

Presenting . . .

the 1985 Christmas Party



THE CALENDAR SAID DECEMBER 7, but no one peeking inside the Fund building that night would have guessed that it wasn't Christmas. The building was aglow with the decorations of the season, greenery and red bows all over and the ever-present gilded tree standing guard on the steps to the Atrium. And people were everywhere, sharing in the excitement of this once-a-year event--the Fund's Christmas Party, hosted by Mr. and Mrs. de Larosière.

The 1,850 guests who came to the party were greeted with a sumptuous and mouthwatering array of food to please even the most discriminating palates. The amount of food available was impressive, in part because the number of no-shows exceeded the average for the last few years (used to determine food orders). The main buffet featured breast

marinated vegetables. A feast of oysters and clams on the half-shell, a taco bar featuring every possible topping, and an appetizer buffet that included Swedish meatballs, egg rolls, fried chicken drumettes, and fried mozzarella sticks completed the menu for the evening. The myriad choices available did not pose a problem for diners, many of whom sampled each and every one of the delicacies offered. This was obvious from the amounts of food consumed: 10,000 oysters and clams, one half ton of rice, three quarters ton of chicken, 700 pounds of beef, 3,500 tacos, and 10,000 hot hors d'oeuvres. And topping off the dinner was one of the most sublime desserts ever: a melt-in-your-mouth chocolate mousse cake that had to be the hit of the party judging from the quantities consumed (170 cakes, or about



The Atrium echoed with the sounds of joyous dancers and diners during the Fund Christmas Party.

of chicken tarragon, steak teriyaki, rice pilaf with pine nuts, and a continental salad consisting of delectable

540,000 calories' worth. The meal was complemented with a white Pouilly Fuisse and a red Médoc. Those that did not

want alcoholic beverages had a choice of soft drinks or non-alcoholic sparkling cider.

Guests wanting to make sure that the food would not translate into unwanted pounds were able to work off the calories on the dance floor. And work them off they did, either by dancing the cumbia in the Meeting Hall to the sounds of Julio Arias and his orchestra, boogeying to the disco beat of the Sound Service in the Cafeteria, or gliding to the more sedate music of the William Graves Orchestra in the Interior Court.

The Julio Arias group, which is new to Fund Christmas parties, was selected by a staff committee set up to search for a new Latin band. A similar committee will form soon to investigate other musical groups for future parties. Staff members interested in being part of this committee should get in touch with Kathy DeBoe (at Ext. 7099) by early March.

Putting on such a complex affair takes the organizational efforts of many individuals. James Kaiser of the Administration Department was again in charge of the overall coordination, and this year he was assisted by some first-timers. Kathy DeBoe of Service and Supply, who took over for--and was trained by--Margaret Miller, was in charge of organizing the catering and music. And Elena Polyak of Staff Relations replaced Rosemary Eory (who still helped) as the person responsible for handling the issuance of tickets and announcements. Among the old-timers involved were Service and Supply's Awad Osman and Harold White, who coordinated the physical arrangements, and John Wharen, who was in charge of the sound systems.

The collages on the front page and on pages 6 and 7 were designed by Susan Harrison and feature photographs by Denio Zara.

=====

EXCITEMENT AND EXPECTATIONS were at a peak on November 27, with staff members standing elbow-to-elbow in the Atrium, holding tightly to their tickets, and hoping that their name would be the next one called out. This scene was repeated twenty times during the United Way Campaign's raffle as the prizes in Groups II and III were drawn. And finally it was time to pick the first prize winner. The tension was almost unbearable as United Way Campaign official Philip Sturman bent over the box containing the stubs and picked out the winning number: 0397.

To Peter Heller, holder of the first prize ticket, this was "an extremely exciting moment." For someone who has never won a raffle, he says, winning two first-class tickets to Frankfurt was thrilling. What makes it all the more exciting, Mr. Heller adds, is that he has never been to Germany. He is thinking of not only going to Frankfurt but also visiting Munich, and may even venture on to Prague. Mr. Heller is



Peter Heller redeems his first-prize winnings.

especially looking forward to seeing some of the ancient castles scattered about the German countryside. The other

items he won are also very useful, Mr. Heller adds. He has already spent part of the travel gift certificate, is perusing the book on Germany, and is planning to make good use of the linguaphone language course. He admits that his luck caused some harmless jealousy among some of the relatives he visited over Thanksgiving, who contended that it was "totally unfair" that he won (especially because his work in FAD means frequent traveling on Fund missions).

The second prize, two tickets to any U.S. destination flown by Eastern Airlines plus two nights at a motel in Tampa, went to Janos Somogy of EUR. His wife is particularly excited about their good luck, especially since she almost never accompanies him on any of his Fund trips. And the timing is perfect. Mr. Somogy explains that they were planning to drive to Florida in their camper early in 1986. The free motel accommodations will thus come in very handy. Mr. Somogy says he plans to use the airline tickets to satisfy a long-held wish: going to the Mohave desert to practice his hobby of photography.



Graeme F. Rea hands Master of Ceremonies Judy Gruber a prize-winning number.

For Susan Lichtig, winning a trip to Rio de Janeiro has had some unexpected and welcome side benefits. A contractual employee who came to the Fund on November 4 to work in BCS, Ms. Lichtig

has found that her good fortune has helped her become acquainted with a large number of staff members. "It's a good way to meet Fund people fast," she says. "Everybody wants to go with me," Ms. Lichtig explains smiling.

Another trip abroad went to Dory Flickenschild, whose prize of an airline ticket to Geneva made a great Christmas present for her husband Hans, who works in WHD. For her, winning came as no surprise, however. "I felt lucky when I left the house that morning," she says. "I was so confident about winning," Mrs. Flickenschild maintains, that I even told the woman standing next to me that my name was going to be called for one of the Group I prizes." But premonition or not, Mrs. Flickenschild, who works in TRE, says she was extremely happy and thrilled at having won her prize.

"Congratulations. Just the one you wanted" was how Maxine Stough of EXR found out that she had won a trip to London. Coming back from an out-of-town visit over Thanksgiving, Ms. Stough was pleasantly shocked at her good fortune. "I still don't believe it," she says. The reality of winning is slowly starting to sink in, however, and she has begun to make a list of the things she wants to do in London. Among her plans are to do some shopping, sightseeing, and to go to a show every night. "I've never been to England though I've visited Europe dozens of times," Ms. Stough says. "And England is required reading," she adds excitedly.

Other winners in the United Way Campaign raffle were:

GROUP I

Ticket to Bangkok	C. David Finch
Oil painting	Jean Boyd
Watergate weekend	Laszlo Garamfalvi
New York weekend	Peter Clark
Philadelphia weekend	James Wein

GROUP II

PC software, stand	Patricia Newton
Windsor weekend	Marlene Astier

Heritage/History weekend	Christine Gilbert
Lithograph/others	Donal Donovan
Guest Quarters Hotel weekend	Blair Rourke
Canon Camera/others	Pamela Witcher
Books/dinner	Lindsay Wolfe
Charlottesville over-night stay	Ian McDonald
Linguaphone/others	Vicky Swenson
Lithograph/wine	Mamoe Htun

GROUP III

Dinner/limousine	Jill Gonella
Georgetown hotel/lunch	Charles Gardner
Nautilus membership	David Cutler

Tennis racket	Margaret Kelly
Watercolor/theater	Donald Templeman
Facial, choker	Enrico Martini
Clothing/gift certificates	S.J. Anjaria
Small appliances	Emine Gurgun
Aerobic classes/running shoes	Taher Dajani
Gift certificate/lunch	Betty Huang
Dinner at Hakim	Janet Bungay
Toiletries/hair services	M. Clara da Silva
Instamatic camera	Meredith Reynolds
Books, magazines, gift certificate	Carl P. Blackwell
Dinner for two/cocktails	Gloria Fleming
Dinner for two/cocktails	Bob Traa
Dinner for two	Jonathan Levin
Dinner for two	Paul Chabrier
Dinner for two	Marcela Toso

AN OLD FRIEND OF THE FUND, Abdel-Moneim El-Kaissouni, was honored on December 20 at a luncheon hosted by A. Shakour Shaa-lan, Director of the Middle Eastern Department. Mr. El-Kaissouni worked at the Fund from 1946 until 1950, when he left to join the Central Bank of Egypt. He stayed at the Bank for many years until being appointed Minister of Finance of Egypt under President Nasser. From 1976 until 1978, Mr. El-Kaissouni was Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs under President Sadat.

The luncheon given in his honor brought together many of Mr. El-Kaissouni's old friends at the Fund. Among them were Messrs. Lieftinck, Polak, Goode, Mladek, Rose, as well as Mr. and Mrs. Del Canto, Mr. and Mrs. Horne, Mr. and Mrs. Robichek, and Mr. and Mrs. Gunter. The Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt in the United States, S. Abdel-Raouf El-Reedy, was also present, as were Mr. El-Kaissouni's wife, daughter, and son-in law.



Mr. El-Kaissouni (center) at the luncheon held in his honor. He is flanked by Messrs. Polak (left) and Shaalan (right).





THE 1985 CHRISTMAS CONCERTS represented a milestone for the Bank/Fund Choral Society. For the first time in its 20-year history, the Choir was accompanied by its own orchestra, which made its debut this season. The newly formed orchestra is composed of instrumentalists from the Fund and Bank staff as well as outside volunteers, including members of the U.S. Army Band. Since the music selected for the Christmas concerts required a full 30-piece orchestra, the regular members were joined by instrumentalists from the Catholic University of America Symphony Orchestra. Norma Kraunshaar of the Bank was the person responsible for bringing together all the musicians who form the Bank/Fund Orchestra. She hopes that as word of its existence spreads, even more instrumentalists from the Fund and the Bank, as well as from local groups, will become members.



The Bank/Fund Choral Society now boasts an orchestra.

The music for the 1985 concerts was "The Many Moods of Christmas," which included four suites of four or five Christmas songs from different countries. The Choir's music director, Neville Ottley, was originally scheduled to conduct the performance. But some suspense was introduced into that plan because Mrs. Ottley's baby was due to be born in the same week as the concerts.

Finally, it became an "either/or" situation, and the baby won. Fortunately, Mrs. Ottley was able to arrange for Michael Morgan—a well-known figure in the music world who currently conducts the Catholic University of America Symphony Orchestra—to take over.



The performance at the Fund drew a large audience.

The performances at the Bank and Fund on December 10 and 11, respectively, were a resounding success. (Staff members that were unable to attend the performances will soon be able to purchase cassette recordings of the concerts at a nominal price.) This year the Fund and Bank concerts were followed by two additional performances. In the spirit of Christmas, the members of the Choral Society decided to hold a special concert at Children's Hospital. This performance was not only attended by many young patients, but was also videotaped so that those who could not attend would be able to view it later. And a few days later the Choir members headed for the Grand Foyer of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, where they joined selected local music groups in performing at the Center's Holiday Festival.

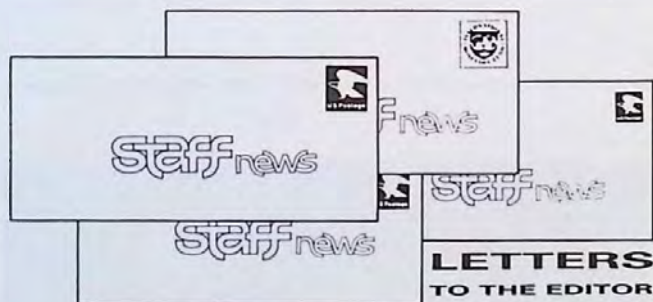
The Choir has grown greatly since its establishment by Charles Merwin—a

retiree who is still one of the Choir's stalwart bass voices. At the beginning the Choir was small and consisted mostly of Fund staff. But Bank staff soon joined in, and after a few years their membership had increased so much that the name of the Choir was changed to the Bank/Fund Choral Society. The group now includes 88 singers--34 sopranos, 27 altos, 13 tenors, 5 baritones, and 9 basses. And the Choir's repertoire has expanded and become increasingly challenging as well. This is primarily due to the efforts of Mrs. Ottley, who constantly encourages Choir members to try their hand at different styles of music, including lesser-known classical pieces and popular tunes. The new performing style of the Choir became particularly evident to staff members during the Easter concert. This performance, aptly named "That's Entertainment," included pieces from musicals, movies, television, and popular music. And for the first time, the Choir "got into the act" by moving in tune to the music. Judging by the enthusiastic response of the

audience, this type of show was well-received and will likely be repeated.

Many Choir members contribute their special musical talents and experience to the Choir. Shirley Scribner, for example, is the pianist and accompanies Choir members at both their regular Tuesday lunchtime practice sessions and at the concert performances. The soprano section leader, Tiajuana Rountree of the Bank, also brings to the Choir her special expertise, which includes a degree in music education from UDC and many distinguished soloist performances. Of course, musical skills are not the only talents contributed by Choir members. The administration of the Choir requires two volunteer chairpersons (Geoffrey Gowen from the Bank and Paul McClellan from the Fund), a Treasurer, Secretary, Manager, and Publicity Directors, as well other volunteers.

Staff members interested in joining the Bank/Fund Choral Society--as singers or instrumentalists--should contact either co-chairman. [This article was written by Mr. McClellan.]



To the Editor:

I have a number of points to make in regard to the BRWC Chairman's letter about the dog ban published in the July-August issue of *Staff News*.

First, he states that only four BWRC members protested the ban on dogs and he thinks this implies that the "ban on dogs has the approval of the overwhelm-

ing majority of members." It's true that only four members wrote letters protesting the ban, but does not writing a letter imply one approves of the ban? Since the ban was never presented to BWRC members for a vote, who knows how many more would have protested? Therefore, what is the basis for assuming that the ban has the approval of the overwhelming majority of members?

Second, the Chairman's concern about the virulent outbreak of rabies in Montgomery County has nothing to do with dogs. All Washington area jurisdictions require dogs to be vaccinated against rabies. Therefore, the threat of rabies still exists since wild animals like raccoons and squirrels have not yet been excluded from Bretton Woods.

Third, the argument about the leash law is irrelevant; dogs have always been

required to be on a leash at the Center.

Fourth, he mentions that young children use the Center. The Chairman neglects to say, however, what this has to do with dogs. Perhaps because that would raise the same concerns about young children that might apply to dogs. For example, Mr. Telley points out in his letter (July-August *Staff News*) some of the problems caused by young children at BWRC. Also, what about the impact of young children on adults who use the club? I've been disturbed numerous times while playing tennis by children running across the courts, screaming babies, and children yelling at one another. Should children then also be banned from Bretton Woods?

Finally, the argument about dogs be-

ing banished from other recreational areas like beaches is a sweeping generality. I live across the street from a large park which I would define as a recreational area since it has tennis courts, bicycle and jogging trails, and softball fields. Dogs are allowed in this park and, in addition, there is a large reserved area where they are free to run unleashed. Also, dogs are allowed in specially designated areas of most beaches.

The BWRC Chairman's arguments are unconvincing when they are analyzed carefully. Are there any stronger arguments for the complete and unconditional ban?

Michael Minges

To our readers:

If you have questions that you would like answered, or opinions that you feel may be shared by other staff members, please send them in to us and we will publish them in this column.

As a matter of editorial policy, we request that all letters be signed, so that we may verify their legitimacy. In those few cases in which the writer asks

for anonymity, we will not publish the writer's name without permission. However, if we feel that the opinions expressed in the letter call for a signature, we will advise the writer and give him or her the final word on whether the letter will be published.

Liliana Fidel Hamilton
Editor, *Staff News*,
Room 10-548, Ext. 8589

=====

THE OUTSTANDING WORK of four staff members attached to the Annual Meetings Secretariat received its just award. Robert S. Callis, Erik Friis, Armando Vaccari, and John D. Wharen were honored by the Blue House Security Force of Korea for their help in ensuring that everything ran smoothly during the meetings and that no security mishaps took place. The award is a crystal ornament emblazoned with the insignia of the Blue House (which is the Korean equivalent of the White House here). It was presented during a luncheon hosted by the Director General of the Presidential Security Force of the Republic of Korea at the end of the meetings.



An award for a job well done.

VAN POOL DIRECTORY

<u>Area Served</u>	<u>Arrival(a.m.)/Departure(p.m.)</u>	<u>Remarks/Contacts</u>
Bethesda, Md. (Montgomery Mall)	8:25/5:10	Permanent seats available. Call Mr. Rivera Ext. 74689.
Columbia, Md.	8:25/5:15	Now forming. From Owen Brown/Rte. 29 to BW Parkway. Call Mr. Alloy, Ext. 60084.
Falls Church, Va. (Loehman's Plaza)	8:45/5:35	Now forming. Uses Rts. 50 to 66. Call Ms. Ferreira-Snowden, Ext. 75445
Potomac/Bethesda	8:55/5:45	Spot seats. Bradley Blvd./Seven Locks/River Rd. Call Mr. McMullen, Ext. 75374.
Reston, Va. (Hunter Woods)	8:45/5:35	Spot Seats. Via Dulles Toll Rd. Call Ms. Gormont, Ext. 74598.
Springfield, Va.	8:50/5:40	Permanent seats. From Backlick and Old Keene Mill Rds. Call Mrs. Aguirre, Ext. 76347.
Springfield, Va.	8:45/5:35	Spot seats available. Braddock Road to Columbia Pike. Call Ms. Sy, Ext. 78832.
Vienna, Va.	8:55/5:35	Wolf Trap Barn via Lewinsville Rd./Rte.7. Call Mr. McFayden, Ext. 60568.
White Oak/ Adelphi, Md.	8:50/5:40	Spot seats available. Call Mr. Weng-Leong, Ext. 72847.

NOTICE: The van pool arrangements have been updated to permit greater flexibility for both users and drivers and to encourage increased ridership.

The new guidelines for van pooling permit staff members to buy or lease 8-passenger vans instead of the previously

required 15-passenger vans. These smaller vehicles are easier to handle, more economical, and more suitable for personal use after work.

If you are interested in forming a van pool, please contact Jim Edmonds of the World Bank, Room A-120, Ext. 573411.

New Members of the Fund Staff



Axel Bertuch-Samuels
OED - Germany



François P. Gianviti
LEG - France



Alain Ize
FAD - Mexico



Mary Ellen Jones
ADM - U.S.A.



Erik F. Nielsen
EUR - Denmark



Jeannette Orejuela
AFD - Canada



Marta Susana Otero
WHD - Bolivia



Sigurd Simonsen
OED - Norway



Harm A. Snoek
CBD - Netherlands



George S. Tavlas
EUR - U.S.A.

TWENTY-FIVE YEAR STAFF. Azizali F. Mohammed of EXR commemorated 25 years of service with the Fund in November.

TWENTY-YEAR STAFF. The following staff members commemorated 20 years of service: in August, Olav C.A. Snellingen of LEG; in September, James Minor of ADM.

BIRTHS. A daughter, Ashira Beth, was born on October 17 to Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Greene; and a son, Omar, was born on November 1 to Mr. and Mrs. Abdelali Tazi.

RETIREES. Conrad E. Hunter of AFR retired in August and Margaret L. Knudsen of SEC retired in October.

DEATH OF RETIREES. Lena S. Blankin, who retired from ETR in 1967, died on November 17; and D.S. Savkar, who retired from ASD in 1972, died on September 26.

RESIGNATIONS. The following staff resigned in October: Ellen Bell, Patrick Clawson, Stephen Collins; Alimata Kone Diaby, Richard Eglin, Christian Flamant, Jose Saul Lizondo, Enok Olsen, Viktor Sertic, Masaru Tanaka. In November: Kevin Lewis and A.A. Scholten.

STAFF TRANSFERS. The following staff members transferred in October: Ivan A. Bello, from SG, Resident Representatives and Advisors to INST; Robert G. Di Calogero, from ASD to BUR; Nancy L. Happe, from SG, Resident Representatives and Advisors to EUR; Kathleen E. Cullinane, from OED to Office in Geneva; and Margaret Ann Wallace, from ADM to SEC. In November: Leif Hansen, from EUR to ETR; Joseph G. Keyes, from ADM to SG, Resident Representatives and Advisors; Anne Kenny McGuirk, from RES to ASD; Kanitta M. Meesook, from ETR to BUR; and Hilary M. Boardman, from ADM to OMD.

Photo credits: page 12, Bob Townsend. All other pictures are by Denio Zara. 2.

**Staff
news**

Published by the
Current Publications Division
of the External Relations Department
International Monetary Fund
Washington, D.C. 20431