

AGORA international



To all „ANGELS“
of AGORA & TANGENT Clubs:
Thank you so much for your
support all over the world!



Dear Ladies & Agora Friends,

...it will be Christmas soon!

Everywhere you go you see different and glossy decorations and illuminations: in the streets, in or in front of buildings, in windows or gardens.

You smell this special fragrance of Christmas cakes and mulled wine. You hear Christmas music in the radio and listen to concerts in churches.

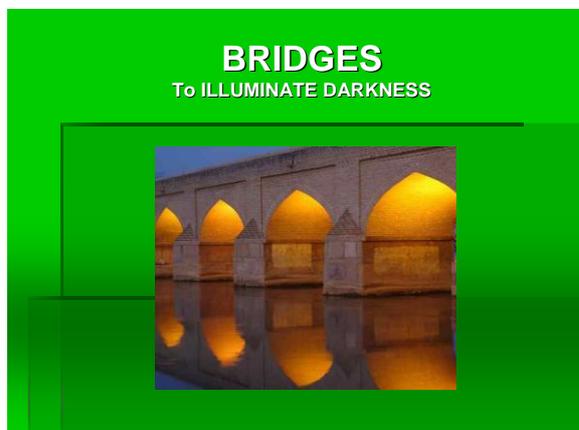
People hurry or are relaxed. You experience poorness and richness from one door to next door – and mostly everywhere shining children’s eyes full of joy and expectation for Christmas evening.

December is the month for opening our hearts and for giving to those who need our help.

YOU all do help: locally, nationally and internationally!
YOU are the “Bridges” to “illuminate darkness”.

„BUILDING BRIDGES“

In continued friendship,
Elisabeth Hiller, ACI President 2011-2012



www.agoraclubinternational.com

NEWSLETTER 3:
December 2011



ACI Board 2011-2012

President

Elisabeth Hiller
Hamwiede 48
29664 Walsrode
GERMANY
Elisabeth.Hiller@gmx.de

Vice President

Veerle De Jonge
Eyeranstraat 23
9160 Lokeren
BELGIUM
veerle_de_jonge@yahoo.com

Secretary

Karen von Koschitzky
Sudetenstr.7
29664 Walsrode
GERMANY
Karevoko@t-online.de

Treasurer

Nicole
Chemin de la Grangette 8
CH 1094 Paudex
SWITZERLAND
nicole@rueger.ch

Immediate Past President

Nikkie Grewar
N°1 Mykonos – 217 Smit Street
Fairland
2170 Gauteng
SOUTH AFRICA
nikkie@dwalsh.co.za

Index of this newsletter

1. Important dates (next 3 months)	Page 2
2. News and reports from the board	
- Christmas greetings	Page 3
- Charter TC 18 Dresden, Germany	Page 4
- Charter AC Casablanca 1, Morocco	Page 5-7
- Charter AC Modena 7, Italy	Page 8-9
3. Bridges	Page 10
4. News and reports from the countries	Page 10-11



12-14 Feb. 2012 Boardmeeting 3, Walsrode, Germany

12-03-2012 Charter AC Angoulême-Marguerite, France

18-03-2012 Red Nose Day

**RED
NOSE
DAY**

Red Nose Day

...is a day every year on which a lot of money is collected in Britain and other countries for people who need help. Red Nose Day is organized by **CHARITY** organizations/TV, and people often wear plastic red noses or put them on the front of their cars to show their support.

News and reports
from the board



Nikkie
Karen

Elisabeth

Veerle
Nicole

*The Agora Club International Board
wishes you
a merry Christmas
and
a happy new 2012!*

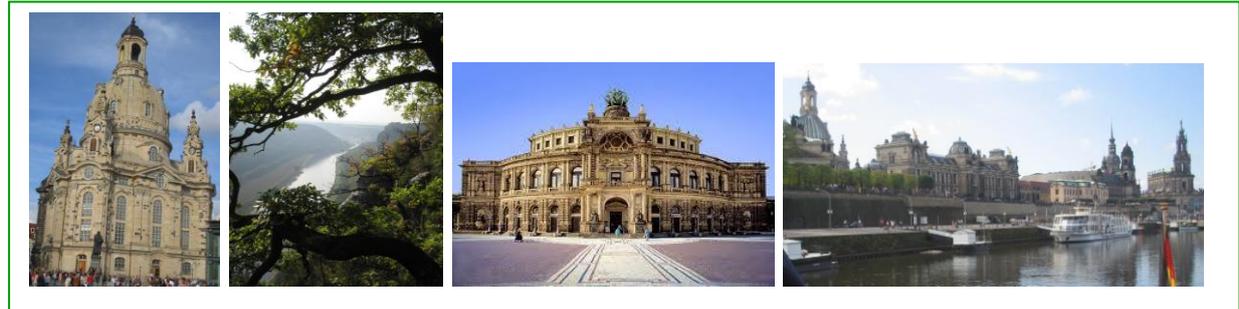
Charter TC 18 Dresden

19.11.11

A familiar charter in Dresden

The 10 ladies of Tangent Club N° 18 Dresden, their husbands, the club president of Ladies' Circle N° 18, some 41ers of Dresden, our national German President Brigitte and I celebrated their charter in a very familiar "circle".

Dresden is a very old and well known town situated in the east of Germany at the big river Elbe and is a "pearl" of culture and history. So the historical "Frauenkirche" (Women's Church) is the symbol of the two female clubs (*see picture left*).



The charter ceremony and gala dinner took place in an old garden guesthouse. The room was very well decorated in the colours green and white. Lady Karin made by her own a very special candle of friendship for each guest/participant with logo (Tangent Germany and Frauenkirche) and all pre names. A very nice gift! My candle is burning day by day.

After having signed the charter document we took the "three president's picture": the local, national and international president – all coming from the same country!



The evening was filled with laughter and singing. One lady is a member of a gospel chorus. She has a fantastic voice (!!) and she prepared a "ladies' song" which brought a lot of applause. So you can imagine that we all had much fun.

Late in the night/early in the morning we said "good bye" and we will hopefully meet soon. Thank you ladies for an amazing evening.



A NEW COUNTRY:
Foundation AC Morocco
Charter AC Casablanca N° 1
25.-27. November 2012



...CAPTURED...

- by Arabic customs
- a mixture of modernity and history
- enthusiastic and powerful ladies!

INTRODUCTION:

For three days we “streamed” into the Arabian world which differs from ours in religion, mentality and cultures. It is a world of “men” but it is a very female domain, too. Casablanca is the largest town in Morocco and its economic capital. It is a cosmopolitan city where different cultures and ways of life meet.

FRIDAY:

Most of the guests/ladies started with this “female experience” by visiting a hammam in the morning and we all continued in the afternoon in one members’ house with a traditional Moroccan wedding ceremony of Pascaline & Storme from Godmother Club BE; it was really impressive!
The day/early morning ended with a cheerful welcome party, percussion, barbecue and a birthday song for Anissa, VP + charter toastmaster of CAC1.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Wedding Ceremony: “Pascaline & André”



FRIDAY EVENING

Welcome Party: „Percussion & Fun“



SATURDAY:

The Charter ceremony took place in the famous “Pacha’s Courthouse “ (Mahakma de Pacha) with beautiful chiselled stucco and polychrome mosaics as well as statuesque columns and geometric designs. The charter protocol was well prepared and we heard several speeches full of warmth and friendship; afterwards we had delicious traditional food and champagne in a traditional restaurant.

- The Gala evening took place in the “president’s palace” of Fatima with lots of surprises: the Casa ladies welcomed us in their traditional costumes, they danced to their traditional rhythms with live musicians (we *tried*, too...), we were fascinated of a performance shown by Kaoutar and Anissa, a “love ceremony”, which was in my eyes the highlight of the evening, we could admire “Le costume feminine au Maroc”: traditional female costumes of ethic, beauty, seduction and glory...we lay in bed at 3 in the morning...!

SATURDAY MORNING

Charter Ceremony: “Welcome in AGORA World”



SATURDAY EVENING

Welcome in traditional costumes & Table Dance



SATURDAY EVENING

Performance Anissa & Kaoutar: "Love Ceremony"



THE PROJECT they support:
"l'Association Solidarité Féminine"

Aicha Chenna started up a project in the 1980's for abused and raped women. Because these women are rejected by their family and by society, she gives them and their children shelter and an education: hairdresses (*see picture*), hammam, beautician – because they are mostly illiterate women. Aicha has won several international prizes, but money is always short. She also started a women's hammam at the project. Very rural and basic but so warm and friendly, where these abused women can work and earn a bit of living during the first year. So they have a head start before entering society again.

(Written by Veerle; she took part in the hammam's visit)



SUNDAY:

Conclusion of these three days have been the farewell breakfast in an old restaurant in the Ancient Medina with different sorts of food and the visit of the Hassan II great Mosque.



RESUME:

Eleven powerful, modern, good car driving (!), traditional and very female ladies organized
!!A GREAT MAGICAL WEEKEND!!

Photos from the conference can be seen on the following link:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/dejonge.veerle/CHARTERACMOROCCO>

Charter
AC Modena N° 7
03. December 2011



A warm Welcome in Italy!

I spent only about 20 hours for the charter evening/night in Italy and experienced once more so much warmth, friendship and hospitality. Thank you, dear ladies and husbands of AC Modena N° 7 and friends of 4C1V (4 clubs *one* vision) for the warm welcome!

I have so wonderful Italian memories that I didn't hesitate any second to travel a 3rd time within only some few weeks to attend their charter ceremony!

I have been picked up by two Modena 41ers at Bologna airport and was directly brought to "Teatro Fondazione San Carlo" where I found everything well prepared.

National President Donata, Modena President Letizia and the protocol lady welcomed the Godmother Club Bologna, all guests and friends. It was a great honour and pleasure for me to illuminate the candle of friendship and officially open the ceremony in Italian (!! although I don't speak *any* word in this language! What a friendly gesture!

And then – the great moment: the signature of the charter document & the official WELCOME IN AGORA CLUB INTERNATIONAL – FELIZITATIONES Ladies!

The charter document & congratulations of national 41 President/husband Paolo + N-Board



Be happy & singing the national anthem



Good temper, 14 cheerful ladies, the Modena Cake and a “Rose for Mrs. President”

Italy is well known for belle cuisine and wines. No question that we had very delicious food, pleasant wines and for desert the huge and creamy “Modena cake”. A surprise for the evening has been two life musicians who played the piano and sang famous classic songs: Tenore, Soprano and Tenore Soprano of Verdi, Puccini, Carmen di Bizet with Rigoletto, Tosca, Mme Butterfly, La Traviata... It has gone deeply into our hearts and was a wonderful idea for creating a fine atmosphere in this pre Christmas time. So the temper was very good and the chartered ladies were content and happy as well as Mrs. and Mr. President!



“Aceto de Balsamico di Modena” - a fine gift!

At the end of the gala evening all women got a very fine gift from Letizia/the Modena ladies: a little bottle of the traditional “Aceto de Balsamico di Modena” and a little book with information on this world wide well known aceto balsamico in different languages.

I enjoyed these few hours in Italy/Modena which were filled with lots of surprises and cordiality!



The History of the Modena Balsamico

Tradizionale and Condimento balsamics are made in Modena and Reggio-Emilia using artisan methods established in the Renaissance and dating back to the Middle Ages. Production of *tradizionale* is strictly monitored by a consortium. *Condimentos* are made using the same techniques but rare not submitted to the consortium for evaluation. These magnificent gourmet products are costly and costlier and used to accent foods; *tradizionales* are also drunk like rare Ports. They are labeled *Aceto Balsamico Tradizionale* or *Aceto Balsamico Condimento*. To be assured of buying authentic balsamic vinegar, look for the seals of the *tradizionale* and *condimento* Consorzi. An authentic balsamic made in Modena will have the code API MO; one made in the Reggio Emilia province will have the code API RE.

*Arrivederci
Italia!*





Bridges



Storm Mouth Suspension Bridge, South Africa,
sent by Ida Eisses, TC 31 Walsrode, Germany



Bridge in the highlands of Aberdeen,
photo taken by Karen at the
LCI-Conference 2008

					
					
	<h2 style="color: green;">News and reports from the countries</h2>				

Agora Club Romania has sent the following report:

Dear Ladies,
 this is my first newsletter and I want to send you all our best wishes from Agora Club Romania.
 The last two months were very full of several actions which make us very proud.
 In October two of our ladies participate on a documentary film festival about historical and
 geographical tradition of our zone, which took place in Fagaras, a town near by.

In November there was a Conference about a complex temple of our ancestors - the Dakians, recently discovered and less known, sustained by our friend Domnita Ratiu.

And last but not least in December, again like last year, we organized our Charity Concert in benefit of the local Hospice House of Hope. We had more than 300 people in the public and managed to sell so many tickets only by building bridges between all friendship clubs in our town and people in general - people in pain and people who understand the meaning and beauty of life and charity.

We had guests from the Opera and the Philharmonic, a Romanian singer - Ellie White , a guest from Great Britain - Sarah Brown, some young violinist and piano player and all of them performed for free and embraced our project enthusiastically. It was really a special evening both for AGORA and for the local community and the amount we raised for Hospice was of 2500 EUR !!!

It was also a very nice getaway from everyone's daily problems as after the concert we continued in a restaurant with laughs and dance and with good friends - it was wonderful and all feed-backs are really great.

In our town in the Carpathians Mountains the winter is late now, but we hope to have some snow soon, before Christmas. Small colorful lights are the Christmas dress of Brasov and in the Central Square there is a huge Christmas tree waiting for Santa.

We hope to have a good new year together with the big Agora family and we wish you beautiful holidays with your families and friends.

Yours in friendship,

Domnita Ratiu, Secretary of AGORA BRASOV ROMANIA

