



newsletter

YEAREND 2012 | ISSUE 8

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CONNECT

LIFE Annual Gala Dinner

The LIFE Annual Gala Dinner was held on September 26th at the Banqueting House in London, gathering more than 350 LIFE members and friends.

LIFE Chairman, Paul Raphael as well as LIFE Gala Committee chair and Board member, Spiro Youakim, gave insightful speeches about LIFE and our achievements to date.

The keynote speaker, Senator George Mitchell, delivered an emotional speech about his family and his Lebanese roots followed by a Q&A session where he discussed his interesting journey from his childhood to becoming U.S. Senate majority leader, including his critical role in the successful peace process in Northern Ireland and most recently as President Obama's U.S. Special Envoy to

the Middle East.

Last but not least, Edward Rising from Sotheby's led the live auction which, together with the silent auction and individual donations, helped us raise over \$1,100,000 for LIFE Generation, the charity arm of LIFE. These funds have been entirely directed towards supporting qualified Lebanese students in their academic paths.

LIFE Paris



The Paris Committee adopted a new themed format for its Mix and Drinks on Tuesday

October 23rd at Hotel Napoleon with Charles Simon-Thomas, Nurture Committee Chairman, as main speaker. Charles discussed the different fields that are currently recruiting, while Wahid Chammas, Nurture Committee member, provided insights on the asset management industry, specifically focusing on the importance of value creation and Xavier Atieh, Partner at Lazard, who gave an outlook on M&A in the Gulf.

More than 40 LIFE members attended the event, mostly junior members. The interaction between junior and senior members was greatly appreciated by all attendees.

On December 10th, the Paris Committee organized a dinner-debate on Lebanon's

multiculturalism and the collective cultural identities. 35 members and friends of LIFE attended the event which was moderated by Mr. Bahjat Rizk, professor, lawyer and cultural attaché at UNESCO.

LIFE London



The Nurture and Connect Committees jointly organized a junior event on November 21st at the Lansdowne club.

Spiro Youakim, Wahid Chammas, Michel Massoud and Mouhammed Choukeir led a discussion panel which covered the current situation of financial institutions and the challenges in finding a job or

managing to keep one's job. The panel discussion was followed by a Q&A session with the 35 junior members in attendance.

Paul Raphael and his wife Kathryn kindly hosted for the third time a Holiday Season Open House at their residence in London on December 7th. More than 100 members and friends of LIFE attended the event and mingled in a warm and homely atmosphere.

LIFE Dubai

The Dubai Committee hosted a luncheon with Mr. Iyad Malas, CEO of Majid Al Futtaim Group, on November 25th at the Capital Group. More than 25 members and friends of LIFE attended the discussion around "Family Businesses: A Case Study

in the Retail Industry".

LIFE Singapore

In anticipation of its launch in Singapore, LIFE held a private dinner on Friday November 30th at OSO Ristorante. Senior and junior members of the financial community attended the dinner and expressed their interest in having a local committee and becoming active members. LIFE's team looks forward to launching its first committee in Asia!

LIFE Geneva

The Geneva Committee organized its Holiday Drinks on December 10th at the home of Ziad Tabet. More than 45 members and friends of LIFE attended the event which gave them the chance to network in an informal setting.

NURTURE

Students' Selection

The Nurture Committee is currently finalizing the process of selecting new LIFE scholars for the academic year 2012-2013.

Students' Awareness



Together with the Connect Committee, the Nurture Committee has initiated an awareness

campaign in Lebanese universities and schools which will be completed in 2013.

The first LIFE scholarship awareness



presentations took place at the Olayan Business School – AUB and at Balamand University – Koura on December 20th.

Over 60 students attended each of the presentations where Henri Chaoul, Chief Investment Officer at AlKhabeer Capital (Saudi Arabia) and Nurture Committee member, along with Spiro Youakim, Partner at Lazard, Head of Natural Resources Investment Banking and Advisory Practice, LIFE Board member and Chairman of the Connect Committee, shared their individual professional

experiences, before presenting LIFE and the LIFE scholarship program.

Mentorship

A call for senior mentor volunteers was launched in December, including the amended Mentorship Guidelines which can be found on the LIFE website.



PROMOTE

The Promote Committee is currently fundraising for the IT initiative that aims to improve the framework of the High Tech industry in Lebanon, and should kick-off in Q1 2013. Updates will be sent

to keep you informed of the progress on this initiative.

NEWS

Philippe Jabre joins the LIFE Advisory Board



On December 5th, the LIFE Board of Directors had the pleasure to announce that Philippe Jabre had agreed to join LIFE's Advisory Board. Philippe is the Founder and CIO of Jabre Capital Partners S.A, a Geneva-

based hedge fund with over \$1.8 billion in assets under management. In addition to boasting an illustrious career in the fund management industry, Philippe has been a benefactor of a number of worthwhile causes in Lebanon and has been an active participant and supporter of LIFE since its inception in 2009.

Samir Assaf named European Investment Banker of the year 2012

Samir Assaf, Chief Executive of HSBC's

Global Banking and Markets, and senior member of LIFE, was named European



Investment Banker of the year by his peers at Financial News' annual Awards for Excellence in Investment

Banking.

LIFE's Nurture Committee launches a new initiative – Career Transition

The main objective of this initiative is to help and guide LIFE mid-level and senior members with more than 4 years of experience in Finance who are facing a transitional phase in their career and are seeking guidance, coaching or advice. For additional information please contact the LIFE Career Transition Team on transition@lifelebanon.com.

LIFE announces a new membership category

LIFE will soon introduce a new membership category, the "voluntary" premium membership. This premium membership will not carry any special governance rights, but the support of our premium members will be acknowledged on LIFE's website and in all future publications (unless member requests to remain anonymous).

LIFE launches a LinkedIn page

On December 18th, LIFE officially



launched its LinkedIn page under the name of Lebanese International Finance Executives

and invited all its members and friends to establish connection. In addition, separate groups for each committees were created inviting LIFE members to join their respective one.