



Twelfth Night

Wednesday, February 10, 2016 - 5:30 p.m.

Two worlds collide in this explosive new take on Shakespeare's lyrical *Twelfth Night*. Britain's Filter Theatre and Royal Shakespeare Company pair classical verse with a riotous gig in this radically-cut and fast-paced story of romance, satire and mistaken identity. "Rock-and-roll Shakespeare's a blast" (*Daily Telegraph*)!

Beat the winter doldrums and join us for *Twelfth Night* at the intimate Harold Prince Theatre, Annenberg Center, 3680 Walnut Street. Our seats are 5th and 6th row and "couldn't be more center."



Tickets are: \$25 Members; \$35 Non-Members.

Please use the enclosed insert to reserve your tickets or call Barbara at 215-545-3619.

29th Annual Shakespeare Competition Monday, February 15, 2016



Please join us on Monday, February 15 to see more than 20 students from the greater Philadelphia area compete for scholarships and awards by reciting a Shakespearean monologue and sonnet at the String Theory School, 1600 Vine Street, Philadelphia 19102. You will be amazed at the exceptional talent of these local teens. The competition is exciting to watch and this is a **free event** for ESU members and friends. The competition begins at 9 a.m.



Celebrate Chinese New Year The Year of the Monkey

Years of the Monkey: 1920, 1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004, 2016

**Wednesday
February 24, 2016 - 6 p.m.**

SangKee Asian Bistro
339 Lancaster Avenue
Wynnewood, PA 19096
610-658-0618

Join us Wednesday, February 24, 2016 to dine at the SangKee Asian Bistro and celebrate **The Year of the Monkey**. The cost is: Members \$40; Non-Members \$50; and includes a multi-course Chinese New Year menu **WITH WINE**. There is a cash bar for those who prefer cocktails.

Your invitation is included with this newsletter. For any questions or to make a reservation email esu@libertynet.org or call Barbara at 215-545-3619.

"Fall Dinner Dance" — October 31, 2015

Everyone looked gorgeous! The Overbrook Golf Club location was beautiful, the food outstanding and the band exceptional. Thanks to everyone for coming and enjoying the fun. *Look for yourself in additional photos on page 3. Can't find yourself? Come to our events!*



President's Column



Dear Valued Members,

It is my honor and privilege to serve you as the President of the Board of Governors.



I want to extend my thanks to and appreciation of **Jim Munnis** for the time he served in this role, both on his own last year and sharing with **George Tyndall** the year before that.

We welcome **Elizabeth (Liz) Mills** and **Amada (Mandy) Mucklé** to the Board as well as **Gene Kosich** and **Sheila Leith** who have returned. The Board will work to schedule new and recurring events of interest to our members and we invite your suggestions.

Many thanks are extended to those who attended the Fall Dinner Dance on Halloween at Overbrook Golf Club. **Debbie and Andy Webster** and **Liz and Craig Mills** co-chaired the evening's event. Many guests availed themselves of the option to wear costumes as you will see in the accompanying photographs within the newsletter. It was a fun event on a beautiful fall evening (BOO-HOO to those who stayed home and missed seeing **Barbara Murray's** hair!).

We hope you were able to attend the Christmas Celebration on December 12th, benefitting St. James School as well as our local Branch. Volunteers to serve on the Queen's Birthday Party Committee are being solicited to help with the auction items and the event planning. Please let us know if you are willing to serve or contribute. **Suzanne and David Lavins** have agreed to chair the event next summer.

Yours,
Gayla McCluskey



Education. Scholarship. Understanding.

Welcome New Members

Muriel Alls-Moffatt, Riverton
Richard Carreno, Philadelphia
Fred and Jamie Choate, Devon
Rick Gregg, Marlton
Carroll McConnell-Shields, Wynnewood
Christopher Morton, Philadelphia



Save the Date

Wednesday, April 6, 2016
McGillin's Olde Ale House

2016 Wrench Speaker
Richard Buckley, OBE, PhD
Co-Director of the University of Leicester
Archaeological Services

**The King Under the Car Park:
The Search for Richard III**

"Christmas on the Hill"—A Renaissance Christmas, December 12, 2015 *Another Successful Benefit for St. James School. What a Party!*



"Fall Dinner Dance" October 31, 2015



Calendar of Events

- Feb. 10** *Twelfth Night* at Annenberg Center
Feb. 15 Annual Shakespeare Competition
Feb. 24 Chinese New Year Dinner
April 6 Wrench Speaker: Richard Buckley
The King Under the Car Park
TBA Benefactors Reception
June 12 Queen's Birthday Garden Party



ESU Members enjoy dining privileges* at
 The Racquet Club of Philadelphia, 215 S. 16th Street

Gold Leaf Café: Monday to Friday, Noon to 2:30 PM
Full Service Brunch: Saturday, 11 AM to 2 PM

1889 Pub: Monday to Friday
 5 to 11 PM: Bar Open; 5 to 10 PM: Food Served

*ESU members must first register at the Front Desk
 with a credit card to receive a Guest Pass.



HOW TO HAVE A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Many New Year customs that we take for granted actually date from ancient times. This year, ring out the old and ring in the new with a New Year tradition—or two!

Drink a Beverage

Although the pop of a champagne cork signals the arrival of the New Year around the world, some countries have their own traditions. *Wassail*, the Gaelic term for “good health” is served in some parts of England. Spiced “hot pot” is the Scottish version of Wassail. It's customary to drink a glass or two at home before sharing with neighbors.

Put Your Best Foot Forward

In Scotland, the custom of first-footing is an important part of the celebration of *Hogmanay*, or New Year's Eve Day. This practice holds that the first foot to cross a threshold after midnight will predict the next year's fortune. Although the tradition varies, those deemed especially fortunate as “first footers” are new brides, new mothers, those who are tall and dark (and handsome?) or anyone born on January 1.

Turn Over a New Leaf

The dawn of a new year is an opportune time to take stock of your life. The practice of making New Year's resolutions, said to have begun with the Babylonians as early as 2600 B.C., is a way to reflect on the past and plan ahead.

New Year's Folklore

Some customs and beliefs are simply passed down through the ages. Here are some favorite age-old sayings and proverbs.

On New Year's Eve, kiss the person you hope to keep kissing.

If New Year's Eve night wind blow south, It betokeneth warmth and growth.

For abundance in the new year, fill your pockets and cupboards today.

If the old year goes out like a lion, the new year will come in like a lamb.

Begin the new year square with every man. (i.e., pay your debts!)

So, when we make New Year's resolutions, as did the Babylonians, we're tapping into an ancient and powerful longing for a fresh start!

The English-Speaking Union . 215 S. 16th Street, Suite 14 . Philadelphia, PA 19102

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Invitation Enclosed