency, creativity, and accountability.

Through the peerless efforts of Stacia Gorge, our Survey Chairman, we have perfected a method of surveying our membership and responding to what you want and what you tell us you don't want .....in every facet of AIW. This tool will be of immense importance to future organizational planning.

AIW has witnessed the introduction of two exciting new Interest Groups this year - Writing and History. We have hosted informative seminars covering Transitions and women's health. Our Carnival Gala was a cultural confluence and a triumph of fun and camaraderie. And.... wherever and whenever we met in small groups, good will and friendship attended us also.

Our outstanding luncheon committee sought and found terrific venues to accommodate record numbers of AIW members this year. The food and the entertainment were stellar! Who can forget the January Fashion Show put on by members dressed in Saris, Kimonos, and other marvelous costumes. The community-centered visit to WFYI in March was another great memory to cherish.

We have welcomed new members from all over this globe and sadly bid farewell to treasured friends. We have told each other stories of our lives and our cultures and been enriched by the experience. We have shared good times and bad and been a support network for each other as the seasons pass and time becomes a thief.

I personally thank each and every one of you for teaching me more about life than this letter can express. I will be eternally grateful for the rare privilege of viewing the world through the global perspective of the 244 women who are The Association of International Women.

How lucky we are to have Andrea Muller and an outstanding Board to take over the AIW reins in August. She is already hard at work planning wonderful things for next year, and the organization is in sound financial shape.

Those of you separated from Indianapolis by an ocean this summer can still go on line and see what activities are coming up for members before we get back into the full swing of things in late August. Thanks to our electronic distribution you can read your AIW Newsletter in whatever corner of the world you find yourself on holiday.

So, lie back on that beach with warm sand under your body, or hike tall mountains to explore vistas at the top of this world, but remember: The Association of International Women will always have the door open and the light on to welcome you home.