



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 29, Number 5 May 27, 2020
WWW.IWCNE.NET and WWW.WCICLUBS.ORG
2ND COVI19 EDITION

President's Message

When we became aware of the seriousness of this pandemic in March and began social distancing I was certain we would be able to have our April business/luncheon meeting. I couldn't imagine social distancing would last this long. The new reality is that the world as we knew it is gone. In addition, this pandemic has made it profoundly challenging in the way we connect with family, friends, and our IWCNE family.

The Executive Board of Directors has been having the regularly scheduled monthly meetings via Zoom, and are now scheduling an additional meeting every month. The limitations created by the Corona virus makes it impossible for us to have fundraisers and "fun" activities. We will not be having a Fashion Show this year, and are still not certain if it will be feasible to have the Holiday Fair. Thanks to the creativity of some of our members, we have had fundraisers and are starting to have virtual cocktail parties. We will be following the restriction guidelines and will probably be able to have small pot lucks. Cindy Sayers is planning ways for us to have a "fun" outing. Lucille will be updating everyone on these in her weekly messages. Those of you who are not on e-mail will be contacted.

The charities we selected to support this year are in the same position we are in with regard to fundraising. They have found creative ways to carry on, but the challenge is great.

I wish to thank all who sent donations to the Charity Account. Because we are not able to raise money through our usual fundraising activities, contributions are especially welcome at this time.

Stay healthy and stay connected.

News from one of this year's charities— A Company Of Girls

(We will feature one of our charities in each "Covid" Newsletter)

It's been very difficult as obviously we've had to close our programming - but we have been able to meet with some of our girls online! So that has been wonderful!! Even celebrating a birthday with a surprise zoom party. We are also trying to continue as best we can some of the work we do by rehearsing plays online (this is the week we would usually be opening our spring performances so we've all been very sad). BUT we are working on an online show of The Wizard of Oz. Not sure exactly what it will be but we want the girls to feel some kind of "normalness" and sense of a common goal. I will let you know when we have it ready to show and perhaps you could share it with your wonderful members? We have no idea at this point how this will affect our programming when school returns in the fall. We're working on different scenarios, but it's so hard to know what to do right now. So much is still unknown.

Thank you so much for thinking about us.

We so appreciate your kindness and hope that all your members remain healthy and safe!

Board of Directors 2020

President	Mariene Benoit
Vice President	Cindy Sayers
Secretary	Lynn Pahland
Treasurer	Anne Supenia
Membership	Marion McAuliffe Yvonne Chainey
Fundraising	Ellen Farber- Libowitz
Newsletter	Lucille Gentsch
Publicity	Susan Martin
Programs & Luncheons	Deb Forster Linda Anderson
Activities	Cindy Sayers
Historian	Regina Godfrey
Pot Luck Coordinator	Lynne Gass, Ann Nahill
Webmaster	Lucille Gentsch
WCI Liaison	Linda Anderson
Founder	Anna Kristina Sawtelle

The next board meeting is May 27. If any non-board member would like to attend please contact Mariene Benoit.

NOTE: Next newsletter submissions will be on or before June 15

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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“Friendship is the comfort of knowing that even when you feel alone, you aren’t.”

Dear friends, this is a challenging time for us all. As an organization, we are making structural changes to support our selected charities; but it is equally as important for us to expand our care and support of one another.

Some of our membership includes those who have been members since the club was formed, others more recent. Please know that our club membership is here for you, to reach out and help you deal with the uncertainties we all are facing. We have formed a small group of members that have familiarity with our surrounding communities and the services offered, to include rides to appointments, getting in groceries, medications, or food delivery, etc. that are here to help you through some of the problems you may be

encountering.

Please contact us if there is something we can possibly help with.

More importantly, we are your friends, and we are here for you.

Lynn Pahland will coordinate: (207) 351-8389 Lynn.pahland@gmail.com

Fundraising Activities

WORLD CINEMA—VIEWING TIPS

York’s Center for Active Living is closed due to Corona Virus so no films.

Looking back, three films that have been recent favorites were: (all available on Netflix)

The 2019 film from Iceland shown last August: **Woman at War**

The 2019 US film shown in November, **The Biggest Little Farm**

From Great Britain, shown this past February: **Maiden**, the story of the first all-female crewed sloop to enter the Whitbread Round the World race in 1989.

FMI contact Barb Poulin 207.337.2623

POTLUCKS - OPEN-AIR BYOF&D

How about a small (10 people) BYOF&D (Bring Your Own Food and Drink) picnic? We are planning two concurrent picnics on June 17 with a rain date of 18th at 1 PM. Thank you to Lucille Gentsch, Kennebunkport, and Marion McAuliffe, York, for offering their respective backyards. We will be limiting the guests to 10 at each venue so we can be socially distant. Obviously it will have to be first-come, first-served, so please RSVP to Lynne Gass as to which one you’d like to attend. If you get bumped from this one, you’ll be first on the list for the next ones in July. We’ll be outside so bring sunscreen, bug spray, your picnic lunch, your water bottles (whatever beverage) and your \$10.00! Chairs will be provided! Sign up with Lynne Gass at 207-607-1305 or lynnegass123@gmail.com

Water Bottle - 50/50 RAFFLE- Final Count-down

There are only 9 bottles left! Contact Cindy now if you haven't ordered already. And remember - if you don't need a bottle but would like to be part of the 50/50 raffle, you can buy a chance for \$20. Let Cindy know ASAP cindysayersme@gmail.com or a note to Cindy Sayers, 34 Fletcher Street, Kennebunk ME 04043. Then please send your check payable to IWCNE to Anne Supenia, 55 Flintlock Village Unit 2, Wells ME. 04090, to pay for your bottle and/or 50/50 raffle chance.



Our interst groups are on hold at the moment because of social distancing requirements due to the Corona Virus Pandemic.

Membership

The completed directory is being mailed or delivered. Please contact Marion or Yvonne if you know of someone interested in joining.

AMAZON SMILE:

One way you can still generate money for the charity account is to do some E-shopping! Our club is one of the charities which benefit from Amazon’s charitable giving program - Amazon Smile. If you haven’t listed us yet, go to <https://smile.amazon.com> and select from the list of charities International Women’s Club of New England. Then do all your shopping through smile.amazon.com rather than amazon.com. Save it to your favorites list.

Treasurer’s Report as of Apr 30, 2020

Administrative Account	\$ 6,726.00
Charity Account	\$ 1,210.76
TOTAL	\$ 7,936.76

(Certificate of Deposit \$5,017)

Anne Supenia, Treasurer

THRIFT SHOPS: Please note that the thrift shops are closed

However, they will open again so please store your items for donation and await further instructions! Mariene’s storage space is full.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

weekly—Virtual Cocktail Party

May 27 Executive Board

June 10 Executive Board

June 17 Potluck Picnic (Jun 18 raindate)

The Mystery Viking is Lynn Pahland!



From Gwyneth Wykes: "An author friend in Florida has initiated a program called "We Care We share" - people sharing very short stories of events in their lives causing an unforgettable impact, something akin to what we are enduring in these stressful times, he asked me to contribute something which I did:"

We Care -- We Share!!

We all have special noteworthy times in our lives and having the opportunity to share them should be welcomed. It reminds me so much of events in my teen years which helped shape me in so many ways as I matured.

I was born in England and grew up in the oldest medieval City in all of the UK, a jewel of historic proportions. Two Churches and a Cathedral from 1100, called also the City of Three Spires. World War II was declared when I was 13 years old and the preparations for what was expected thereafter were a major part of every day's activities. Every window was blacked out with black material, tape in diamond shapes on all of them also, no outside lights on the roads and streets. Our City had beautiful Parks, acres of green grass beautifully kept, floral gardens and lily ponds, there were more than 30 within the City boundaries, havens for us all, they were all excavated to house 100 to 300 Citizens during the expected air raids.

One requirement which affected me so much was a notice that advised us that all iron garden gates and furniture would be confiscated to help the war effort in producing armaments. The structure of my house was one of about 20 homes all connected, all with the same iron gate, each one with the owners' specific design. Coming home from school one day I rounded the corner and could see all 20 homes with the same gaping hole in the privet hedges, each house seemed to be a vision of a face in shock, etched in my memory, a preview of many gaping holes where those houses had once stood, land mines dropped which took out many a block along with their residents in many cases. So my shock was only the beginning.

That was the beginning of three years of death and destruction beyond description, thousands of homes destroyed, hospitals, Churches alike. Time in shelters while air raids ensued, absorbing the atmosphere of people under siege, marveling at the bravery of fellow citizens, an education like no other. Fortunately there were experiences never to be forgotten too, being part of a musical group put together by a very talented musical Mother, who had us travel in a donated Bus to camps and factories, singing and dancing for very appreciative audiences. Seeing the faces of those audiences enjoying our efforts was solace in spades in those almost unbearable times.—

Caring and Sharing some of our memories helps us to understand each other and to welcome the opportunity.

June Birthdays

10 Babro Bolh
12 Georgiana Gallagher
15 Mary Strohm
17 Daria Tansy
21 Lisa Emerson-Stoclet
23 Denise Martel



Please support our generous sponsors.



Maureen Clayton

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MEETINGS/LUNCHEONS

Calendar— 2020

JANUARY 25

FEBRUARY 22

MARCH 7

(Summer luncheons cancelled due to Pandemic)

*SEPTEMBER 23 (Wed)

*OCTOBER 21 (Wed)

NOVEMBER 21

The Board strongly encourages members to attend the monthly meetings, which are integral to IWCNE. Luncheons promote friendship, introduce new members, provide information about club activities as well as furthering our mission of understanding the diversity of cultures in our country and throughout the world. It is also your opportunity to invite friends who can learn about the club and its various programs and projects.

*Subject to change

Notes from the Executive Board of Directors

We meet (via Zoom) twice a month to deliberate over the new Covid 19 reality and how it affects our activities and our fundraising efforts. We would like the membership to know about certain problems/issues we have been discussing.

—We have cancelled all summer luncheon meetings. The next scheduled luncheon meetings are Wednesday September 23rd at Clay Hill Farm and the Wednesday October 21st at The White Barn Inn in Kennebunkport. Both of these plans are subject to change depending on the status of the pandemic!

—The Fashion Show has been cancelled for 2020 and will hopefully take place in May, 2021.

—Potlucks will be modified to become socially distanced outdoor picnics. —Our selected charities will be awarded whatever sums we raise this year and also held over as the selected charities for 2021.

—The Holiday Fair is still being planned at the moment, but subject to change due to Covid-19.

From Charline, Hostess of our weekly Virtual Cocktail Parties:

Be thankful for Zoom! Many of us are enjoying family events from a distance. I was able to “attend” a college graduation party for my grandson along with relatives from England and South America. It’s also helping us keep IWCNE in touch until we can be together. We were introduced to Regina Godfrey’s great grandchildren and heard about Rhonda Frothingham’s first grandchild. We sympathized with Zoi Diamond, who will not travel north for the summer. We were especially pleased to welcome new member Sara Samaniego, who joined just in time to see all our planned events canceled! We all look forward to our first “in person” gathering in June. In the meantime, I hope more of you will join our Zoom gatherings.

