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Other Clubs Established

- Dallas, Texas
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# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB OF NEW ENGLAND

NON-PROFIT

NON-POLITICAL

NON-SECTARIAN

The aim of the club is to foster friendship and understanding among people of different nations and to support charities that assist women and children.

# NEWSLETTER

Founded in 1992 by Anna Kristina Sawtelle, Volume 30, Number 1 Jan 23, 2021  
WWW.IWCNE.NET and WWW.WCICLUBS.ORG  
COVID—19 EDITION 9

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you for your support, hard work, and commitment in 2020. You made a very difficult year easier to handle. I couldn't be prouder to be president of a club with members such as you. I am looking forward to once again serving as your president in 2021.

We enter 2021 well aware of the challenges ahead of us. Yet 2020 has shown us how resilient the women of IWCNE are. What a remarkable response all of you had to the unexpected events of 2020..

Thanks to the hard work and commitment of each and every one of you, we were able to honor our commitment to the three charities we selected to support in 2020—A Company of Girls, In Her Presence, and Stop Trafficking Us. Over and above supporting these charities, we raised another \$2,000 to distribute over two food banks—Good Shepherd's Food Bank in Maine, and Food Bank of New Hampshire.

Although we enter 2021 with record cases of the virus, we enter it with new hope that the vaccine will soon bring the virus under control and relief will come to those people and businesses hardest hit.

Whatever 2021 brings, 2020 showed how resilient we are and we can overcome whatever limitations and challenges ahead of us. Hopefully, things will start getting back to normal by June and we can once again have luncheon/business meetings, pot lucks, and our large fundraisers in the fall. Happy New Year. We look forward to new beginnings with Hope and Trust.

Mariene Benoit

## Board of Directors 2020

President	Mariene Benoit
Vice President	Cindy Sayers
Secretary	Charline Ludgate
Treasurer	Anne Supenia
Membership	Marion McAuliffe Yvonne Chainey
Fundraising	Ellen Farber- Libowitz
Newsletter	Lucille Gentsch
Publicity	Margaret Weeks
Programs & Luncheons	Deb Forster and Jane Bagnell
Activities	Cindy Sayers
Historian	Regina Godfrey
Pot Luck Coordinators	Lynne Gass, Ann Nahill
Webmaster	Lucille Gentsch
WCI Liaison	Margareta Claesson
Founder	Anna Kristina Sawtelle

The next board meeting will be Feb 10. If any non-board member would like to attend please contact Mariene Benoit.

NOTE: Next newsletter submissions will be on or before **February 12**

**The newsletter will be sent to those members who request it. As always it can be downloaded on our website:**

**www.iwcne.net**

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Gott Nytt Ar  
Hyvaa Uutta Vuotta  
Blwyddyn Newydd Bda  
Bonne Année  
Frohes Neues Jahr  
Felice Anno Nuovo

To each and everyone a Healthy, Happy 2021 and thank you for all your work this past year. How very proud and grateful I am that our Club despite all difficulties surrounding us were able to raise \$15,000 to assist our charities. It took ideas, action and members' participation to achieve this result. It shows who we are as a Club. As we now are entering a new Year, our Goal will be the same. If you have some new ideas or have some extra time to give, please contact President Mariene Benoit Tel. 207 251-8430 and she will guide you down the lane and the friendship you will be gaining cannot be measured in monetary value in addition to assisting in our Club's Mission promoting Friendship and Understanding among people from different Nations.

In Friendship  
Anna Kristina Sawtelle

## IWCNE CHARITY SELECTION NEWS:

It's that time of year again, the time to come together to choose the charities we will raise funds for in 2021. Here are some things you can do to participate in the process.

**Call for Charities:** If you have a 501c3 charity based in Maine or New Hampshire or the New England area that you would like us to send a grant application to, please let Mariene Benoit know immediately at [mdarganb@gmail.com](mailto:mdarganb@gmail.com) and include the name of the charity, the name of the Executive Director, their email address, mailing address and phone number. Mariene will contact them immediately. Grant applications are due on or before Wednesday, February 10, 2021.

**Committee Participation:** *Mandatory meeting attendance:* This year due to the COVID-19 Pandemic we will be conducting the charity selection committee meetings over Zoom. We will have two meetings, Thursday, February 18 and Friday, February 19, 2021, at 10am each day. The meetings will be limited to no more than 2 hours each. Once the charities are selected, a third meeting to hear from those charities will take place on Friday, February 26, 2021.

*Technical abilities and Dues:* Because we are unable to meet face to face, the ability to use Zoom, email and the ability to print out documents is a requirement for committee participation as is being current on your 2021 dues. This year the 10 member charity selection committee will be comprised of 50% of our Board and 50% of the membership. If you are interested in participating please email Mariene Benoit [mdarganb@gmail.com](mailto:mdarganb@gmail.com) or Cindy Sayers [cindysayersme@gmail.com](mailto:cindysayersme@gmail.com) as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for your help,

Mariene Benoit and Cindy Sayers , co-chairs, Charity Selection Committee

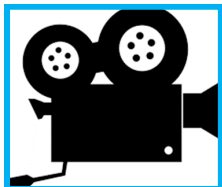
## FUNDRAISING

During a year of Covid, IWCNE has managed to top the charts acquiring \$16,000 plus dollars through small but potent fundraisers. How did we do it? How? Our members are very creative? Our members opened deep pockets? Our members participated in the safe distribution of water bottles, jewelry & had potlucks? All of the above and more! No stone was unturned. We even had enough left over for two food banks.

This year we look forward to choosing new charities. We will hopefully continue with a potting party, fashion show & Holiday Fair. Please send all fundraising ideas to me. Thank you & congratulations to all our member. Here's to a year of health & IWCNE wealth.

Ellen Farber, Fundraising chairperson

### WORLD CINEMA— VIEWING TIPS



Three choices all on Netflix:

2017 Documentary regarding the Olympics and Russia: *Icarus* -

When Bryan sets out to uncover the truth about doping in sports, a chance meeting with a Russian scientist transforms his story from a personal experiment into a geopolitical thriller.

Something more gently immersive and quite beautiful: A documentary from South Africa: *My Octopus Teacher*, 2 hours, 1 minute in length

And some adult comedy from New York: *Pretend Its A City*: A series of 8 short episodes featuring Martin Scorsese

### **Treasurer's Report January, 2021**

Charity Account \$1010  
Administration Account \$5780  
CD Account \$5019.23  
Anne Supenia

### **MONTHLY MEETING FOR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP**

We now enter the 11th month without a Monthly Luncheon Meeting, yet we are hopeful it will be safe to resume these meetings in the near future. In the meantime, ZOOM meetings will be scheduled on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month except November (third Saturday) and December. This gives us an opportunity to have a short business meeting and a good amount of time to visit with one another.

Please plan to attend the ZOOM meeting on Saturday, February 27 at 10 am. The purpose of this meeting is to give the general membership a chance to get together and enjoy the company of one another.

You will receive a link to that meeting in mid-February with a follow-up reminder on February 25.

Some of you are very familiar with ZOOM, but others have not used it or had problems using it. If you want some instruction, you can email me at [mdarganb@gmail.com](mailto:mdarganb@gmail.com) and I will take you through the process of joining the meeting.

February Activity Suggestion: Take an Online Art Break



Although its galleries are closed for the season, [the Ogunquit Museum of American Art is now open virtually 24/7](#). Last month, the museum debuted a searchable database that makes a selected portion of its collections available to anyone with online access. Users can search images at random, by keyword, or phrase; instructions are on the database home page.

**WCI—Welcome Clubs International**

As the new liaison between our club and Welcome Club International I wanted to take this opportunity to remind our members that WCI links independent women's organizations around the world who share a common goal of cross cultural interaction and education, promoting understanding and friendship among women of all nations. We are part of something bigger than ourselves! On the list of countries with such organizations belonging to WCI are:

- Azerbaijan** - IWC, Baku
- Brazil** - IWC of Porto Alegre
- Germany** - IWC of Hamburg and Anglo-German International Women's Ass.
- Indonesia** - WIC Jakarta
- Korea** - Welcome to Korea International Club
- Lebanon** - Women's League of Beirut and VIA Lebanon International Club
- Taiwan** - Welcome to Taipei International Club
- United Kingdom** - Welcome to London International Women's Club and Federation of International Women's Associations in London.
- United States:**
  - California - Women's International Border club, Chula Vista
  - Colorado - Welcome to Colorado International Club - Denver
  - Florida - Welcome to Florida International Club, Naples and Broward IWC, Ft. Lauderdale
  - Maine - IWCNE
  - Massachusetts - Berkshire International Club
  - Pennsylvania - IWC of Philadelphia
  - Washington DC - Welcome to Washington IWC, Inc.

I have personally enjoyed international meetings in Washington DC in 2017 and in Azerbaijan 2019; experiences that are unforgettable and I encourage each and every one of our members, who has an opportunity to take part in one of these meetings to do so. The opportunities of friendship and understanding of each other and other cultures is a wonderful gift that comes with the membership in our club!

Margareta Claesson

**February Birthdays**

- 06 Elyse Tomlinson
- 16 Johanna Mangion
- 10 Susan Martin
- 18 Maureen Clayton
- 12 Jackie Connerty
- 24 Linda Kahn
- 13 Astrid Powell
- 25 Marlene Cohen

Please support our generous sponsors.



**Maureen Clayton**

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International Women's Club of New England  
P.O. Box 351  
Cape Neddick, Maine 03902

**MEETINGS/  
LUNCHEONS  
Calendar– 2021\***

JANUARY 23  
FEBRUARY 27  
MARCH 27  
APRIL 24  
MAY 22  
JUNE 26  
JULY 24  
AUGUST 28  
SEPTEMBER 25  
OCTOBER 23  
NOVEMBER 20

\*Subject to change.

**Prepare to get your green on! Save the Date March 17**

Although 2 months away, we need something to look forward to –St. Patrick's Day! IWCNE has a long tradition of hosting a wonderful St Patty's Day Fundraiser. Despite the restrictions due to the Pandemic we plan to carry on that tradition. Instead of coming together in one place we will celebrate with a "box dinner" catered by For the Love of Food and Drink. There will be a choice of entrées ( Irish Stew, Colcannon, Corned beef or Shepherd's pie), soda bread, salad, and a Guinness cupcake. Plus a couple of surprises from the Green Committee! We will have pick up points at 3 houses—more details to come later. Then we WILL get together but on Zoom. We will listen to music and play a trivia game. Each person who attends the Zoom party will get a chance to introduce themselves and tell us why they enjoy "wearin' the green". More details in the next newsletter and on the weekly bulletins!



**Membership**

Please welcome new members

Heidi Stutz, 90 Factory Pasture Lane, Kennebunk, ME 04043—508-560-5050 [hbstutzptr@comcast.com](mailto:hbstutzptr@comcast.com)

Mary Lucas, 367 Richards Ave., Portsmouth, NH 03801 - 603-430-0293 [Mary.Lulu@comcast.net](mailto:Mary.Lulu@comcast.net)

**Dues:**

Membership dues will be cut back to **\$20.00 for 2021 ONLY**. Dues are payable no later than January 1, 2021. Checks are to be made payable to IWCNE, and mailed to Yvonne Chainey, IWCNE Membership, 58 Harding Rd. , Portsmouth, NH 03801

Or you may use Pay Pal through our website [www.iwcne.net](http://www.iwcne.net)