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## ACI BOARD 2012-2013

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# The new ACI Board : strong through Diversity!

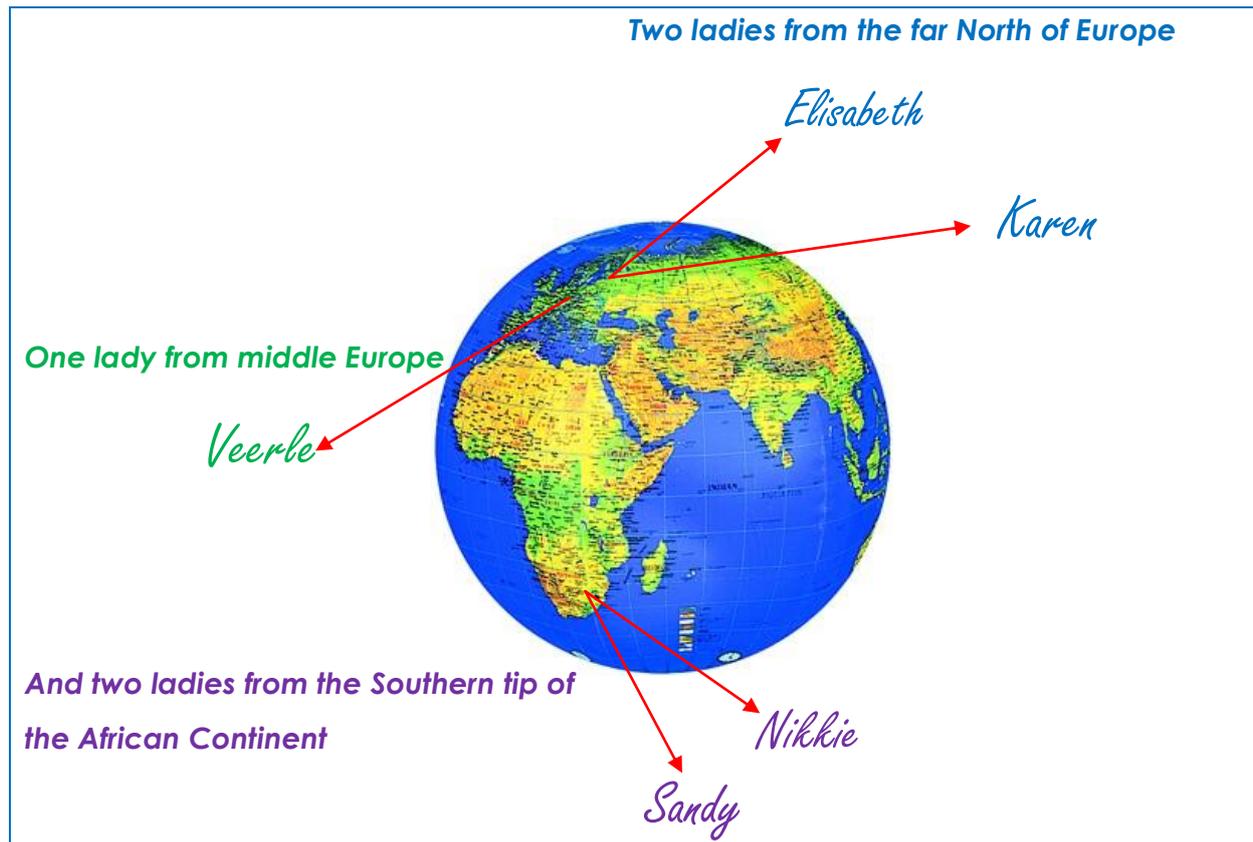


Indeed, our Agora Club International Board 2012-2013  
proves it stands by this year's motto :

*“Stronger through diversity”*

*Why ...?*

**Because of the diversity in language, culture, countries even continents within the ACI Board ! What an interesting mix!**



Dear Agora friends, dear friends of Agora,

Indeed, there is an interesting diversity in our ACI board : Elisabeth and Karen live in North Germany and are very active members of Tangent Club Germany. Sandy and Nikkie live in South Africa and are very active members of Agora Club. I am an Agora member in heart and soul, living in Belgium and thus keeping the balance between North and South level ☺

On the international AGM of Agora Club International in Lübeck –Germany, beginning of October 2012, I informed the participants of this year's motto :  
**“Stronger Through Diversity”.**

***Diversity is not about how we differ. Diversity is about how we respect each other's uniqueness.***

May this be the spirit of Agora worldwide this year, and the years to come!

Warm Agora greetings, *Veerle*

- Surf around on the updated ACI website, where you will find the explanation of my motto, links, the calendar 2012-2013, reports and many new pictures ! [www.agoraclubinternational.com](http://www.agoraclubinternational.com)
- And now it is time for some introductions ....

# The Agora Club International Board 2012-2013



## *Veerle, ACI President*

Dear friends,

After having been a past Circler in Belgium for a few years, I founded Agora Club in my hometown Lokeren in 2008, in the North-West of Belgium. Ever since my very early steps in clublife in 1994, I have enjoyed the many encounters with likeminded women, on local, national and later international level.

I can always count on a great team at home. My husband Dirk, daughter Tara and sons Steven and Mattias have always supported me through thick and thin, when I tried to combine LCI and now ACI with my family and my full time job as interior architect.

I am very much looking forward to this year, which I do not see as an individual effort: It will be a group effort with my board and with you, for you, next to you and for Agora Club International!

## *Sandy, Vice President*

My husband Vaughan and I live in the far Northern part of South Africa, in the beautiful little town of Louis Trichardt, Limpopo Province. We have two children. Our daughter Ashleigh, 23 yrs, works as a strategist for a Branding Agency, and our son Sean 21yrs, is currently studying at the University of Pretoria.

Vaughan and I have been actively involved in service organizations for 26 years. We joined Round table in 1986, and have not looked back! Having circled for 11 years, I am now a proud member of AGORA.

Family and friends are very important to me, and serving my community is a way of life. Meeting like minded people from all over the world is something I cherish.

I am so privileged to be part of the International Board and trust I will do AGORA proud.



## *Karen, Secretary*



Dear ladies,

For the second year I am your international Secretary.

I was a member of Ladies' Circle Germany for 13 years and started my membership in Tangent Germany in 2009. From the beginning service as well as the national and international friendship has been very important for me.

Together with my husband I live in Walsrode, the city with the world's biggest birdpark, in the North of Germany.

Our 2 daughters and one grandson live in Spain, our 3 sons live all over Germany.

At work I am busy with the management of a small surgical day clinic, which focuses on ambulant operations. I started my professional career as a physiotherapist.

My hobbies besides Agora are travelling, languages, windsurfing, skiing, cycling, gardening, and cooking. I like to relax with a good cup of black tea or a glass of red wine.

## *Nikkie, Treasurer:*

I live with my partner Keith, on the warm and wonderful African continent - in the southern hemisphere in Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa.

I have two wonderful daughters and two beautiful little granddaughters, Amy and Ryley Mae who celebrated her first birthday whilst we were having our AGM in Lübeck !

I am an avid reader and have just graduated to the e-reader – Kindle! Can't wait to start reading lots of books on it.

Looking forward to communicating with you all over the next two years and enjoying the amazing friendships!



## *Elisabeth, Immediate Past President*



**Dear Friends!**

Having finished at the gala evening in Lübeck my presidential year with so many wonderful experiences and impressions, I now start a more relaxing time within the Board; knowing all Agora concerns in the best reliable hands and well prepared for the future!

Privately my "big" family: husband Bernd, daughter Christine (31) & her husband Arno, son Marc (29) & his wife Nele with their two children Merle and Till, *both our sunshine*, I and add. Bernd's whole family live all close by in a small village in the north of Germany.

Bernd & I started our own business in telecommunication nearly 32 years ago and we are still happy with our family and work.

I like skiing, sunny beaches, reading crimes, travelling and the liveliness of circling & tabling with friends round the world.

**"Building Bridges" and my warmest regards, Elisabeth** 🌿🌿