



NOVEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER

Don't Miss the Annual Holiday Party



Our Annual Holiday Party will take place on Monday evening, December 12, at the home of Cecilia Herbert. We will have a beautiful buffet and wonderful wines throughout the evening along with good friends and fellowship. Cecilia's home is a beautiful setting for our annual get-together so you don't want to miss it!

[Click Here](#) to RSVP today!



President's Letter

November 28, 2011

Dear Members,

As I write to you, the holidays are coming into focus with joyous expectations for our Holiday Party. I hope to see you there for an enjoyable evening of food and friendship. Looking a little further down the road we have wonderful opportunities in Spring 2012. The IWF conference in Rabat, Morocco from **May 30 to June 1, 2012**, will have IWF members from around the world attending in a unique setting. Details on the

IWF-Northern California Members in Germany

by Rachel Mueller



Photos by Nannette Griswold
and Cindy Eisenberg

The IWF trip to Germany cannot be adequately summarized in a couple of paragraphs. You need an entire evening to hear the whole story. So, members of the Peninsula Book Club will gather on December 20th to hear more from their colleagues who experienced this amazing Germany trip. If you want to attend, contact Cailean Sherman.

In one word, the trip was incredible. From the minute we deplaned in Stuttgart, to our final send-off from Berlin, we were pampered and cared for, continuously briefed on what we were seeing and hearing, and wine and dined first class all the way.

HOW CAN ONE CHOOSE A SINGLE HIGHLIGHT?

* Would it be standing alone in **Angela Merkel's Cabinet Room** and then catching her walking into the Chancellery with her aides?

conference will be available in January.

Many of you met Tzipa Carmon, President of the IWF Israel, while she was living in Palo Alto last summer. Our Forum just received a warm invitation from IWF Israel to visit them in May prior to the Morocco conference. May is a beautiful month in Israel with blooming flowers and flourishing vegetation plus pleasant weather. We will experience the history of the region including the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of the people of Israel – Jewish, Christians and Muslims. There will be briefings on the background and current status of Israel's conflicts and challenges. Israeli members will open their homes to us for a number of "dine arounds". And as a special treat Tzipa Carmon has invited us into her home for the Shavuot holiday dinner. Israeli Forum members will join us throughout the trip. The dates are **May 21 to 28**, which dovetail with the Morocco conference. **The details are being finalized; I will send you the itinerary shortly.**

Our September journey throughout Germany with Major General Barbara Faulkenberry was a remarkable experience. In addition to the high level briefings on Africa and Europe, we enjoyed meeting with members of the German Forum including a visit to Anja Gockel's Atelier, plus a cruise on the Rhine and the excitement of Berlin. For more details see Rachel Mueller's article.

The October Washington, DC conference sold out. Northern California was well represented with 17 attending. The ideas exchanged were stimulating and expanded our thinking. Anne Chermak Dillen, a new member, shares her thoughtful commentary in this newsletter. As is our custom, our Forum had an exceptional dinner on opening night, and we were joined



Julie England, Cindy Eisenberg, Linda Moriarty,
Rachel Mueller, Eva Auchincloss, Eleanor Chang,
Barbara Faulkenberry, Susie Hoganson

- * Or would it be the **gourmet buffet luncheon in the mess hall** in our honor by German soldiers at Kurpfalz Kaserne in Speyer? (They were definitely out to impress a two-star American general!)
- * Perhaps it was the briefings at **Kelley Barracks at U.S. Africom?**
- * How about our briefing from **Rear Admiral Charles Martoglio, Chief of Staff of U.S. European Command?** We could have listened to him all day talking about reality in the military, not what you read in the newspapers.
- * Perhaps it was staying at **Ramstein Air Base and being entertained in the Officers' Club by the four-star general and Commander of all US Air Forces** in Europe and then meeting other prominent German civilians to provide their perspective. And yes, we did get to see and climb into another C-130.

by IWF members from Israel, Ecuador, Florida, Italy, Southern California, Washington DC, Atlanta and Nevada plus two current Fellows. Our circle of friends continues to grow.

IWF has expanded with the addition of two new Forums – Sweden, spearheaded by our own Katrina Bonde plus Bermuda. The IWF website is being updated as part of their “brand refresh” initiative. Our Forum is exploring our social media options as a means of enhancing member communication.

As you know by now, one of my passions is international connectivity and I am thrilled that IWF Northern California was able to connect with Germany in 2011 and has an invitation from Israel for 2012. One of the great benefits of our sisterhood is the global friendships that we share.

I look forward to seeing you at our **Holiday Party on Monday, December 12** at Cecilia Herbert’s lovely home and at our **Annual Meeting at the Metropolitan Club on Tuesday, January 10.**

With wishes for a joy filled holiday season to each of you,

Cynthia Eisenberg

President



* We had down time in the quaint town of Rudesheim. Staying in Assmannhausen on the Rhine gave us a chance for some serious exercise, especially climbing up to the **Castle Burg Rheinfels after a leisurely cruise and gourmet buffet**. The picture perfect sunny day was a photographer's paradise.

* I know everyone would agree that our German IWF hosts brought a new meaning to the word "hospitality." They arranged for us to touch and feel Germany in a very memorable way.



* **None of us will ever forget the laying of a wreath ceremony at the Ministry of Defense and the Bundeswehr Memorial. Major General Barb, our own Cindy Eisenberg, Gale Tauber from The Trusteeship and Jane Williams-**

Boock from the German Forum together carried a large floral arrangement the length of the memorial in memory of all fallen soldiers and their sacrifice for freedom and service to Germany.

* Oh, and there were castles, villas and palaces; **Schloss Solitude, the Villa von der Heydt, (the largest cultural institution in Germany and**

IWF World Leadership Conference, Washington, DC : “Balance and Power in the 21st Century”

Oct. 26-28, 2011

by Anne Chermak Dillen



Where does the world stand on the power curve of change in the early decades of the 21st century, and what role will the calculus of Balance and Power play in shaping our future prospects for a safe, stable and successful global economy, marketplace and international community?

not open to the public), Castle Lindstedt, and Schloss Sans Souci, the summer palace of Frederick the Great. Who would have ever guessed that we would skate across the inlaid floors of the Neues Palais, Frederick's baroque palace in grey boiled wool slippers? Quite a sight!

* **It wouldn't have been an IWF event without some shopping, but it would be tough to top an afternoon with Anja Gockel and a behind the scenes of her atelier.** First appetizers and Champagne, then free time to try on anything in her shop. We all concluded that General Barb may have another career as a fashion model when her military time is up! And



I counted eleven women wearing the same Anja Gockel evening blouse at our formal dinner in Berlin hosted by the President of the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation. There were different colors and sizes but all looked fabulous!

Of course there is more. There were museums, a trip to Potsdam, a train trip, a reception and dinner at the Robert Bosch Foundation, a visit to the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, a bus tour of Berlin with the fanciest box lunch you have ever seen.

The water was served in Reidel glassware! We were a jolly group of 42, twelve from our Northern California Forum, all having the experience of a lifetime. I wish every member could have come along.

Please visit our website for [many more photos](#) from the trip.



This was the provocative question around which the IWF Washington conference was organized. We heard from a UN official working in war torn parts of Africa, Chinese economics professors, the head of an Indian philanthropic foundation, futurologists grappling with the impact of technology's exponential growth on society, gender analysts from the business sector, health care strategists from Japan, France and the U.S., and civil society and human rights representatives of Arab countries in the throes of transformation and change.

The first day's break-out sessions offered conference attendees insider perspectives on the workings of government and the media in the U.S. capital, with briefings at the White House Conference Center, Supreme Court, Capitol Hill, State Department, Newseum and NBC Studios. Second day breakouts examined China, the role of central banks around the world, and the future of American power.

Presentations were informative and thought-provoking, with speakers engaging one another and the audience in discussion and debate. The Chinese speakers came in for some tough questioning from forum members challenging China's commitment to democracy.

Highlights for me personally as a former U.S. diplomat and first-time IWF conference attendee were the sessions featuring Arab world representatives, who inspired us with their courage and commitment to fighting for freedom and democracy in their

A Look Behind-the-Scenes of the Wig and Costume Department at the San Francisco Opera

by Gwen Mazer



Forum members and guests enjoyed an informative and at times amusing tour behind the scenes of the costume and wig department of the San Francisco Opera. Tour coordinator, Lynn Watson led us through the underground corridors of the opera house, as bustling staff went whizzing by with rolling racks readying for the evening performance of Turandot, starring Irene Theorin.

Our first stop was the wig and makeup department where all the wigs and various hair pieces for the cast are designed and made by a small staff of theatre professionals, several of them with over twenty years of experience with the company. With makeup in one room and wigs in another they deftly manage to prepare all the performers, making the rapid wig and makeup changes required during the performance.

The costume manager showed us various costumes and hairpieces as we marveled at the ability to sing and manage to be graceful as they maneuver the cumbersome and weighty garments and headpieces. We got to peek into one of the star's dressing rooms where all her costumes

countries, and the presentations by a group of amazing young leaders from around the world sharing their vision of the future and their commitment to making this a better world. (Check out video clips of these sessions on the IWF website).



The conference was brought to an elegant close with the International hall of Fame Awards Gala. Some of us even had a chance to say hello to honoree Heidi Klum, who charmed us with her warm and friendly personality. All in all, it was a stimulating and rewarding gathering, with new friendships made and old acquaintances renewed.

The 17 of us who attended from IWF NorCal came away excited about the prospect of hosting next October's forum here in our beloved San Francisco.

Please visit our website to [view more photos](#) from this trip.

were hanging ready to make a magical transformation.

Our tour ended in the cleaning department where all the costumes are washed, cleaned and repaired. The manager gave us one of the most amusing cleaning tips - “ For freshening clothes that are a little musty and sweaty we put cheap vodka in a spray bottle and spritz away, works every time!”

With that our tour came to an end and we were off to a fun lunch at Hayes Street Grill.

Tech-Know

by Jenny Erwin



**It's fast, it's easy, and it's green.
What is it?**

The IWF-Northern California online member directory! All the member information is just a few clicks away...either from your computer or your smart phone. And it has the most current updates along with the profiles of our new members. Your hard copy will not be updated for a year, so bookmark this link for real time information.

IWF Fellows Program

The International Women's Forum has an annual Fellows Program, the leading women's executive development program in the world. Each local network forum can nominate and submit candidates. Supported by the Leadership Foundation, this highly competitive program provides selected fellows with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to expand their horizons. The [attached brochure](#) describes the Fellows Program, including the Legacy Project, and the selection criteria for 2011-12 (2012-13 brochure issued in December). The IWF-Northern California Leadership Fellow committee is gearing up for the 2012-13 season of candidate selection and support and we need your help. **You can participate in two ways:**

1. Identify and nominate high-potential women to participate in the program: The Fellows Program is designed for mid-career women (not currently IWF members), with a minimum of 10 years of significant professional experience who demonstrate current and potential leadership and intend to continue at least 10 years of professional activity and leadership following the Fellowship. Candidates should have exceptional talent, ambition and drive to lead at senior management levels. [Click here for the](#) application form.
and/or

2. Donate to the Leadership Foundation Endowment Campaign: This campaign provides the funding to support the Fellows Program activities during the training period. The President's Circle honors IWF members and fellows who have

http://www.iwfnorcal.org/p/Members_Search.aspx.

When you click this link, you go to your sign-in page where you provide your name and password. Now you have immediate member information at your fingertips.

Coming soon... information about our local IWF “Linked-In Group” where you can post events of interest to our members. Stay tuned.

What's In a Name?

by Sheri Barden

Quick! Do you know what our organization is called? If you said anything other than **International Women's Forum - Northern California**, you have missed our big news! Our name has changed. **Why, you might ask?**



For a few reasons: Most of the chapters around the world have adopted this format; the organization will have greater strength with consistency; and we can more easily draw upon the reputation of the international organization if we have the same name.

Now we are asking all members for a favor. Please use this name - and this name only - when talking about our organization and please be sure to update you CV's and bios to include this nomenclature. (By the way, if you aren't mentioning your membership in IWF in your bio, you are missing something important!)

give, pledged, or facilitated gifts of \$5000 or more. An opportunity to donate to the Foundation will be on your membership dues form. Please be generous to support this important IWF activity to promote exceptional women and to advance Legacy Projects around the globe.

Please fill out the attached potential candidate identification form and return via email to Nanette Lee Miller (NanetteLee.Miller@marcumllp.com). The committee will screen all candidates and invite those who meet the criteria and are judged to be competitive for the Fellows Program to complete a full application. Please submit nominations no later than January 31, 2012.

For more information please see:

http://www.iwforum.org/leadership_foundation.aspx or call Nanette Lee Miller (415) 981-9400.

Turandot was Magical

By Joanne Howard



Our night at the opera was magical and triumphant. Twelve of us were treated to a unique behind the scenes tour led by the production manager 30 minutes before curtain. We were introduced to the stage director intently watching 4 video screens and linked in to over 100 inputs of ever changing information. Voices were warming

Lastly, we are often asked how to describe IWF, so your marketing committee has developed the following: (Think of it as our very own "elevator speech".)

The International Women's Forum-Northern California is an invitation only, global organization comprised of women of significant and diverse achievement who connect for the purpose of sharing ideas, expertise, perspectives and vision with the ultimate goal of expanding both their individual and collective spheres of influence.

The caliber of the IWF- Northern California combined with our unique Bay Area offerings provide exclusive access, programs and opportunities that are generally unavailable to our members as individuals.

PROGRAM CALENDAR

December 2011

12/6/2011 Tuesday 8:00 - 9:30 AM Book Passage - 1st Tuesday Elaine Petrocelli's Book Selections for the Holiday season
12/12/2011 Monday 6:00 - 9:00 PM Cecilia Herbert hosts our Holiday Party for members and guests
12/20/2011 Tuesday 6:30 PM Peninsula Book Club Nycum Book Club Book Exchange and Discussion about Forum members' German trip.

up. We held the executioner's sword and then were swept away to our seats to view the front side of David Hockney's striking, primary color set and equally fanciful costumes.

The opera chorus was ever present and grand. The lead voices were superb including the much anticipated debut of Adler Fellow, Leah Crocetto. "Nessun dorma" was as good as a grand opera aria gets. Ping, Pang and Pong provided comical relief. We were generously hosted in the Intermezzo Lounge during intermissions. All in all - a magnificent evening.

1st Tuesday – Why Great Music Matters

with Mary Falvey



Mary Falvey has nothing short of a passion for classical music!

She vividly shared that passion with members at the 1st Tuesday breakfast on November 1, 2011. Mary talked about her work with San Francisco Classical Voice. We had a wonderful

conversation about why great, and particularly classical, music has been isolated from the general public by cultural norms, educational bias and other factors, how beneficial it would be to

2012

January

1/10/2012 Tuesday 6:00 PM Metropolitan Club Annual Meeting Dinner meeting
1/17/2012 Tuesday 6:30 PM Peninsula Book Club
1/22/2012 Sunday 2:00 PM Theater Berkeley Rep Play Play - Ghost Light

February

2/1/2012 Wednesday 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM City Club, Economic Outlook Luncheon
2/21/2012 Tuesday 6:30 PM Peninsula Book Club

March

3/6/2012 Tuesday 8:00 - 9:30 AM City Club 1st Tuesday Breakfast
3/20/2012 Tuesday 6:30 PM Peninsula Book Club

April

4/17/2012 Tuesday 6:30 PM Peninsula Book Club
4/22/2012 Sunday 2:00 PM Theater Berkeley Rep Play Play - Red

break down the artificial barriers between classical music and the general public - particularly the next generation, and what creative ideas we might implement locally.

San Francisco Classical Voice (<http://www.sfcv.org>), is an organization designed to address this situation, via a website with nationally-recognized journalism and other educational and informational resources, and other efforts to build community around great music. Below you'll find a link to see two videos - one focuses on the value various people in the community see in SFCV and the other is a brief tour of the website and what it offers.

<http://www.sfcv.org/article/sfcv-on-the-red-carpet>

As Mary moderated our conversation, she was clearly energized by the creative ideas that came out of our Forum group. It was a wonderful event!

Thanks to our Members

As always, there are many many thank-yous to our very busy membership for the hours and hours that are spent in behalf of IWF-Northern California. This month is no exception.

Our hardworking members behind the scenes, making the programs we all enjoy possible, include our **Program Chair Joanne Howard** who does so many things including general programming, organizing the Theatre Group, arranging dinner venues and so much more; **Gwen Mazer** who organizes Hang

May

5/6/2012 Sunday 2:00 PM Theater Berkeley Rep Play Play - In Paris

5/15/2012 Tuesday 6:30 PM Peninsula Book Club

05-30 - 06-01, 2012 IWF Cornerstone Conference - Rabat, Morocco - Theme: Morocco & The Future of the Arab World

June

6/19/2012 Tuesday 6:30 PM Peninsula Book Club

July

07-13 - 07-15, 2012 Stillheart Institute IWF-Northern California Summer Camp

7/17/2012 Tuesday 6:30 PM Peninsula Book Club

August

8/21/2012 Tuesday 6:30 PM Peninsula Book Club

September

9/18/2012 Tuesday 6:30 PM Peninsula Book Club

October

Arounds, **Linda Moriarty** who rounds up wonderful speakers for 1st Tuesday and **Cindy Eisenberg** who is always involved in everything including a huge amount of work in organizing the fabulous trip to Germany.

And we can't forget our speakers – frequently talented members – who step up to present wonderful programs on 1st Tuesday or open their homes for Book Club or Hang Arouns. **Mary Falvey** shared her passion for classical music in a wonderful presentation “Why Great Music Matters”. The Peninsula book club has been busy. **Caielan Sherman** is the moving force behind the Peninsula Book Club. Members who have opened their homes to this great group of readers include **Carol Sands** and **Susan Nycum**. Thank you to **Denise Brosseau** for hosting the November get together and to **Belva Davis** for contributing so richly to the evening by being present to discuss her book – *“Never in My Wildest Dreams – A Black Woman’s Life in Journalism”*

Many thanks to **Marsha Vande-Berg** and **Jane Wales** who presented a wonderful program on September 26 with an interview on world affairs entitled *“The Price of Partisanship - From National Security to the Economy.”*

Cindy Eisenberg did a masterful job of orchestrating a wonderful welcome dinner in Washington, DC on the opening evening of the IWF World Leadership Conference. 27 members and guests wined and dined together renewing old friendship and making new ones. Guests from the German, Israeli, Ecuadorian, Florida, Italian, Southern California, and Nevada Forums enriched the evening.

At this time of year we all have thankfulness on our minds and

10/16/2012 Tuesday 6:30 PM Peninsula Book Club
10-24 - 10-26, 2012 IWF World Leadership Conference - San Francisco

November

11/20/2012 Tuesday 6:30 PM Peninsula Book Club

December

12/18/2012 Tuesday 6:30 PM Peninsula Book Club

we must all be thankful for the hard work of our Board Members. **Cailean Sherman** handles the On-Boarding program to make sure that we get our new members fully engaged in our programming. **Denise Allen** has stepped forward to become Treasurer this year. **Sheri Barden** became Secretary with Denise's move to the financial side of the Forum management team.

And then there are **Susan Nycum and Sue Sprunk** who have taken on the herculean job of organizing the 2012 IWF Leadership Conference in San Francisco next October.

Finally - as your Editor - I want to take the opportunity to thank every member for making my first year as your Administrator a pleasant and very interesting experience. 2012 will bring lots of interesting challenges to our Forum!

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