



**January 2010**

## **Women's League Bulletin**

Website: [www.aub.edu.lb/women\\_league](http://www.aub.edu.lb/women_league)

### **Letter from the President**

**“Never break four things in our life - Trust, Relation, Promise and Heart because when they break, they don't make noise but pains a lot”.**

**Charles Dickens**

Happy New Year to all members of The Women's League and their friends.

According to the Gregorian calendar 2010, January is the first month of a decade. It may be called two thousand and ten or twenty ten. 2010 is proclaimed by the United Nations as the Year of biodiversity.

The truth is that there is no better time to be happy than right now.

Happiness is a voyage not a destination.

Life is short. Let us live and enjoy every moment in our life.

**Leila Ghantous**

### **A word from the Editor for the Year 2010**

As the year comes to an end, I find myself counting my blessings. Though some things may not have worked out the way we intended them to, nevertheless, we have much to be thankful for. We ought to be grateful for all the little things we take for granted.

At times like these, I cannot but think of the poor. Each one of us can make a difference in these people's lives. The bare necessities of life are all what they are wishing for in the coming New Year. We can help make their wishes come true.

For the year 2010, I wish peace to prevail everywhere on earth for all nations and to see the whole world without hunger, poverty and privations.

Happy New Year and many happy returns.

**Rihab Ouri**

## **H.E. Mrs. Leila Solh Hamadeh delivering her valuable speech during the Christmas lunch**



Our WL members and its board wish to express their gratitude to H. E. Mrs. Leila Solh Hamadeh for her attendance at the Christmas Lunch who took the initiative to sponsor the said event at Bristol Hotel and for the speech she delivered in Arabic and which appears below translated into English. Her speech was centered on the purpose for helping the handicapped students at AUB.

Following is the translated speech:

*[First, I would like to congratulate the Women's League on its 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.*

90 years have passed and during this time parameter the League continuously kept rendering services to our country starting from the period known as Lubnan El-Kabir, independent Lebanon and Lebanon of the present whose interest now is being in the hands of foreign countries.

Now, It is not the time to express one's opinion or one's point of view. It is high time to be at the service of the Lebanese citizen and work hard to his interest which should manifest in his health care as well his educational and social welfare.

The purpose of this meeting manifests in our intention to participate in supporting those handicapped/disabled students who could overcome their sinister health situation and were able to join the university. This great ambition realized by those students should be appreciated by all of us.

Many thanks for your great welcome and reception. I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year and same for our Lebanon.]

## WL 2009 Christmas Lunch in Bristol Hotel

Two hundred people were invited and warmly received on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Of December, 2009. The gathering itself was one the genuine examples of the purpose of the League.

Among the attendees were H.E. Mrs. Leila Solh Hamadeh, Vice-President of Al-Waleed Bin Talal Humanitarian Foundation, Mrs. Kathy Dorman, the wife of the President of A.U.B., The Ambassadors of Pakistan , the wife of the Ambassador of Russia and Kuwait, H.E. Mrs. Georgine Mallat, former Ambassador of Colombia, and friends from Germany, Finland, Italy, Brazil, Sudan, U.S.A. Thus, the presence of so many different nationalities shows a tangible proof of the League's determination to fulfill its purpose of exchanging culture among ladies of different Nationalities.

The gracious gathering at the Christmas Lunch was brought under a cloud of happiness created by Dr. Sami Kawas who is a Family Medicine specialist in the AUB Medical Center, and Mrs. Nicole Rasi for their excellent musical performance; Sami at the keyboard and Nicole singing Christmas carols. Many thanks and appreciation goes to both hoping to see them in the forthcoming events in 2010 year and the years to come.

In the holy event, the ladies enjoyed the tombola and won many valuable prizes; the first one was diamond and pearl earrings and the other were two tickets [Rhodes / Marmites and Egypt].



H.E. Leila Solh surrounded by the WL Board Members



The gathering at Christmas lunch



WL presidents celebrating together



Dr. Sami Kawas and Mrs. Nicole R. Abdulla

## H.E. Mr. Eduardo Augusto De Seixas, Ambassador of Brazil and a glimpse of Brazilian Culture



For the Embassy of Brazil and for me personally, it was a privilege to have collaborated with the members of the Women's League of Lebanon in the framework of a cultural event they called "a Brazilian afternoon", at Issam Fares hall of AUB in November 2007. The initiative, which was undertaken with the full support and encouragement of the board of Directors of the Women's League, allowed us to show the members of this honorable association, and the Lebanese people in general, a glimpse of our culture, through the presentation of pieces of samba, bossa-nova and chorinho, ending with a memorable "grand finale" of carnival.

I wish all the best to the WL and look forward to new joint activities with them in the near future.

**Roberto Medeiros**  
Minister-counselor of Brazil



### December 2009

Damiani Marina     December 1  
Fadia Arnaout     December 8  
Christel bikhazi     December 11

### January 2010

Samia Banna     January 1

### WL news update

A trip to Al-Jiyyeh's historical sight is planned in February 2010 – looking forward to be together.

**Editor of the Bulletin and Liaison**

**Rihab**