



ESTABLISHED 1992

Other Clubs Established

- Dallas, Texas
- Douala, Cameroon

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 3 Mar 27, 2021
WWW.IWCNE.NET and WWW.WCICLUBS.ORG
COVID—19 EDITION 11

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

When I wrote the President's Message in March 2020, I had no idea what the future would bring. There was no clear vision of how this new virus would behave or how long it would last. The Executive Board had decided to cancel the April potluck, luncheon meeting, and postpone the Fashion Show. Little did I know what was ahead. During the summer, we were able to have some in-person activities with social distancing and Covid-related precautions.

Otherwise, all in-person activities were canceled. The bright side of this is that we not only honored our commitment to the charities selected, we also were able to support food banks which were overwhelmed because of hardship caused by the pandemic.

We welcomed 2021 with hope, although there was still not a clear vision of what to expect. Now that people are receiving the vaccines, we have hope that we can meet with one another without masks and other restrictions needed when Covid was such a threat. Zoom meetings will not be necessary when distance is not a problem. We will be able to hug one another, laugh, sing, and sit close together. This comes at a time when we have longer daylight hours and warmer temperatures. The future looks bright to me.

Let's all look forward to new beginnings and a memorable rest of 2021. Stay healthy and happy!

Mariene Benoit

Board of Directors 2021

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	Jane Bagnell
Luncheons	Deb Forster
Activities	Cindy Sayers
Historian	Regina Godfrey
Pot Luck	
Coordinators	Lynne Gass,
Webmaster	Lucille Gentsch
WCI Liaison	Margareta Claesson
Founder	Anna Kristina Sawtelle

The next board meeting will be Apr 14. If any non-board member would like to attend please contact Mariene Benoit.

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

www.iwcne.net



A donation of \$425 has been made to our charity account in honor of the 85th Birthday of our Founder, Anna Kristina Sawtelle. See her account of her day in the insert.

Dues Reminder : LAST CALL

Membership dues will be cut back to \$20.00 for 2021 ONLY. Dues are payable IMMEDIATELY. 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 PayPal through our website www.iwcne.net

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FUNDRAISING—Projects in the works

Instead of the traditional Holiday Fair we are considering an outdoor event. On April 7, Jeff McConnell of the the First Patish Church will let me know if and when we can have an outdoor craft show, hopefully in August. We already have many interested vendors following a letter Lynne and I sent out last Month testing the waters. Ellen O'Toole and I have already been in lengthy discussions about a November Fashion show with non-Covid attire. Looking forward to seeing everyone,
Ellen Farber

St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Zoom Party!



“Go raibh maith agaibh” which actually translates as “may you have goodness” is a popular Gaelic way to say thank you. I hope all 46 of you enjoyed the goodness of your meals (more than once), the Irish goodies in your bags, the trivia, the songs, and the camaraderie. Thank you all for participating in our COVID St. Patrick’s Day celebration. Due to your generosity, we started our 2021 charity account with \$854.00!

CONSIGNMENT SHOPS

Consignment shops are now able to take items. If you are donating clothes, the shops want only spring and summer clothing. The shops also accept jewelry, and household items. If you have anything to consign, phone Mariene Benoit at 207-646-5839 or email her at mdarganb@gmail.com. She can also be reached by text or a call at 207-251-8430.



POTTING PARTY FUNDRAISER

Welcome sweet Springtime!. Time to get our hands dirty

When? On **Sunday, May 2, 2021 at 5 pm.** Where? At **Joanne’s Garden’s** 708 N. Berwick Rd (rte 9) in Wells, ME.

Charity donation: \$15.

Rsvp to Lynne Gass lynnegass123@gmail.com or 207-607-1305. You can send a check to Lynne Gass (31 Malden Ave., Sanford, ME 04073) or pay on the day of the event.

Bring a snack or light fare. Farmer Jeff Farley will greet us, answer any questions, direct us to 18 greenhouses and supply pots and soil for our “potting” party. This will be after hours, so we will be the only ones there. We only pay for the plants we choose to plant. Please join us at our flowerpot luck!



WORLD CINEMA—VIEWING TIPS

All Streaming on Netflix and this month only, without subtitles : **2009 film *Invictus***, directed by Clint Eastwood: 2 hours, 13 minutes in length (Soon to leave Netflix) true story of Nelson Mandela in post-Apartheid South Africa using Rugby to unify nation.

2020 US film, *I Care A Lot*, 1 hour, 57 minutes A crooked legal guardian who drains the savings of her elderly wards meets her match when a woman she tries to swindle turns out to be more than she first appears.

Wanted: a 2016 TV series from Australia: 3 seasons, 6 episodes each: Features Chelsea and Lola, two innocent women on the run.

PLANNING AHEAD—LATE MAY FUNDRAISER

You are Invited to a Fundraiser for the International Women's Club of New England at **THREE CHARM FARM**, 12 Olde Farnham Road, Alfred, Maine, on Thursday, **May 20th at 10:30 AM-12Noon.**

\$15 donation goes to the charity fund.

Ingrid and Ed, own this small family farm and raise Mini-Nubian, Nubian, and Nigerian Dwarf Dairy goats and a variety of dairy sheep. (They also have pigs, cats, dogs, chickens, and turkeys!) They take pride in providing a peaceful, loving structure and daily affection to their animals while also living in peaceful coexistence with the surrounding wildlife. Their animals are raised with a holistic approach to their health, the micro-environment, and as an integral part of the preservation of the farm. From mid-May through the first of November, they create small-batch artisanal cheeses and farmstead yogurt with the help of our lovingly raised goats and sheep.



You will have the opportunity to taste these products as well as a sampling of appetizers made with some of the cheese while hearing from Ingrid about the farm, it’s history, and answering questions about how they farm.

As the world continues to heal from the pandemic, the farm is limiting visitors to 15 people per group and will be employing current CDC Safety Protocols for your safety. Reservations are required. Please contact Margareta Claesson at maaclaesson@gmail.com or (207) 439-2574

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 14 Executive Board Mtg
April 15 WCI Webinar
April 24 Monthly meeting
May 2 Potting Fundraiser
May 20 Goat Farm Fundraiser

APRIL FOOL

April 1st is a time for pranks all over the world. I fell for one in a big way about 30 years ago in Nürnberg, Germany. In March I saw an ad in the newspaper for an upcoming concert of “The Singing Dogdogs of New York”. The ad was accompanied by a photo of a canine talent in a rather dramatic cape. I said to my then teenage kids “We can’t miss this” and ordered tickets. On April 1st we arrived at the venue and were greeted with a glass of champagne. It was an Aprilscherz—an April joke. The local radio station representative was there and my daughter was interviewed. She said “My Mom is from New York so we knew anything is possible coming from New York.”
Lucille Gentsch

APRIL FOOLS’ DAY HISTORY

We would be fools to think we knew precisely when April Fools’ Day was originally celebrated. However, April Fools Day shares similarities with other days full of fools, tricks, and merry-making.

Some believe the day is celebrated in honor of the trickery Mother Nature plays on us this time of year with her unpredictable weather. Another possible connection is the Indian tradition of Holi. The day is celebrated on March 31st and practices the same foolery as April Fools’ Day. So does the Roman festival of Hilaria which was celebrated on March 25th.

The earliest known reference to April Fools’ Day is in Chaucer’s 1392 Nun’s Priest’s Tale. Even so, the reference is so vague, and possibly not even occurring on the first of April, leaving doubt as to whether it is the first reference. Other scholars point to the reformation of the calendar by Pope Gregory and the Gregorian calendar we used today in the 1500s in France. The new year would take place in April, not January as it does now. The theory is that those who continued to celebrate the new year on April 1st were called Poisson d’Avril (April fish) and pranks would be played on them.

In 1582, France accepted the Gregorian calendar, but reforms had already been taking place.

In Britain in 1776, there is a clear and reliable reference to April foolishness in an article in *Gentleman’s Magazine*. Reference to a custom in the kingdom of making fools of people on the first day of April. It addresses the day being the culmination of an eight-day feast and the beginning of a new year.

Noted Foolery

Newspapers, television, radio and social media have had their fun on April Fools’ Day. Check out all this April 1 foolishness:

- Times of London reported in 1992 that Belgium was negotiating to join Holland.
- The Evening Star of Islington advertised in 1864 a display of donkeys at the Agricultural Hall the next day. Those who arrived early soon realized who the donkeys on display really were.
- In 1950, The Progress in Clearfield Pennsylvania published a picture of a UFO flying over the town. Claiming to have “scooped” larger publications of the first-ever published picture of a real flying saucer.
- In 2008, the BBC presented a documentary on flying penguins.



April Birthdays

02 Fran Wooley
03 Tinker Newick
06 Donna Freni
07 Debbie Forster
10 Brenda Sullivan
11 Pam Lynch



13 Marilyn Smith
14 Nancy Knowles
20 Greta Martin
26 Hilda Emerson
28 Barbara Bridge



Maureen Clayton
(207) 450-3372 Direct Cell



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maureen@yorkerealty.com

529 US Route One, Suite 101 York, Maine 03909

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Susan Heckaman, AAMS®

Financial Advisor
469 U S Route One
York, ME 03909
207-363-1640
susan.heckaman@edwardjones.com

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Holyoke, MA	413.585.9430	S. Portland, ME	207.773.9555

The Farber Family



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

WCI

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.

Welcome Clubs International is sponsoring another Webinar on April 15, 2021, at 9AM. The topic will be "How Technology is changing Education". The speaker will be Ina Ghaznavi Collins. Learn how technology is preparing and inspiring children to be self-learners, be part of the digital economy, and pursue careers in STEAM fields in the Tanzanian village of Nshupu.

Contact Margareta Claesson at maaclaesson@gmail.com or (207) 439-2574 for registration information

MONTHLY MEETING FOR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP -The April Zoom meeting for the general membership is scheduled for Saturday, April, 24, 2021. The speaker will be Jennifer Sprague, Executive Director of Oyster Bay Womenade, one of the charities IWCNE is supporting this year. She will speak about the services OBW provides to community members in time of hardship
You will receive an email with the Zoom link for this meeting

Treasurer Report Feb. 2021

Charity Acc't	\$1,273.50
Admin. Acc't	\$6,609.36
Total	\$7,882.86

Anne Supenia

MEMBERSHIP

Congratulations to Linda Anderson on being elected President of Welcome Clubs International!

Welcome New Members:

Nicole Bianco
POB 324
(16 Sentry Hill Rd.)
York Harbor, Me 03911
Cell: 805-258-1109
nicolebiancoagain@yahoo.com

Frances Roy
585 Wansor Rd.
East Wakefield, NH 03803
Cell 603-978-1564
franarmroy@yahoo.com