



Commonwealth 2015 Festival
Sunday, October 4, 2015
 at the
Philadelphia Cricket Club
 preceded by a service at the **Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields**
 in celebration of
Queen Elizabeth II
 longest reigning monarch of Great Britain

Did you know? The Commonwealth of Nations comprises 53 member countries and Queen Elizabeth is the titular head. Following a service in honor of the Queen, join in a spirit of friendship and understanding with societies representing member countries and their diverse culture and ethnicities.

5pm: Evensong Service Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields (St. Martin's Lane & Willow Grove)

6pm: Follow the procession to the Philadelphia Cricket Club (415 West Willow Grove Avenue)

- Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres
- Dinner and Dancing to *Steel Drums of Raymond Charles' Caribbean Authentics*
- Raffles and Silent Auction Scotch Tasting

\$85 per guest; \$160 per couple; \$150 Benefactor; \$200 Patron

Proceeds benefit Carson Valley Children's Aid www.cvca.org

Your invitation is enclosed. Information: susangerrity@verizon.net

Save the Date!

*Fall Dinner
Dance*

*Saturday
October 31, 2015*

*Overbrook
Country Club*

Costumes Optional Black Tie

Look for your invitation in the mail
 or call Barbara at 215-545-3619
 to receive an invitation

"Race Night" at the Corinthian Yacht Club: August 5, 2015

With perfect weather and low humidity the ESU enjoyed a lovely evening on the Delaware. There were sailboat races and goose races—betting on the fastest goose! The buffet was outstanding, and no hot dogs and hamburgers (and no goose). Lots of face-to-face conversation with lovely people—ESU and CYC members and guests. (See insert for additional photos.)



President's Column



By the time you read this, I will have "passed the gavel" to our new president, **Gayla McCluskey**.

This should be a seamless transition, and I am sure that Gayla and the Board of Governors will continue to build E.S.U. Philadelphia, both in membership (now approaching 200!) and in events and activities.

The first upcoming activity we have scheduled is the Fall Dinner Dance at Overbrook Country Club. As my grandmother's friend Nechama (of blessed memory) used to say (she was a clever woman and a wise one) *"health and happiness are only to be found at the table."* With that in mind, please plan on joining us at the dinner table, on October 31 at Overbrook Country Club. *Deo volente*, Mariah and I will be there, and as those of us who have attended E.S.U. events at Overbrook in the past can attest, the food is excellent, and no one likes to dance on an empty stomach, so join us for *"good food, fun and fellowship."*

Looking at the collage of photos in this **Courier** from our August cook-out and sailboat races at the Corinthian Yacht Club reinforces the above referenced quote of food, fun and fellowship. A big "thank you" to **Michael Conti** for organizing this event. Our Fall Dinner Dance is certain to be the same, and, with costumes optional, who knows what will happen? Don't miss it!

"There is no speech, there are no words." I must, however, take this opportunity to thank the Board of Governors, the Executive Committee, and, of course, **Barbara Murray**. The past year as your president has allowed me to meet many, if not all of you, and it has been my pleasure. The events in the past year were all diverse, top notch events planned for you, our members. In attending them, I met some of you for the first time, and became re-acquainted with others. In my leaving office, we have a strong and vibrant E.S.U. Philadelphia. I hope to continue to attend events in the future as a member and former president, as *"We renew our days as of old."*

Your very obedient servant,
James J. Munnis



A special "thank you" to **Amanda Mucklé** for contributing many of the Queen's Birthday Party photographs published in the Summer Newsletter!



Education. Scholarship. Understanding.

Welcome New Member

Elizabeth Gemmill, Conshohocken

**July 1 begins the ESU fiscal year
and it is time to renew your membership!**

Your membership dollars, just like your name, travels farther than you ever will. Locally and nationally, programs like The English-Speaking Union National Shakespeare Competition, the Shakespeare Set Free Workshop, and the National Speakers Program continue to enrich the lives of tens of thousands of members, students and teachers.

In response to a recent request by St. Xavier's College (our sister Branch), we made a *special donation of five books* in June 2015 that was acknowledged by the Chief Librarian as follows:

Dear Mr. James Munnis, Esq.,

In June 2015, there as a surprise donation received from The English-Speaking Union, and we could add five books on development economics to enrich our library collection. Developing countries economics and development economics was a gap in our collection, especially, South America, Africa, etc. This donation helped us to make a beginning to build up a collection in that area.

Thank you for the generous gift.

*Megha B. Taskar, Librarian
St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, India*

We also sent seven American classics to St. Xavier's College under the Ambassador Books program, and a shipment of dictionaries to Tibet, China under "Books as Envoy" chaired by **Chuck Gupta**. Future emphasis will be based on what the needs of the recipients are, just as we have recently responded to the request from St. Xavier's librarian.

Your membership dues make these programs possible. And please remember, all membership dues and gifts to the ESU are *fully tax-deductible* to the extent permitted by law.

Please take just a moment and send in your membership renewal form or renew your membership online at www.esus.org/philadelphia. By processing your dues as soon as possible, our Branch will have an accurate membership roster which is essential to keep you informed of our programs and activities throughout the year.



“Race Night” at the Corinthian Yacht Club August 5, 2015





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Royal Oak Foundation at The Union League

Our branch has received the honor of being listed as co-sponsor of these events to recognize the steadfast support they receive from our membership. For each lecture there will be a reception at 6:00 p.m. and an optional dinner following. Dinner reservations are non-refundable and must be made by the Wednesday before the lecture.

Lecture only: \$30 members & co-sponsors* \$40 non-members

Lecture and optional dinner: \$75 members and co-sponsors*; \$80 non-members

Location: The Union League of Philadelphia, 140 S. Broad Street. FORMAL BUSINESS ATTIRE REQUIRED.

Registration is available through The Royal Oak Foundation. Visit www.royal-oak.org/lectures or call: 800-913-6565, ext. 201.

*ESU members use code **15FESUP** to receive the discounted members price.



The Victorian City: Everyday Life in Dickens' London Judith Flanders | Historian & Author Thursday, October 1, 6:30 p.m.

The 19th century was a time of unprecedented transformation, and nowhere was this more apparent than on the streets of London. From the moment Charles Dickens, the century's best-loved novelist and London's greatest observer,

arrived in the city in 1822, he obsessively walked its streets recording its pleasures, curiosities and cruelties. Historian Judith Flanders explores London's outdoors in an extraordinary, revelatory portrait of everyday life on the streets.

Traitors or Tastemakers? Recusant Country Houses & Collections Dr. Tessa Murdoch

Deputy Keeper, Victoria & Albert Museum
Wednesday, October 14, 6:30 p.m.

The English Reformation began in 1534 with The Act of Supremacy in which King Henry VIII declared himself the only supreme head on earth of the Church in England. Any display of allegiance to Rome and the Catholic pope was deemed treasonous and had deadly consequences. Dr. Tessa Murdoch will reveal that despite religious and political obstacles, recusants made great contributions through patronage of art, music, and architecture.



Cabinets and Curiosities: Furniture in the National Trust's Collections Lisa White | Furniture and Interiors Historian Monday, October 19, 6:30 p.m.



With the generous support of Royal Oak, The National Trust embarked on an ambitious project to catalogue and research the vast collection of furniture at many of its properties. Art historian Lisa White will explore some of the wonderful, difficult, and often puzzling objects from this significant collection during her lavishly illustrated lecture.

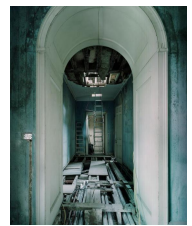
First Lady: The Life and Wars of Clementine Churchill Sonia Purnell | Best-selling Author Monday, November 2, 6:30 p.m.



Without Winston Churchill's inspiring leadership, Britain would not have survived its darkest hour against the Nazi menace. Without his wife Clementine, however, he might never have become Prime Minister. From personal and political upheavals, through the Churchills' wilderness years in the 1930s, to Clementine's efforts during World War II, Ms. Purnell presents the inspiring but often ignored story of one of the most important women in modern history.

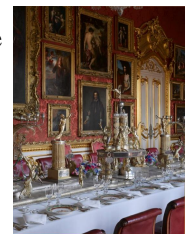
A Family Legacy Restored: St. Giles House Nicholas Ashley-Cooper 12th Earl of Shaftesbury Monday, November 9, 6:30 p.m.

St. Giles House, Dorset has been home to the Earls of Shaftesbury since the 13th century. On becoming the 12th Earl of Shaftesbury, Nicholas Ashley-Cooper, inspired by his ancestors, embarked on a four-year restoration project to make St. Giles House a family home once again. Lord Shaftesbury will speak about this incredible project which won, among others, the 2014 Georgian Group Award, for the Restoration of a Georgian Country House.



The Battle of Waterloo and its Legacy Charles Wellesley | 9th Duke of Wellington OBE DL Thursday, November 19, 6:30 p.m.

June 18, 2015 marked the bicentennial of The Battle of Waterloo, a battle that would change the order and political structure of Europe. Its main legacy was a more stable continent, which only came to an end in 1914 with the outbreak of the Great War. In celebration of the 200th anniversary of Waterloo, the 9th Duke, his great-great-grandson, who still lives in these houses, will discuss the battle and this unusual legacy.



Save the Date

Wednesday, April 6
2016 Wrench Speaker
Richard Buckley, OBE, PhD
Co-Director of the University of Leicester
Archeological Services



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

Calendar of Events

- Oct. 1** *The Victorian City: Everyday Life in Dickens' London*
- Oct. 4** **Commonwealth Festival 2015**
- Oct. 14** *Traitors or Tastemakers? Recusant Country Houses & Collections*
- Oct. 19** *Cabinets and Curiosities: Furniture in the National Trust's Collections*
- Oct. 31** **Fall Dinner Dance**
- Nov. 2** *First Lady: The Life and Wars of Clementine Churchill*
- Nov. 9** *A Family Legacy Restored: St. Giles House*
- Nov. 19** *The Battle of Waterloo and its Legacy*
- Dec. 12** **Christmas Celebration**
- Feb. 15** **Annual Shakespeare Competition**
- April 6** **Wrench Speaker: Richard Buckley**
The King Under the Car Park



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

Here is the current schedule:

Gold Leaf Café

Monday to Friday, Noon to 2:30 PM

and beginning October 3 to April

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 with a credit card
at the Front Desk to receive a Guest Pass.

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

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Invitation Enclosed