



Also in this issue:

- \*Global Professional Programs \*
- \* Farewell to Florence Beretta \*

# Treasures of the Caribbean

Mark your calendars for the party of the year, when International House marks its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the annual Gala on Saturday, October 27, 2001 at the Hilton Charlotte & Towers. Plans are well underway for "Treasures of the Caribbean," an event celebrating the enrichment and contributions of multiculturalism in a region where British, Dutch, French, African, American, Portuguese and Spanish cultures individually and collectively create a rich tapestry of cultural diversity. Escape to the islands with International House for an splendid evening of Caribbean celebration with authentic cuisine and entertainment, silent and live auctions and dancing to "Deja Vu". Reservations are \$125 per person for the black-tie optional event. For sponsorship opportunities, please contact International House at (704) 333-8099.

## Welcome to the Caribbean

The Caribbean, often referred to as the West Indies, is an archipelago between North and South America, curving c. 2,500 miles from Florida to the coast of Venezuela and separating the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico from the Atlantic Ocean. The islands that comprise the

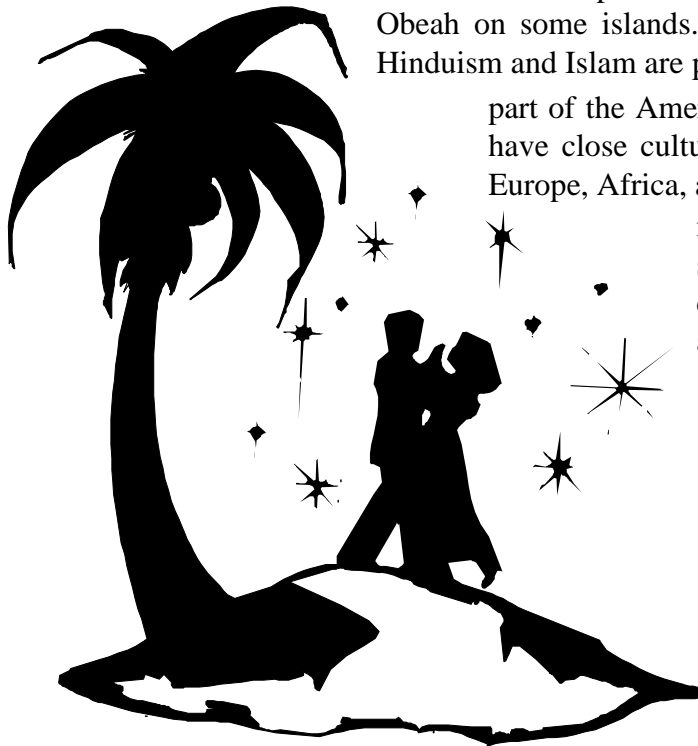
Caribbean have ties to various countries, such as Great Britain, the Netherlands, France, the United States, and Venezuela. Many of the islands are mountainous, and some have partly active volcanoes. Hurricanes occur frequently, but the warm climate and the

clear tropical seas make it a popular resort area. Some 34 million people live on the islands. Languages spoken include Spanish, French, English, Creole,

Dutch, Hindi, and Urdu. Religious practices reflect the diverse heritage of the region, with Roman Catholicism dominating in some areas and Protestant denominations, especially Anglican, dominating in others. African religious influences are seen in the practice of Voodoo, Santería, and Obeah on some islands. On Trinidad and Tobago, Hinduism and Islam are practiced. Geographically a

part of the Americas, the Caribbean islands have close cultural and historical ties with Europe, Africa, and Asia. No other region

in the Americas exhibits such a diverse range of cultural patterns and social and political institutions.



**Don't miss your opportunity to experience all that the Caribbean has to offer. Join us on October 27, 2001 as we celebrate "Treasures of the Caribbean"**

Parts of this article were taken from Encarta, encyclopedia.com, and the World Book Encyclopedia (internet version).

# LANGUAGE CONVERSATION HOURS

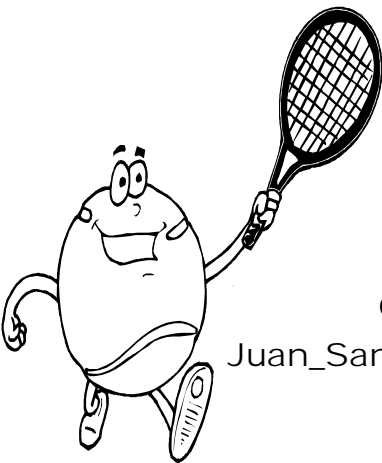
Please join us for weekly, informal conversation time and cultural exchange in various languages:

<b>ENGLISH</b>	Tuesdays	7:00-8:00 pm
	Fridays	12:00-1:00 pm
<b>FRENCH</b>	Tuesdays	12:00-1:00 pm
	Wednesdays	7:00-8:00 pm
<b>GERMAN</b>	Tuesdays	7:30-8:30 pm
<b>ITALIAN</b>	Thursdays	7:00-8:00 pm
<b>JAPANESE</b>	Wednesdays	7:00-8:00 pm
<b>RUSSIAN</b>	Tuesdays	1:00-2:00 pm
<b>SPANISH</b>	Wednesdays	12:00-1:00 pm
	Thursdays	7:00-8:00 pm

Some interest has been shown in resuming our Mandarin Chinese and Portuguese language conversation hours and in starting a Catalan-Provencal language conversation hour. If you are interested in any of the above listed conversation hours, or if you are interested in starting a conversation hour in a language that is not listed, please contact Sheila Bennett at 704-333-8099 x 18.

## Amateur Davis Cup Tennis Tournament

International House will be holding its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual tennis tournament at Olde Providence Racquet Club in September. Players of levels 3.5 and above are invited to participate.



For more info about playing, volunteering, or sponsoring, please call Juan Sandoval at 704-551-4825

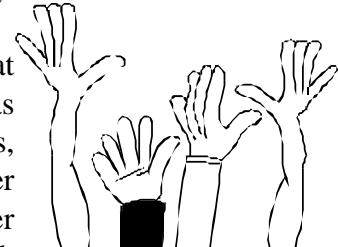
Or email :

Juan\_Sandoval@prusec.com

## International House Bids Farewell I to Florence Beretta

On June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2001, International House bid a fond farewell to the Director of Charlotte's Council for International Visitors, Florence Beretta. Florence has been diligently working for International House for over 6 years.

During her time at International House, she has held a variety of positions, including Office Manager and Administrative Manager of Programs. Her hard work and dedication have been a significant contribution to International House.



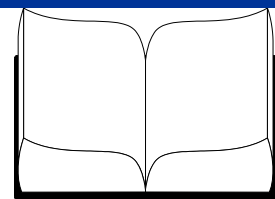
*Goodbye and Good luck*

Florence is leaving IH to pursue opportunities in Seattle, Washington. "Working at International House these last 6 ½ years has been a priceless experience; one difficult to put into words. I think that being able to get up every morning and look forward to going to work on something you not only enjoy but fully believe in is rare. I feel fortunate to have been a part of this staff and this organization and will greatly miss it," said Florence. We wish Florence good luck in her future endeavors and pay a special thanks to her for all she has done.

## Door ways

On **Wednesday, July 11**, Doorways will meet at the home of Bonnie Rindner. All international and American women are welcome. Please mark this date on your calendar and call Sheila Bennett at 704-333-8099 x 18 for details.

## Door ways Book Club



Doorways Book Club will resume meeting in September at International House.

*Creating Community with a Global Vision*

# GLOBAL PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

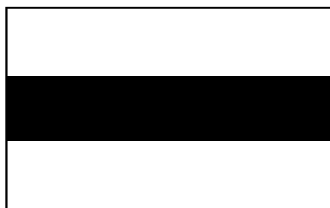
## , Avoir, Sayonara and Ciao, Florence!

Florence Beretta, Director of Charlotte's Council for International Visitors will be moving to Seattle, Washington, later this summer! Under Florence's direction, CCIV has become one of the most visible programs at International House. We will miss you, Flo!

### Global Professional Programs to Reorganize

Lorne Lassiter, Director of the State Department-funded *Community Connections* project since 1994, will become the new Director of International House's *Global Professional Programs* (GPP) division. GPP will continue to develop and administer both the *Community Connections* program and the *CCIV* programs. Additionally, GPP will seek fee-for-service opportunities in the international sphere, both in Charlotte and through grants. Ludmila Van Dreel will remain a Program Office with GPP. GPP will be hiring an additional Program Officer later in the summer. For more information, call Lorne or Ludmila at 704-342-2247.

### Belarus Delegation Arrives in July



BELARUS

Ten non-profit directors from Minsk and Gomel, Belarus, will arrive on July 10 for a three-week training program funded by the US Department of State, Office of Citizen Exchanges, and administered under the *Community Connections* program. As part of their training in "non-profit management," they will be meeting with their counterparts at the Boy Scouts, Kids Vote, Partners in Accessible Living, and Camp Thunderbird, among others.

Cultural programming will include "Those Crazy American Ways," with Dr. Gary Ferraro of UNC Charlotte, "Understanding Government" with Assistant City Manager Julie Burch, "Strength in Diversity" and "A History of Civil Rights" with Charlotte/Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee Executive Director, Willie Ratchford. To participate in this program, call Lorne or Ludmila at 704-342-2247.

### GPP Welcomes Trish Golembe

Long-time (16 years!) volunteer par excellence, Trish Golembe, has joined our staff as a Program Assistant. Trish will be in the office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Call her at 704-342-2248 to say "hello" and "welcome."



### Upcoming Charlotte CIV Visitors

Some of the international visitors scheduled this summer\*:

Germany (1)	June 28 - July 1	Entrepreneurship and Investment Strategies
Bosnia (6)	July 22 - 25	NGOs (non-governmental organizations) in the U.S.

\*We will be hosting additional visitors throughout the summer. For updates, log on to the calendar page on our website at [www.ihclt.org](http://www.ihclt.org)

Charlotte's CIV facilitates the exchange of future foreign leaders into the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area to experience local business and community resources first hand. CCIV is looking for community volunteers to take the visitors shopping, sightseeing, to a game, etc., home hospitality volunteers to host visitors for a meal in their home, and professional resources to meet with visitors to discuss their field. For more information, please call Lorne Lassiter or Ludmila Van Dreel at 704-342-2248/7. Thank you for your support!

**Creating Community with a Global Vision**

There are still a few spaces left in our summer Spanish camps! Children have the opportunity to explore Spanish language and culture through arts and crafts, music, storytelling, and food. The camps are taught by a native speaker who will immerse campers the Spanish language. While the experience is certainly an educational one, the focus will be on fun! Call Amy at 704-333-8099 ext. # 19 for more information.

<b>July 9-13</b>	<b>Ages:</b> 3-5 years	<b>Time:</b> 9:30 am- noon	<b>Cost:</b> \$135.00
<b>July 23-27</b>	<b>Ages:</b> 5 ½ -8 years	<b>Time:</b> 9am- noon	<b>Cost:</b> \$140.00

Community Bulletin Board

**August 4, 2001-** The Japanese Association of Charlotte announces the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Japanese Dance Festival, **Bon Odori**. Come out and see Japanese Drum performance and participate in Japanese Dance from 1-4 pm at the Two First Union Plaza Atrium. For more information please call 704-333-2775

**Save the Date!** -- This year's 12th Annual International House Gala will be Saturday, October 27th, 2001. Be sure to mark your calendars!

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Your membership welcomes the world to Charlotte

International House depends almost entirely on private donations to fund its programs and services. Your contribution means a great deal. **Your membership expiration date is on the mailing label next to your name.**

Yes, I want to help. Enclosed is my membership fee for \$\_\_\_\_\_

International House's annual individual membership begins at \$25. For more information, please call 333-8099.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Creating community with a global vision

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