



The Nashville Speaker

The English-Speaking Union
NASHVILLE BRANCH

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Education. Scholarship. Understanding.

Fall, 2011

Our Mission

The English-Speaking Union of the United States is committed to promoting scholarship and the advancement of knowledge through the effective use of English in an expanding global community.

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**Have you made your reservation for the
Fall Banquet on Saturday, October 22nd?
Contact Lynne at 298-5659 or
lsiesser@comcast.net to save your seat.**



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2011

at

BRENTWOOD COUNTRY CLUB

5123 Country Club Drive, Brentwood,
Tennessee (off Franklin Road)

Speaker: David Torrance

Journalist and Political Anorak: David Torrance currently works as an Edinburgh-based freelance writer, journalist, public relations consultant and broadcaster, covering politics for STV, supplying obituaries to the Herald and writing historical comment pieces for the Scotsman. His first book, The Scottish Secretaries, was published by Birlinn to critical acclaim in 2006; his second, George Younger: A Life Well Lived, followed in 2008, while his third, 'We in Scotland' – Thatcherism in a Cold Climate, was published in 2009. He is currently working on an unauthorised biography of Alex Salmond. In between all of the above, David is also studying for a part-time PhD in political history at Queen Mary, University of London.

5:30 p.m. Reception

6:30 p.m. Dinner Seating

7:30 p.m. Speaker



**R.S.V.P. with a check: \$48 per person
(does not include alcohol)**

(Checks made payable to The English-Speaking Union)

Cash bar open throughout event for adult beverages/wine/champagne
(house and premium) by glass and/or bottle.

Please indicate whether you prefer chicken or salmon.

Mail to: 2009 Overhill Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37215-3414



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Susan D. Sinclair, Ph.D.

**THE
NASHVILLE
ESU WANTS
YOU!!!
AND YOUR
FRIENDS!!!**

Joan
Campbell,
Bill Schwartz,
Patti Harris,

Lynne Siesser and I spent a very pleasant Sunday afternoon putting together a new membership drive mailing. We sent out over one hundred and fifty invitations.

We would really like to add another twenty members this year. Think of all the fun we can have and all the great things we can do with more members.

Of course, that will mean more syllabub, Joan, at Twelfth Night!

Please encourage your friends to join and help us build the ESU by stressing its international quality and its service to the Middle Tennessee community.

The Nashville ESU has affected literally thousands of students here in Middle Tennessee over the past ten years!

We hear a lot of talk about helping the schools—Nashville ESU is doing it!

We have sent dozens of teachers to England, to workshops in the United States, to workshops here in Nashville, and we have encouraged students by the hundreds with our Shakespeare Competitions, including sending a student each year to New York to compete at the National Shakespeare Competition.

Help us increase our membership this year—and require Ann to bake an extra King cake. Do I hear a call for more lusty wenches??

PRESIDENT'S PROMISE

I, Susan Sinclair, do solemnly promise that I will do my best to have interesting programs this year, to leave lots of time for us to socialize, to keep business to a minimum, and to have fun. Would members promise to bring their friends and have a good time, too?

THE ESU—YOUR TICKET TO INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP AND LEARNING



Pictures from the Fall Membership Meeting and other recent events can be seen on the website.

<https://picasaweb.google.com/ESUNashville>

**Volunteers needed – Please return the card mailed to you
and list your willingness to be part of the team.**

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS TO EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN 2011

The list does not include those recognized in the Spring newsletter or recent donations made with the August membership renewal sent to New York.

Gold Benefactors (\$500 or more)

Phyllis Heard * Jane & Richard Treadway

Silver Benefactors (\$200 or more)

Ann Marie & Martin McNamara * Jane Yount

Benefactors (\$100-\$199)

Susan Sinclair & Ray Burns * Dorothy Primm Joyner * Susan & Otey Walker

Patron (\$50-\$99)

Sandra & Dick Frank * Jill Meese * Betty & Charlie Robison

Donor (\$25-\$49)

BJ & Bert Chalfant * Marion Couch * Linda & Bobby Dale * Carol & John Rochford

GET TO KNOW YOUR BOARD . . . ANNE LA VOY GUERRA,***President Elect***

Originally from Montclair, New Jersey and a graduate of Syracuse University, Anne spent several of her teenage years living in Brussels, Belgium with her family where she attended the International School of Brussels and traveled extensively throughout Europe. After returning to the United States and completing high school and college, Anne called the west coast home until 1996.

Anne's radio broadcasting career began in San Francisco where positions in sales, news and music led to working behind the mike, as well as an on-camera position as a television news anchor.

After a long tenure on the air in San Francisco, Anne and her husband Bob Guerra, a well known broadcast executive and personality, relocated to Los Angeles. Repeating another long run in Los Angeles radio, Anne became a familiar air personality heard weekly on KLAC and KZLA, and on "Countryline USA" a live, nationally syndicated weekly radio show where she served as the Los Angeles based host interviewing major stars such

as Vince Gill and Reba McEntire. Anne has also written and co-written several music specials for radio and continues to write and conduct interviews for national broadcast, most recently interviewing Keith Urban.

Currently, Anne is heard on the nationally syndicated shows *New Music Nashville* which is broadcast on over 300 radio stations across the United States, as well as *Classic Country Rewind*.

Anne and her family have called Nashville home since 1996, where she has been a key personality on Oldies 96.3 WMAK, Mix 92.9 WJXA, and handled Afternoon Drive at Arrow 104.5.



Anne and Bob are parents of Christopher, a commercial airline pilot and graduate of Auburn University, and Elizabeth, also an Auburn graduate working for an international luxury goods company.

Anne has served as class agent for the International School of Brussels Alumni Association.

Other volunteer work includes membership in the Junior League of Nashville, serving as co-chairman and membership chair for the Sustainer Transfers steering committee. Her historical interests include membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution, where she has served as Regent of her chapter, and The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America, currently serving as Chairman of the Nashville Town Committee. Anne also serves on the boards of both Travellers Rest Historic Museum House and the English-Speaking Union.

It is thanks to Anne's close association with Travellers Rest that we have been able to celebrate Twelfth Night in the barn.
Ed.

Diamond Jubilee Special Royal Tour to London in early June, 2012



Preliminary plans call for a fabulous week, beginning May 30 or 31, 2012 in the Cotswolds where guests will stay at Bowood Hotel and Spa nestled in "Capability" Brown parkland and the home the Ninth Marquis of Lansdowne. From this hub, day visits are planned to Highgrove House, Prince Charles' country home; Lacock, the Wiltshire village owned almost in its entirety by the National Trust and the setting for BBC and cinema favorites, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Cranford* and several Harry Potter films; and in the Frome Valley, Ilford Manor and classical gardens.

Observing Diamond Jubilee events in London will be the trip's highpoint. The Queen's Royal barge will lead a flotilla of some 1000 boats from the UK and British Commonwealth countries. At this time, we have the option of having one of the best viewing sites on the historic HMS Belfast, anchored on the south bank of the Thames opposite the Tower of London where the Queen will view the pageant. Special viewing rooms at excellent locations are available to us from which to observe the Royal carriage procession en route to St. Paul's Cathedral for the service of Thanksgiving and to enjoy the BBC official concert. Also in the planning stages are talks by a Royal biographer, viewing some of the Olympic sites and

exclusive dining experiences.

If you have interest in participating in this wonderful week-long trip, please let us know by sending an email to our travel agent Eric McFerran at emcferran@aol.com or by leaving your name and contact address or phone number at 908-277-2700 ext 325

To protect an allocation of Hotel accommodations for our ESU group, early deposits will be needed by November 1. We initially expect to have 15 double and 10 single rooms reserved for our members. A detailed itinerary and cost will be forwarded if sufficient interest is forthcoming



SHAKESPEARE SET FREE INSTITUTE

Teachers from five different states gathered in Nashville to revolutionize their classroom strategies under the direction of the Folger

Shakespeare Library and the English-Speaking Union on Thursday and Friday, August 4-5, 2011 at Harpeth Hall. Master teacher Mike LoMonico and his team had everyone learning how to make the plays come alive through physical action, new strategies for tackling lines, and deeper understanding of a text written for the stage rather than the study. Insisting that scholarship, performance, and teaching must combine, the Shakespeare Set Free Institutes took place under the sponsorship of eight different Branches this year, with fourteen planned for next year.

As a special feature of the Nashville Institute, participants sat in on a rehearsal of *Romeo and Juliet* at a barbecue supper in Centennial Park. The Nashville Shakespeare Festival's Artistic Director, Denice Hicks, joined Mr. LoMonico as a teacher, while Professors Leah Marcus and Ann Jennalie Cook of Vanderbilt presented lectures and worked on textual analysis. Branch volunteers, along with excellent food, contributed to the praise lavished on the experience by all the teachers involved.

ESU REGION TWO MEETING IN NASHVILLE

Patricia Schroeder, Chairwoman of the National ESU, joined Alice Boyne, President and CEO of the ESU-US, on April 29-30, 2011, in Nashville at the first meeting of the new Region Two. This area includes eight branches from Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina, making cooperation easier than when Nashville was part of a Region that stretched all the way through Florida.

Mrs. Schroeder spoke at Vanderbilt University Library on Friday afternoon before addressing the local Branch and visitors at the Spring Banquet that evening at Hillwood Country Club. With the theme "Building a Better Branch," all the delegates met for working sessions the next day at Wessex Towers to develop strategies for increasing membership, solving local problems, and deeper understanding of National ESU programs. A cocktail supper hosted by Phyllis Heard ended the official agenda, though the friendships forged during the weekend will enrich the attendees for years to come.

STOP PRESS: Nashville Branch shines at the National Meeting in Philadelphia.

October 6-9, 2011 at the historic Union League Club, theme: "Taking Liberties with Language"

Susan Sinclair served on the Shakespeare Set Free panel, Ann Calhoun received an Award of Merit for services to the organization, Richard Treadway was re-elected to a second term on the National Board, and Dick Knight was elected Director of Region Two, a position which also puts him on the National Board. *More later. . .*