



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 11 Nov 21, 2020  
WWW.IWCNE.NET and WWW.WCICLUBS.ORG  
COVID—19 EDITION 8

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I think of November as a very bleak month—the daylight hours are short, the trees are bare, there is a chill in the air which reminds us of cold days ahead, and there is usually no snow or holiday decorations to brighten things up.

We do, however, celebrate a uniquely American holiday. Thanksgiving is the day we pause and reflect on those things that make us thankful. Although 2020 has brought about many restrictions and sadly many losses, so many of our front-line workers have gone beyond expectations, and made a commitment to those very sick and dying people who could not have their loved ones by their sides. A very special thanks to them as well as supermarket workers, teachers, truck drivers, restaurant staff, and many others who have made life easier for us in this time of social distancing.

I am thankful for the members of IWCNE. In March, when everything changed and we could not have our usual activities, a new plan of action had to be developed without a clear vision of what to expect. It only took a short time before some of our members created activities to raise funds for our selected charities. The IWCNE membership responded to these fundraisers as well as to the One-Time Special Appeal. I am so pleased and proud of our Club members and am looking forward to the time when we can see one another face-to-face without restrictions.

I couldn't have had a more committed and effective Executive Board this year. I had worked on Committees and been on the Executive Board in the past with them, so felt confident that this year would go well. When circumstances changed and challenges were overwhelming, they rose to the occasion and made a difficult time manageable. I couldn't be more pleased and grateful to each and everyone of them.

We also received some very welcome news this year. IWCNE is a member of Welcome Club International (WCI). I am pleased to report that on June 24, 2020 the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) adopted the recommendation of the Committee On Non-Governmental (NGOs) to grant special consultative status to Welcome Clubs International (WCI) The status represents a landmark in WCI and offers members many opportunities to benefit as well as to contribute to the work of women internationally.

My best to all of you for a wonderful holiday season. Here's hoping 2021 will bring solutions to protecting us from Covid and let us get back to lots of social interactions.

Mariene Dargan Benoit



## 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 and Pam Patton
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 will be Jan 8. If any non-board member would like to attend please contact Mariene Benoit.

NOTE: Next newsletter submissions will be on or before **January 14**

**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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## WORLD CINEMA—VIEWING TIPS



Three choices all new to Netflix:

*The Life Ahead*, a 95 minute film from Italy, starring 86 year-old Sophia Loren, written and directed by her younger son, Eduardo Ponti. English subtitles.

From England: the 4th season of *The Crown*. But I suggest seeing the earlier seasons 1-3 first if you haven't already.

And for something different for those who enjoy (medical) mysteries: *Diagnosis*, a docuseries based on 15 years of Sunday New York Times articles. You'll be less tempted to binge-watch as each of these episodes stand alone.

**RE-OPENING  
SOON**

### **Return of the Pop-Up Shop:**

Perhaps you've been wondering about where the Pop-Up shop is? Well, it is taking a break while we sell our raffle tickets for the Holiday Basket.

But, not to worry, our plan is to "pop-up" again in the new year to continue fundraising for our 2021 charities. So keep checking the IWCNE weekly email for news in the new year, and please be thinking about what you can donate to fill the shop!

### **Treasurer's Report November, 2020**

Charity Account \$13,854.31  
Administration Account \$5718  
CD Account \$5018,60  
Anne Supenia

## **FUNDRAISING**

Our fundraising activities have generated \$13,000 plus this year—a remarkable achievement! \$ 12,000 will be given to our juried charities: \$5,000 to A Company of Girls, \$4,000 to In Her Presence & \$3,000 to Stop Trafficking Us. \$ \$1,000 will be kept in our charity fund to pay deposits for next year fundraising events. Any amount accrued from our holiday basket will be used for a food bank .

We appreciate all the wonderful participation & fundraising efforts of our membership this year. This Covid year will be one to remember for many reasons. It is important we all remain healthy & continue to do acts of loving kindness. We will continue our charitable events in the new year in hopes of resuming our usual in person fundraisers in the spring.

We salute all of you.  
Ellen Farber, Fundraising chairperson

### **POTLUCK PICNICS**

Thank you, once again, to Ellen Farber for hosting our last picnic and the six brave souls who attended. When we can safely start our indoor pot lucks again, we will need hostesses.

Please let Lynne Gass know if you are interested - [lynegass123@gmail.com](mailto:lynegass123@gmail.com), 207-607-1305.



### **Help bring joy this season**

Buy your gifts at AmazonSmile and Amazon donates

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](https://smile.amazon.com) rather than [amazon.com](https://amazon.com). Save it to your favorites list.

### **CONSIGNMENTS**

The shops are able to take more items for consignment. If you are donating clothes, the shops want only winter clothing. You can also donate Christmas items. If you have anything to consign, phone Mariene Benoit at 207-646-5839 or email her at [mdarganb@gmail.com](mailto:mdarganb@gmail.com). She can also be reached by text or a call at 207-251-8430.

## Here is November's Activity:

STEP 1. Make a cup of tea ( or your favorite hot beverage)

STEP 2. If you have one, light a fire in your fireplace

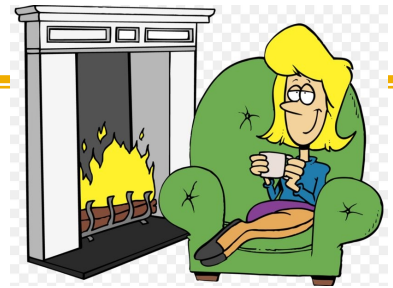
Step 3. Dig out your best stationery or cards (anyone over 30 still has stationery right)??

STEP 4. Sit down and **HANDWRITE** a letter to one or more of the guests or relatives who would have been around your table this holiday season. You can tell them what you are thankful for, or write about a treasured family tradition or even share a recipe. Anything that inspires you to reach out.

STEP 5. Attach a stamp and take a walk to your nearest mailbox.

I'm willing to bet your written words will be read at the "Zoom" table this year or maybe even recited at next year's Thanksgiving table when we can (hopefully) celebrate together in person!

Happy Thanksgiving from Cindy Sayers!



## JANUARY 23, 2021 MEETING

We don't know when we will be able to resume our Luncheon/Business Meetings, but anticipate that will not happen before Spring. Our January meeting is a special meeting and the most well attended. It is when we meet the recipients of the funds we raised during the year and award grants to each of these charities. This year the meeting will be via zoom. At this meeting, the 2020 charities will have representatives attending and we will be awarding the grants to each of them. We will also install the 2021 Executive Board of Directors. We encourage you to mark your calendars for January 23, 2021, and plan to attend the meeting.

### December Birthdays

3 Enid Topchik  
6 Katherine Eraklis  
7 Barb Poulin, Pam Patton  
9 Mary Kinnear  
14 Charline Ludgate  
21 Rob Walker  
22 Jane Page, Isabel Cutler  
30 Lynne Gass

### January Birthdays

1 Nancy Ramsdell  
14 Ellen Farber Libowitz  
14 Mary Hale  
18 Lee Regan-Jacks  
22 Marion McAuliffe



Please support our generous sponsors.



### Maureen Clayton

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International Women's Club of New England  
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Cape Neddick, Maine 03902

#### MEETINGS/LUNCHEONS

##### Calendar- 2020

JANUARY 25  
FEBRUARY 22  
MARCH 7  
MAY 30 Zoom  
JUNE 27 Zoom  
JULY 25 Zoom  
AUGUST 26 Zoom  
SEPTEMBER 23 Zoom  
OCTOBER 21 Zoom  
NOVEMBER 21 Zoom  
JANUARY 23 Zoom

The Board strongly encourages members to attend the monthly meetings, which are integral to IWCNE.

*The Executive Board of Directors  
International Women's Club of New England  
would like to thank you, the membership,  
for all your hard work and support this year*



#### Lunch and Sing-a-long on December 6, 2020

We will pack you a lunch at no cost to you: A sandwich from Mornings in Paris, cocoa, chips and a home-baked cookie. You just have to pick it up at a board member's house near you (other arrangements can be made if needed)

and then, at home, tune into a Zoom meeting. We will enjoy eating together and Ellen will lead us in song as usual.

All members are invited. Please sign up with Lucille at [lucillegen@gmail.com](mailto:lucillegen@gmail.com) or (207) 318-7304 by November 27

Choose your baguette sandwich:

Ham and Cheese or Chicken with Pesto or Goat Cheese with Basil Infused Sun-dried Tomato

Sandwich pick - up 10:30 - 12; Zoom meeting 1:00

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec 6 Holiday Party  
Jan 8 Exec Board Mtg.  
Jan 23 Awards Ceremony  
and Monthly meeting\*

\*Zoom meeting

#### **Membership**

Please note that the change of address for Nancy Ramsdell was incorrect, so let your records read: Nancy Ramsdell, tel. (207) 363-2261, York Senior Housing, 117 Long Sands Road, #310, York, ME 03909

#### **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