



## Lebanese Independence Day 22 November

November 2011

### WL Mission Statement

The WL is an organization of women from different nationalities. Its purpose is to promote a broad acquaintance, to socialize, learn and support one another, and establish social network. Its goal is to secure a yearly scholarship fund for a disabled student

"There is no hope of joy except in human relations."  
Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (1900-1944)

A significant event taking place this month is the celebration of Lebanese Independence Day.

Since November 22nd is approaching and Lebanon will celebrate 68 years of being a republic, we are dedicating our November general meeting to "Lebanese Independence".

Also this month over eighty years back, on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1919 to be precise, the Women's League was officially recognized and every year on the first Monday of November the League celebrates its Founders' Day. The objective of the League was (and still is) to promote acquaintance among women of all nationalities and to maintain a forum with leaders in matters of public importance, civil interest, educational concerns and cultural interest.

Today the League is an active organization which has monthly general meetings on the first Monday of the month from October through May. Every month a speaker is invited to the general meeting to speak about a current issue of interest.

We end the season with an annual Garden Party at Marquand House in early June. At the end of each season the contents of the League's treasury is donated to a needy handicapped student at AUB.

Our faith in the League is growing stronger due to the positive prevailing circumstances at present and therefore we are expected to make greater efforts and show enthusiasm to render noble services to our society.

Also at this time this year we have a very important event namely Eid Al-Adha and on this occasion I present my sincerest wishes for Eid Al-Adha Mobarak to all of you and we should pray that peace and love will prevail in the world. And I also present my sincerest wishes to all Lebanese on the occasion of Lebanese Independence Day.

Salwa Damiani  
President

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Members of the executive board of the Women's League for 2011-2013 with Mrs. Kathy Dorman and Miss F. Hobeika.



Members of the executive board of the Women's League for 2011-2013

**Mrs. Salwa Ghaddar Younes Receives honorary doctorate**

For the first time an Arab lady receives an honorary doctorate in human sciences and business management from the American University of London.

A ceremony took place at the Phoenicia Hotel in Beirut on Saturday 15 October 2011 in the presence of a large number of people which included personalities from the social, cultural, political and the media in addition to the presence of Professor Michael Nimier, President of the American University of London when Mrs. Salwa Ghaddar Younes was presented with an honorary doctorate in human sciences and business management from the American University of London. In his speech Professor Nimier said "it is an honour for us to grant Mrs. Salwa Ghaddar Younes an honorary doctorate in human sciences and business management." The honoring ceremony was followed by a dinner at 8:00 p.m. at the Eau de Vie restaurant at the Phoenicia Hotel during which the Lebanese soprano Graziella Seif sang. Itisalal Company in Dubai, UAE, also participated in the event. As the saying goes behind every great woman there is a great man, but I say "behind every great woman there is a certain person like Salwa Ghaddar Younes."



Professor Michael Nimier, President of the American University of London, presenting Mrs. Salwa Ghaddar Younes with the Honorary doctorate



Mrs. Salwa Ghaddar Younes seated next to Mrs. Alia Solh during the dinner following the ceremony.

## Women's League lecture embraces Lebanon's historical mosaic

"Lebanon's historically colorful past is reflected in its diverse present," said art historian Françoise Hbeyka during an AUB lecture entitled "Lebanon through Some Renowned and Unknown Sites, Gods and Oeuvres" and spoke of Lebanon's historical artifacts at the general meeting held at Bathish Auditorium in West Hall by the Women's League on October 3, 2011.

Hbeyka said that there is a lot of influence from the past on the present and drew her conclusion after analyzing Lebanon's geology, architecture, and ancient religious artifacts. For the archaeologist the landmarks reveal the rich diversity of Lebanon and also attract tourists.

The architectural landmarks such as the façades persisted until the Ottoman Empire and some of their names are still used until today as references to locations surrounding the city: Bab Eddriss, Bab el-Dabbagha, and Bab el-Saray are well-known Beirut neighborhoods.

Hbeyka concluded her talk by saying: "Lebanon is a [cosmopolitan] land, open to all...influences," and added. "It has always been the refuge of the persecuted... all the denominations sought refuge here... thus [forming] a mosaic of...colors."

Rihab Ouri, Program Chair Person

### Trip to Cana

On Tuesday October 11, 2011, Mrs. Leila Haddad, the Trip Chairperson organized her first trip of the year to the town of Cana in the South of Lebanon.

The trip started at 8.00 a.m. with a group of 33 ladies and gentlemen with a first stop for breakfast in the town of Jeyyeh. We then proceeded to Sidon to visit the ancient church of St. Nicholas in the midst of the old souks of Sidon. This Church is composed of two adjacent churches both Greek Orthodox and Greek Catholic with a wall in the middle but only the Orthodox Church is functioning, for the other one is closed. In this Church there is a small hole from where both Saints Peter and Paul 50 years after Christ escaped from the persecution of the Romans.

Then from there to the town of Cana located 10 kilometers southeast of the city of Tyre. In the Gospel of St. John, Jesus is said to have performed his first miracle of turning water into wine at Cana in Galilee. However, a tradition dating back to the 8<sup>th</sup> century identifies Cana with the modern village of Kafr Kanna about 7 kilometers northeast of Nazareth.

First we visited a new Church where they have put in front of it the Statue of the Virgin Mary donated in memory of Mrs. Margo Tayan, the mother-in-law of President Amine Gemayel.

Then we visited the Cave and the rocks where we can see carvings personalizing Jesus and his disciples as well as of the Virgin Mary and also of the wedding which took place at that time, with the basins which were full of water and then into wine by Jesus.

Then we visited the Museum of Moussa Tiba in Salha Quarter in Cana, which is an art gallery of his works and the work of others mostly European Artists and it started in 2002, it is composed of paintings and glass works. It now contains about three hundred art works distributed on the three levels of the building.

After that, it was time for lunch, so we proceeded to the City of Tyre and had a very delicious Fish lunch at Al-Fanar Restaurant of the Salha family just on the sea shore which has a fabulous scenery of the sea and the surroundings.

It was almost seven o'clock when we arrived in Beirut.

Lamia Kawar



Some ladies at the entrance of the grotto in Cana



A view of the lunch table at Al-Fanar Restaurant

**A Recipe submitted by Zeina Arab**  
**Apricot jam and grated coconut cake**

**Ingredients:**

3 cups or glasses of flour  
2 1/2 cups or glasses of sugar  
200 grams of Danish butter (unsalted)  
1 cup or glass of milk with some water  
5 eggs  
3 teaspoons of baking powder  
1 teaspoon of vanilla powder  
Rind of 1 grated lemon  
Some apricot jam and some grated coconut

**Preparation:**

Mix all ingredients. Butter and flour cake pan. Bake in oven for 45 minutes at medium heat.  
Spread apricot jam and grated coconut when cake is cool.

**Announcements**



On Saturday 1 October 2011 the wedding was celebrated of Miss Ascile Khoury, daughter of Mrs. Suad Khoury, the treasurer of the Women's League, to Mr. Samer Barakat-Diab at the Sacré Coeur Church in Badaro. The wedding reception took place at La Posta in Achrafieh. Our hearty congratulations and best wishes to the newly-weds

The speaker for the Women's League general meeting at 4:00 p.m. on November 14, 2011 is Mr. George Ghanem, Director and Manager of LBC News.

The following events will take place at the Lebanese Council of Women Headquarters: 1) a lecture by Mr. Fadi Abi Allam about UN Resolution 1325 at 3:30 on Friday 25 November 2) a round table about the Kyoto Agreement at 3:30 on Wednesday 7 December 2011.

There will be a trip to Anjar on Wednesday 23 November which will leave at 8:30 a.m. from the corner of Al-Khoury Hospital on Abdel Aziz Street. Lunch will be at al-Shams Restaurant, and the fee for this trip is 50.000 L.L.

The annual German Bazaar will take place on Saturday 26 November between 10:00 and 3:00 next to the former German Embassy in Manara Street, Beirut.

The annual Christmas lunch will take place at the Riviera Hotel at 1:00 O'clock on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December. The ticket is for 80.000 L.L. Hurry up ladies and buy your tickets from any executive board member! There will be prizes and a tombola.

**Condolences**

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mr. Khalil Boulos husband of Mrs. Madeleine Boulos.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of a former member of the Women's League Mrs. Dorothy Zahr who died in October.

May their soul rest in peace.