



The logo features the word "AGORA" in large, bold, blue capital letters. Above the "O" is a stylized green globe with a leaf-like shape. Above the globe is the word "Club" in a blue cursive script. Below "AGORA" is the word "international" in a green, lowercase, sans-serif font.

Dear Ladies of Agora,

This newsletter is mainly dedicated to our ACI Day which was held on the 14<sup>th</sup> November, a day which was influenced by the terror in Paris. This terrifying attack made it clear to us how lucky we are to be part of an organisation with the objectives “Service and Tolerance”. We all know the strength we need to live together in friendship and tolerance when so many women with different characters, backgrounds and cultures come together. But it is the intention of our organisation we have in common and we should be proud of and share it wherever we can to make the world a bit more peaceful.

Now have a look at all of the good things that happened in our nearly 20 year old ACI world. Concerning our 20<sup>th</sup> birthday next year we start with reports of former ACI presidents sharing her most memorable moments.

Yours in friendship

Brigitte ACI Secretary 2015-2017

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Dear friends of Agora Club France,

I want to begin our newsletter 2 with some simple yet sincere words for you.

I've been thinking of you over this period. I do feel your immense sufferings.

The terrorists are trying to immerse our world in anxiety, horror, pain and force us to give up to violence.

But we won't let them do it!

I believe that hard moments can only make us stronger: more than ever, the French people show the world that they have the potential and the willingness to erase all tragedies, to help people live their dreams so as to build up a world of hope, love and peace. I further believe that the French people will adamantly keep celebrating life with their full capacity. I give each and every one of you a warm hug, saying from the depth of my heart: "VIVE LA FRANCE!"

Lots of love  
Ly thi Thanh Thao  
ACI President 2015-2016

## [Celebration of the ACI DAY 2015](#)

[First of all – CHARTER of MOROCCO – our 12 th country with full membership](#)

I should say that the Charter of Agora Club Casablanca 2 and the Installation of the National Board of Agora Club Morocco have added lovely brushstrokes and rich, intense colors to the painting I have so far envisioned for Agora Club International.

The celebration of these two great events means so much to me. It shows that Agora Club is growing beautifully and confidently and that our spirit of Service and Tolerance is gaining in importance.

It took place on 14 November at Val d'Anfa Hotel, in Casablanca, in a friendly and vibrant atmosphere. It saw the participation of lots of friends from Agora Club Belgium, Agora Club France, Ladies' Circle Morocco, Round Table Morocco, and 41 Club Morocco. It also saw the presence of three out of five Members of the ACI Board: Martine Monzo, ACI Treasurer, Kelly Geisler, ACI Immediate Past President, and Ly thi Thanh Thao, ACI President.

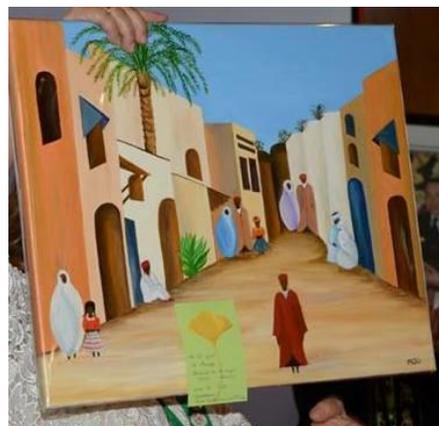
What a meaningful motto! It is in perfect harmony with the ACI motto 2015-2016: "Hand Head Heart". It underlines our willingness to be the force for good in the world.



We observed a minute of silence to honor the victims in the Paris terrorist attack on 13 November.



Then Souad Benjelloun, President of AC Casablanca 2, and I lighted the candle of friendship, and solemnly opened the ceremony. Souad proudly showed the Charter Certificate among our applause.



To mark this special day, AC Casablanca 1 had a special gift for the newly born club. And Maryse Dechappe, President of the Southern Region of AC France, honored the Charter with her beautiful painting.



Souad Benjelloun, with her lovely hand-made jewel, smiled radiantly together with Hanane El Jassifi, President of the godmother club, AC Casablanca1, and Isabelle Seguinot, President of the godmother club, AC 39 Hyères.



Souad was surrounded by the delicious Ladies of Ladies' Circle Morocco. What a joy and satisfaction!



And these are the brand-new gorgeous ladies of AC Casablanca 2. They deserve a big round of applause.

Following the birth of Agora Club Casablanca 2, Agora Club Morocco could establish the National Board.

As ACI President, I expressed my deep joy for this momentous event. I further wished my Moroccan ladies to keep fostering friendship, creating positive change, and thus playing an active role in making this world a better place to live in.





Faty Maher, the first President of AC Morocco said really loving and moving words. I believe Faty can generate energy to face the challenges of this new adventure and will be the inspiration to all of us.

The National Board of Agora Club Morocco looked so happy and satisfied with (from left)

Martine Monzo, Kelly Geisler, and Thanh Thao



The signing of the Certificate of the Installation of the National Board. I still hear the echo of a big applause.

Kelly Geisler showed her friendship and love to Faty Maher and to all Moroccan ladies.



This is a great picture of the loving and sharing spirit of Agora Club

During my days in Casablanca, I remained wordless in front of the beauty of friendship. I saw old friends and made new ones, I believe that friendship is one of the greatest ingredients to fulfilling life.

The Welcome Party was so splendid! The music was typically Moroccan, the food was exquisite, and my friends were all so amazing and inspiring.



I felt so blessed and moved to celebrate ACI Day, having a cake with my motto and logo. Super!



The violinist enchanted us by his talent.

Then the Gala Dinner was a continued explosion of friendship.



Zakia performed a gracious dance.



I enjoyed the company of Ruth Hungwe, LCI President, and Sirlí Rooma, LCI Treasurer.

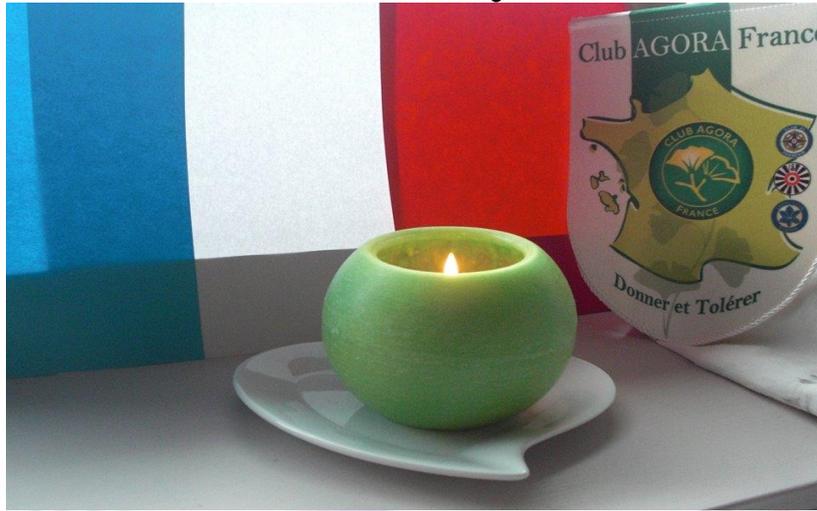


Here's to the new and joyful adventure of our Moroccan friends in Agora Club!  
Here's to the friendship that inspires action and creates positivity!  
Here's to the continuous celebration of life!

And finally, my heartfelt thanks to Souad Benjelloun, Faty Maher, and Hanane El Jassifi, and all Moroccan ladies for having made me feel like a Princess!

Lots of love  
Ly thi Thanh Thao  
ACI President 2015-2016

# ACI Day



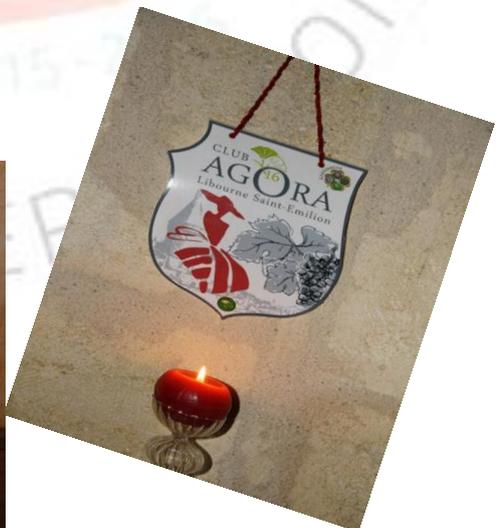
November 14, a day we look forward to each year to celebrate our ACI birthday.

This year we all were shaken by the attacks in Paris that took many precious lives. We shared in the sorrow of those lost and in the hope for a better world tomorrow. We lit our candles in remembrance and we lit them to symbolize the light we will continue to share in our perseverance to bring goodness to this precarious world in this sweet and sacred life we are so blessed to share.

Our dearest friends in France, Russia, Lebanon, Tunisia and in all countries where there is uncertainty, please know we are a circle of friends forever who stand steadfast with you in love and light. Together we are one and we will build bridges of tolerances and are stronger because of our diversity. We will continue to empower and enlighten this world as we enjoy and create our beautiful masterpiece together, as we paint our souls, leaving our footprints of light and positive energy with our heads, hands and hearts.

In Friendship  
In Love  
In Peace

*Kelly Geisler, Martine Monzo*



## November 14th - ACI-Day in Germany Visit in the World of Kitchen

On this special day 24 ladies of TC 21 Weserbergland, TC 27 Hannover, TC 31 Walsrode, TC 42 Bielefeld and TC 55 Schleswig gathered in the museum "WOK = World of kitchen" in Hannover.



The museum is run by many honorary members, who present the different kitchens and do the guided tours. The presentation starts with a gallery of star cooks and a buffet of artificial but very real looking cakes.



Then the visitor enters a historical path of different kitchens, beginning with a kitchen of the late medieval ages till the seventies of the last century. Many of us were reminded to our childhood by the different objects shown, such as Pril flowers from the seventies or different kitchen machines. The contrast between an East German and a West German kitchen was also very impressive. In the second part of the exhibition kitchens from other European countries are shown. In between small snacks and a cup of tea were offered to us. The exhibition ends with a big amount of cooking books and miniature kitchens and their equipment. Unfortunately we were not allowed to take photos of the kitchens, so to get an impression you need to have your own look. The museum also offers cooking lessons for pupils and adults.



After the tour we had a menu in a nicely decorated restaurant also run by the museum and some nice chats between the ladies of the 5 clubs.

Karen von Koschitzky  
IRO AC Tangent Germany

## Celebration of the ACI Day in Romania

Enjoying the forest - We met early morning to enjoy the last beautiful day of fall.



As our pictures show we enjoyed a long walk on Tâmpa hill where we were lucky enough to not meet the bear.

But, we met our young friend Izabella , an exceptional child, who at only 12 years old is an accomplished violinist who won many national prizes.



Fortunately for her, she didn't bring her violin , otherwise , she would had to play for us in the forest.

At the end of our nice trip we enjoyed a very tasty traditional Romanian lunch. And we made the final arrangements for the special event , " Isabella's Evening " to benefit her continue artistic education.

We toasted for a great ACI future and we ended the day in a great spirit of togetherness

Gabi Abagiu  
AC 2 Brasov  
Romania



## Botswana – Dancing for ACI Day



Greetings from Ruth Hungwe; LCI President

## HALF YEAR MEETING OF FRANCE



This year the national committee of Club Agora France was at BERGERAC, a little city in the southwest of France and the land of Cyrano...(11/07/15).

This important national meeting allows to our National President - here Nadine - to disclose to the Presidents of the 33 clubs Agora, her program and to present the calendar of the many events of the Club Agora France and also the others events shared with the QUATALAGOR (Club 41, Round Table, Ladies circle & Agora).

We talked also about our National Action en favor or the association "Solidarité Femmes".



Of course during this week end the National Board of the Club Agora France worked but the Club Agora Bergerac had planed partys (bowling, dancing...)  
Together we shared many and great moments of solidarity and friendship.

As you can see, the colour of Nadine for her National Presidence: GREEN !

Florence Iheritier  
IPP France

## HALF YEAR MEETING ACT GERMANY

On November 7th more than 60 ladies followed the invitation of NP Antje to meet and discuss AC Tangent subjects at the HYM in Kiel.



The weekend started with a very familiar welcome at Petra's house for those, who had already arrived the day before.

On Saturday the meeting began with a workshop. To prepare this workshop the clubs were asked to discuss the following questions:

1. Why are you a member of ACTC Germany?
2. What do you expect from ACTC Germany in the future?
3. How do you explain ACTC Germany without referring to Ladies' Circle?

The results of these discussions will be used to work out a more detailed explanation of Tangent Germany for the directory.



The following meeting was accompanied by representatives of the national boards of Old Tablers Germany (Dr. Oliver Poppe), Round Table Germany (Holger Cosse) and Ladies' Circle Germany (Melanie Grundei-Wollny).



ACTC Germany is very proud to have two representatives on the international board of Agora:  
Ursula Lejeune (ACI-VP) and Brigitte Colberg (ACI-S).



The meeting went very smoothly and was filled with informations such as the demonstration of a new website and an amount of 213 000 € collected by the four clubs OTD, RTD, LCD and TCD for Nepal.

The evening the ladies spent cruising on a historical boat.

Karen von Koschitzky,  
IRO AC Tangent Germany

## MALTA

In November, a social event was organised in the form of a tombola night. A good number of ladies attended and nice prizes were won. During this event, the money collected went towards the Charity fund.

On 9th December, our President, Sue Micallef opened up her home for Christmas Drinks. It was a beautiful evening where both Club members attended.



Our President kindly, through her contacts, made available two air tickets to Milan to draw during a lottery held at the end of the evening. Two lucky ladies, Connie Azzopardi and Gloria Psaila Savona won these tickets and will use them to attend the next ACI AGM in Milan in October 2016. All money collected during this event will be deposited into the charity account.

Wishing all our Agorian Friends round the World a very Happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful 2016.

Yours in Friendship

Sandra Chetcuti  
AGORA Malta Secretary

## SWITZERLAND

On Tuesday evening, December 8, our club organised its annual Christmas charity action.

22 Christmas boxes were filled with essential and nonessential goods destined for families in need in our area.



Marianne Grieshaber  
Agora 2 Lausanne  
Switzerland

These are distributed by a local charitable organisation called « les Cartons du Cœur » and can reach families or single parents with young babies or adolescents and also elderly pensioners.

Our members spent a fun evening preparing the cartons and followed up with a raclette and a glass of wine in preparation for Christmas festivities.



## 20 years of History of ACI – Report of Past President Elisabeth Hiller 2011/12

Dear Agora Friends!

BUILDING BRIDGES and so much more!

I have been asked by the international Board to reflect my presidential year: what was the most important, exciting or emotional event I do have in my mind?

Well, first of all: EVERY single event, being Board meetings, charter celebrations, national AGM's, email conversations, telephone calls, home hosting, international conferences: being our own ones or those of our partner organizations, sharing laughter, joy and fun or caring for others ... this really colorful mixture of impressions and experiences is circling in Agora/Tangent, is YOU! I remember with pleasure and all my lifeblood so many wonderful events, LADIES and "4 clubs 1 vision's" friendships!



BM on Ibiza



RTI P11/12 Stijn/BE



41CI P 11/12 Jean-Louis/F 12/13 KK/India



Splitting up my presidential year into the above mentioned three characteristics I would like to tell you as follows:

My mostly **important highlight was the N° 1 Charter in Casablanca/Morocco** with impressions of 1001 nights in this so very typical oriental manor, with absolutely spirited and lively ladies who are the best belly dancers and car drivers of the world!



Signing the Charter Document

Together with Godmother Belgium



One of my **most exciting** memory was standing on stage in front of several hundred ladies circlers during the **LCI conference 2012** in Helsingborg/ Sweden together with the LCI President Sharon Taitz from Israel and handing over a check of **4444 €**

(No° 4 is standing for "4C1V") for the International Service Project "Viva con Aqua" and showing the "Side by Side" agreement to our younger sisters' organization Ladies' Circle.



**Very emotional** was a private trip to Haifa/Israel where I visited my Agora friend Yifat Rom. It was my first stay in Israel, and I got acquainted with landscape, history and, of course, with Agora Ladies. I was impressed and touched by the Israeli liveliness and joy on one hand and living in daily danger because of unforeseen attacks on the other hand.



My year "scurried" so very quickly and I said "Good Bye" in Lübeck in 2012 together with my Board 2011-2012: IPP Nickie Grewar from South Africa, VP Veerle de Jonge from Belgium, S Karen von Koschitzky from Germany and T Nicole Rueger from Switzerland, advised and accompanied by a fantastic conference team!



We finished my year on the gala evening and practiced for the first time swinging candles by singing the Whoopi Goldberg song "I will follow him (her)" of the musical "Sister Act".

With this very *emotional* act of friendship I handed over to Veerle!

Thank you all for your love and support and MERRY CHRISTMAS  
In warm Friendship,  
Elisabeth HillerGermany, December 2015





**We all, Thanh Thao, Kelly, Ursula, Martine and Brigitte wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year.**

Enjoy these days with your family and friends, have a rest for reflecting this current year and make plans for the New Year for instance travelling to meet friends of our Agora family, have a look at the following page😊. More dates and news specialty of your charity projects in the next newsletter!

The registration for the Charter of Agora Club 1 in Austria is open

***Early Bird for the complete program until 31. January 2016***

**SAVE THE DATE**

Charter · Spittal/Drau  
**3. - 5. Juni 2016**

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