



**International
Women's Club of
Philadelphia**

IWCP Newsletter

Member Welcome Clubs International

June-July-August 2021 Issue 4

Welcome Summer!



A letter from our President

Dear Fellow Members,

What a wonderful start to Spring we have had, beautiful weather, plants in full bloom, a lovely time of the year to be outdoors soaking up nature. The roll out of statewide vaccinations and the easing of CDC regulations has also enabled life to slowly get back to some form of normality! That I am truly grateful for.

Our members have been able to continue to enjoy some excellent online programming from our club and also as guests of Welcome to Washington Club and Welcome Clubs International (WCI), who have all had some very interesting speakers. Most recently WCI held their 35th Anniversary Celebration, which was attended by well over 200 women globally. What a wonderful way to have women from our sister clubs unite in friendship. Our French, German, Italian & Spanish coffees continue to be very popular and with the easing of restrictions will slowly transition back to in person gatherings.

Other activities that have been enjoyed by our members include book club, trips to Valley Forge Park for our nature enthusiasts and a recent outing to the beautiful Natural Garden at Stoneleigh. Annette Meretz works extremely hard to coordinate these amazing field trips for us all. In the coming months please join in David Culp's Garden Tour at Brandywine Cottage, a summer picnic at Chanticleer and a visit to Longwood Gardens which will all be lovely experiences and a way to meet in person particularly for our newest members who may not have had the opportunity as yet.

On behalf of the Board and our members, I would also like to take this opportunity to offer our deepest thanks to Irene Boden for her outstanding contribution to the IWCP over the years. Irene joined the IWCP back in 1999 and very quickly became the German Coffee Coordinator. Then in 2008, Irene became the 'Activities Coordinator' and has served in that capacity for an amazing 13 years, what a marvelous innings, thank-you!

As this is my last contribution to the newsletter as IWCP President, it has not been an easy one to write. I thank you all for the opportunity to serve you as President of the IWCP for the last two years, it certainly has been a most unexpected and challenging time! The Board have been an amazing and supportive team to work with and for that I am truly thankful. I wish you and your families continued good health and happiness in 2021.

In Friendship,
Kathryn Bessemer

Annual Business Luncheon

June 29 (Tuesday), 12 Noon

St. Davids Golf Club, 845 Radnor Street Rd, Wayne, PA 19087

After more than a year of pandemic life and social distancing, the IWCP invites you to join us for our 2021 Annual Business Luncheon. This will be an outdoor event and will be held on the club's beautiful patio. Come join us to learn more about our wonderful club, meet new members or simply reconnect and have a good time with friends. More information to follow.



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Calendar at a Glance:

• June

- 01 David Culp's Garden
- 03 French Bistro
- 10 German Coffee,
Virtual Happy Hour
- 17 Book Club Social
- 24 Virtual Happy Hour
- 29 Annual Business Luncheon

July

- 08 Virtual Happy Hour
- 09 Picnic at Chanticleer Gardens
- 29 Virtual Happy Hour

• August

- 11 Outing at Longwood Gardens
- 12 Virtual Happy Hour
- 26 Virtual Happy Hour

The objective of the IWCP is to welcome women of all cultures to the Philadelphia area and to promote friendship, cooperation and understanding without political agenda and self-promotion of businesses.

Congratulations, Helga Ruus-Neubert!

I am delighted to announce that our immediate past President, Helga Ruus-Neubert, was recently the well deserving recipient of a **Marian Adair Spirit Award certificate of merit**, from Welcome Clubs International (WCI), for her outstanding contributions to IWCP.

Helga joined The IWCP in 2000 and was the Club's Secretary for approximately 5 years. Since 2005 she has also been responsible for the Club's directory, has been our newsletter editor for 2010/2011 and has been a continued ongoing support to all the subsequent newsletter editor/s. Helga also most recently developed/created our current newsletter format.

Helga's term of presidency was from 2012 – 2019, during which period our membership saw steady growth. Over the years, Helga has also been actively involved in the planning, hosting and attending our many club events, which continue to see long term friendships thrive and many new friendships formed. On a personal note, I have been very thankful for Helga's ongoing support and friendship.

- Kathryn Bessemer



Get well soon, Charlotte Andrews

Charlotte Andrews and her loved ones would like to thank the members of the IWCP who have been so supportive of her especially in recent months. She has so appreciated all our members' efforts in making her life easier and more cheerful. She especially appreciates all of the visits she has received.

Regarding Charlotte's current situation: the doctors are trying to perform a Thoracentesis procedure to extract some excess fluid that is in the pleural space between her lung and chest wall. It should make breathing easier for her. The doctors are currently monitoring her before they perform the procedure since she is on blood thinners, but it should hopefully take place soon. She remains quite weak, but we hope she regains some strength when she is back at Artman. All of us at the IWCP wish her a very speedy recovery.



Brandywine Cottage - David Culp's Garden



Jun 01 (Tuesday), 11 AM

Brandywine Cottage - David Culp's Garden
1158 Osborne Road
Downingtown, PA 19335

Minimum of 10 persons required for a private tour, guided by David Culp himself. **Admission \$10 per person (check or cash), to be paid upon arrival.** Event can be rescheduled for a rain date in case of inclement weather. Masks required.

David Culp is the creator of the gardens at Brandywine Cottage in Downingtown, Pennsylvania. David has been lecturing about gardens nationwide for more than 25 years. Articles on David have appeared in Gardens Illustrated, Horticulture Magazine, and numerous other publications. He is the Principle of David L. Culp Designs. His books will be on sale at the location.

Organizers : Marjon van Kempen (Marjonpt@gmail.com) and Annette Meertz (annette.meertz@gmail.com).



June

01 Prudence Rawson
06 Carla Montanelli Nascari
07 Charlotte Andrews, Sara Nelson
08 Annegret Voparil
29 Monique Faraq

July

02 Laura H. Paine
04 Sabine Cranmer, Anna Steininger
08 Hannelore Barbieri, Ilse Farrell
10 Ann DiGiacomo
13 Heather Saunders
14 Renate Harshaw
15 Rebecca O. Earle

August

01 Aurora Lopez
13 Ines Weggelaar
14 Cindy Impicciatore, Jacqueline Yates
17 Martha Stang
20 Eva Jackson
25 Maria Klein-Szanto
31 Luisa Proano

French Speakers' Bistro/Potluck Lunch

June 03 (Thursday), 11:30 AM (Rain date - Friday, June 4)

Hostess: Francesca Fox
217 Matsonford Road, Radnor, PA 19087

This will be an outdoor Pot-luck lunch. **Please** call Francesca to find out what she would like you to bring.

RSVP: debei21@aol.com or 610-306-5291

German Speakers' Coffee

June 10 (Thursday), 10:30 am

Hostess: Ines Weggelaar
288 Hopewell Dr., Colledgeville, PA 19426

This will be an outdoor event, weather permitting. **Maximum 13 people.** To join, call Ines at 610-554-7535. (Please do not register on the IWCP website)

Book Club Social

June 17 (Thursday), via Zoom

Details to follow. Zoom link will be sent out to all interested attendees.

For more information, contact Susan Gatzert-Snyder at

Sgatzertsnyder@gmail.com

Welcome, New Members!

Nina Grinnell USA ninamjudson@me.com

Christine Stenner Germany christine@stennerlaw.com

Picnic at Chanticleer - A Pleasure Garden



JULY 09 (Friday), 5 PM (Rain date July 16)

Chanticleer Gardens
786 Church Road
Wayne, PA
610 687-4163
www.chanticleergarden.org

Admission : \$10 per person, \$5 for Radnor Library Card Holders. Bring your own dinner, drinks, folding chairs, blankets etc.

NEW – Online Parking Reservation required – reservation recommended

Within 30 minutes of Philadelphia, this is one of the great gardens of the region. Once the Rosengarten estate, today's Chanticleer is a colorful garden within a historic setting. This garden has been called the most imaginative and exciting public garden in America. The garden is a study of textures and forms, where foliage trumps flowers, the gardeners lead the design, and even the drinking fountains are sculptural. It is a garden of pleasure and learning, relaxing yet filled with ideas to take home.

Outing at Longwood Gardens



The Revitalized Main Fountain Garden at Longwood Gardens recognized by The Preservation Alliance of Greater Philadelphia

Aug. 11 (Wednesday), 11 AM (Rain Date - Wed., Aug 18)

Longwood Gardens
1001 Longwood Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348
610 388 1000

Admission : \$25 per person, Seniors \$22

11 AM : Meet at the entrance
12:15 PM : Visit Open Air Theatre Fountain
1:15 PM : Visit Main Fountain Garden and other displays available that day

Lunch at Longwood Café (610-388-5290). A group reservation will be made closer to the date. Admission fee due at time of reservation. You may pay on the IWCP website. Organizer: Annette Meertz (annette.meertz@gmail.com)

REGISTRATION FOR THE ABOVE TWO EVENTS WILL OPEN UP ONLINE ONE MONTH BEFORE THE DATES OF THE EVENTS

Virtual Happy Hours Continue

The IWCP will continue to host 'Virtual' Happy Hours via Zoom. We are now offering a Happy Hour every week with different hosts and on perhaps different days. Look out for announcements. Each Happy Hour will start at: 5:00 PM East Coast Time. Our two historic Happy Hour dates will remain unchanged. Each Happy Hour will be announced a week ahead. The **FIRST 15 MEMBERS** to sign up will be accepted and be able to attend from their home. A few days prior to the virtual meeting, all participants will receive a Zoom invitation that will enable them to attend. The IWCP looks forward to continue bringing many of its members virtually together over the next three months.

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Happy Hours Dates

2nd Thursday of the Month: 6/10, 7/8, 8/12

Please contact **Monika Panger** at 215-755-7655 or mmpanger@1919ic.com

Last Thursday of the Month: 6/24, 7/29, 8/26

Please contact **Kathryn Bessemer** at 610-457-3205 or kathrynbessemer@comcast.net

Beautiful Philadelphia: Springtime pictures by our President Kathryn Bessemer



International Women's Club of Philadelphia
www.iwcp.org

Member WELCOME CLUBS INTERNATIONAL (WCI)
www.wciclubs.org



Thank you to all who attended our German Coffee in May!

Newsletter: Please send information to Reshma Munshi who writes and edits the newsletter: Reshma.munshi@gmail.com.

Website Info: For your convenience, you also can find the most recent newsletter on our website: www.iwcp.org/newsletter

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