



June 12, 2016—A Royal Garden Party in Celebration of the Birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

This year we will be celebrating the Ninetieth Birthday and the Sixty-fourth year of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The Queen’s Birthday Garden Party for 2016 will be held at “Rocky Crest,” in Gladwyne, PA.



Mr. and Mrs. David Lavins will be Co-chairing the event. We will be featuring wonderful items in the live auction this year and the silent auction will have the usual bounty of treasures.

As always, a beautiful location, sumptuous food, generous libations, fabulous live and silent auctions and the camaraderie of fellow members and friends make this our premier event for the year.

Please put this on your calendar and bring your friends!



Sunday, May 1, 2016: International Cricket Festival Germantown Cricket Club

You are invited to attend one of the loveliest Spring Events in the Philadelphia area.—the 24th Philadelphia International Cricket Festival. Finals. Cricket fans will enjoy top class skills and competition; non-cricketing sports enthusiasts can learn about the art of the game; and if you are simply looking for a relaxing, civilized way to spend a Sunday afternoon, bring your family and a picnic blanket or lawn chair – for a quintessentially English experience.

Germantown Cricket Club (GCC) won the finals in 1997 which was managed by ESU Board Member **Chuck Gupta** who also played for the team. Chuck revived the game of cricket in 1991 at GCC and played for the team till 2004. Chuck will be on hand to explain the action. The match begins at about 1 PM and ends at 5 PM. Admission is FREE. Visit www.cricketfestival.com for information.

Subscriptions are \$85 for Members AND Non-Members and \$175 for Benefactors.

Look for your Garden Party invitation in the mail! Please contact Judith at 215-545-3619 or esu@libertynet.org with any questions or to make a reservation.

Those signing on as Benefactors will be invited to a cocktail reception on Sunday, June 6th at Valley Forge Military Academy. If you would like to register as a benefactor and attend this event in the Sara Crawford Room at Mellon Hall, please mail in your form or contact Judith in the office who can mail or email additional information.

We look forward to celebrating with you in June!



ESU Region III Meeting May 7, 2016 at Bartram’s Garden

Fellow ESU members, come, relax, meet and greet other members at our May 7 meeting at Bartram’s Garden. Registration fee is \$40; lunch meals may be ordered at \$20. Meeting starts promptly at 10 AM. Arrive early for a bird walk or stroll through the riverside meadow or upper kitchen garden. To register online, either by check or online payment, go to esuus.org/esu. **Select “Events and Activities,” then “Meetings and Conferences” and click on Region III meeting.** Questions? E-mail blairkaren166@gmail.com or call ESU Region III Chair Karen Blair-Brand at 814-237-7033.



Please note that the International Cricket Finals are being held at Germantown Cricket Club (GCC) located at 401 W. Manheim Street, Philadelphia, PA 19144 not at Merion Cricket Club mentioned in the March newsletter.

President's Column

Dear Friends,

What a beautiful spring we are having hopefully leading to an even grander summer for our Garden Party in honor of Queen Elizabeth to celebrate her 90th birthday. We had a sumptuous and full-filling dinner at Sang Kee Asian Bistro in February. Many thanks are extended to **Doug Pugliese** for arranging that the event occurred on a warm, early spring evening.



My thanks are also extended to **Diana Evans** who chaired our annual Shakespeare Competition that was held at the String Theory Charter School. Our very able **Stephen Wesley Holt** served as the emcee and **Debbie and Andy Webster** graciously were once again the event's financial sponsors.

Plan to attend ESU Region III meeting and tour at Bartram Gardens on May 7th. You can sign up by going to esuus.org and select meetings and events to get to the registration page. .

And finally, we welcome back **Judith Klein Francis** to the ESU office and thank **Barbara Murray** for her service.

Very truly yours,
 Gayla McCluskey
 President



Shakespeare Competition Reception

The **Andrew F. Webster Scholarship** was awarded to the winners of the 29th Annual Shakespeare Competition on Sunday, March 6, 2016 at the Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School. The talented teens performed their winning monologues and delighted their families and Board members who attended the awards reception.

Shown below: **Diana Evans**, Shakespeare Competition Chair; **Andrew F. Webster**; 3rd place winner: **Thomas Van Dean**, Central High School, 1st place winner: **Emma Muller**, Perkiomen Valley High School and 2nd place winner: **Zillah Elcin**, The Academy at Palumbo.



Emma will compete May 1-6 at the ESU National Competition held at Lincoln Center in New York City. The ESU National Shakespeare Competition has been recognized by the Globe Center (USA), the Children's Theatre Foundation of America and the American Academy of Achievement. Many distinguished judges have served on the Competition panels.



Debbie Smith Webster acknowledged the Shakespeare program donors, and called on the students to recite their winning monologues, receive their medals and scholarship.



Black Flags: The Rise of ISIS

Joby Warrick, Pulitzer prize-winning journalist and author of *Black Flags* traced the long arc of today's most extremist threat on March 14th at the Racquet Club. Lively Q&A's and book signing followed.

Update: It was Announced on April 18th that Joby Warrick will receive a 2016 Pulitzer prize in the Non-Fiction Category for *Black Flags*.



Joby Warrick, Will Jordan and George Tyndall



Harry Schaub and Debbie Webster



Don and Judy Rosato

Royal Oak Foundation at the Union League

Our branch has received the honor of being listed as a co-sponsor of these events to recognize the steadfast support they receive from our membership. **Location: The Union League of Philadelphia, 140 S. Broad Street.** FORMAL BUSINESS ATTIRE REQUIRED. For each lecture, there will be a cash bar reception at 6:00PM. **Dinner reservations are non-refundable and must be made by the Wednesday before the lecture.** **Lecture only:** \$30 members and co-sponsors*; \$40 non-members. **Lecture and dinner:** \$75 members and co-sponsors*; \$80 non-members. Registration is required: <http://www.royal-oak.org/lectures> or 800-913-6565, ext. 201 ***use code 16SESUP to receive the discounted price.**



800 Years of Family History: Berkeley Castle **Charles Berkeley, Heir to Berkeley Castle** **Tuesday, May 3, 6:30PM**

In a country rich in history, only the Berkeley family can lay claim to having passed their estates the longest from father-to-son since Saxon times. Their home, Berkeley Castle—built on the Anglo-Welsh border—is the oldest continuously occupied castle in England after the royal fortresses of the Tower of London and Windsor Castle. If its walls could talk they might whisper about the notorious murder of King Edward II which took place here in 1327. Castle Director and heir, Charles Berkeley will illustrate his family home, and discuss how 27 generations have enhanced and maintained the Castle, an irreplaceable piece of English history.

Spanning 80 years, from 1839 to the murder of the Romanovs, historian and best-selling author Helen Rappaport will explore the British Royal family's ever-changing relationship with Russia.

Gentry, Generals and Industrialists: **English Country Houses in the Thames Valley** **Dr. Oliver Cox, Oxford University Fellow** **Monday, May 9, 6:30PM**

The Thames Valley has historically been synonymous with the rich and powerful throughout Britain's history. It is dotted with lavish country estates and castles and the site for many of England's most celebrated (and posh) sporting events: the Royal Ascot and



The Royal Henley Regatta. In this richly illustrated lecture, Oxford University Fellow Dr. Oliver Cox will explore the history of these houses, outlining how changes in fashion, money and power created a rich tapestry of interlinked country houses of all ages and sizes.



Over 500 Years Guarding the Tower of London **Chief Yeoman Warder Alan Kingshott** **Thursday, May 19, 6:30PM**

The Tower of London has been expertly guarded by the Body of Yeoman Warders—more commonly known as “Beefeaters”—since 1485 when they were formed by King Henry VII. Alan Kingshott will explore the role of the Body of Yeoman Warders, and the traditional ceremonies held within the grounds, including the Ceremony of the Keys; the official locking up of the Tower that has taken place every night without fail for at least 700 years.



Capability Brown and Belvoir Castle: **Discovering a Lost Landscape**

Emma Manners, the 11th Duchess of Rutland **Thursday, May 26, 6:30PM**

In the early 1800s, the Duke of Rutland's gardens at Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire, were considered to be amongst the finest in the land. Although the gardens were rumored to be the work of Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown (1716-1783), nothing could be confirmed until now. In 2015, after 235 years, Brown's plans were discovered hidden in the castle archives. Her Grace, Emma, will talk about the breakthrough discovery of the lost plans and how Brown's landscape is still as appropriate for today and—crucially—for the next generation.

The Royal Oak Foundation is the American Partner of the National Trust of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Our mission is to encourage Americans to learn about, experience and support places of great historic and natural significance throughout the United Kingdom. Our members receive unlimited entry to all National Trust UK properties.



Chinese New Year: The Year of the Monkey

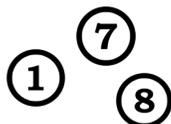
It was a dark and stormy night complete with tornado warning!

ESU members braved the weather and enjoyed a multi-course feast at the Sang Kee Asian Bistro in Wynnewood on February 24, 2016.



Lucky Flower
chrysanthemum

Lucky Numbers



Chinese Zodiac—Year of the Monkey

Monkey is the ninth in the 12-year cycle of Chinese zodiac. The Years of the Monkey include 1920, 1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004, 2016, 2028...

The monkey is a clever animal. It is usually compared to a smart person. During the Spring and Autumn Period (770 - 476 BC), the dignified Chinese official title of marquis was pronounced 'Hou', the same as the pronunciation of 'monkey' in Chinese. The animal was thereby bestowed with an auspicious meaning.

Calendar of Events

- May 1** International Cricket Festival
May 3 *800 Years of Family History: Berkeley Castle*
May 7 ESU Region III Meeting
May 9 *Gentry, Generals and Industrialists: English Gentry Houses in the Thames Valley*
May 19 *Over 500 Years Guarding the Tower of London*
May 26 *Capability Brown and Belvoir Castle: Discovering a Lost Landscape*
June 5 Benefactor Reception at Valley Forge Military Academy
June 12 Queen's Birthday Garden Party
Aug. 10 Race Night/BBQ at Corinthian Yacht Club (Tentative date)
Sept. 12 Annual Meeting
Dec. 18 Christmas Celebration



Many thanks to **Chuck Gupta** for permission to use these photographs. Germantown Cricket Club team in 2003. Chuck Gupta is 7th from left.



The first Cricket team at Temple University in 1959 managed by Chuck (standing 3rd from right) while doing his graduate studies in organic Chemistry there.



ESU Members enjoy dining privileges* at The Racquet Club of Philadelphia, 215 S. 16th St.

**ESU members must first register at the Front Desk with a credit card to receive a Guest Pass.*

The English-Speaking Union □ 215 S. 16th Street, Suite 14 .

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Emeritus Governor

Deborah Smith Webster

Honorary Governors

Hon. Oliver St. Clair Franklin, OBE

Charles E. Mather III

President

Ms. Gayla McCluskey

Vice President

Ms. Geni Klein

Ms. Suzanne Lavins

Treasurer

Mr. William J.D. Jordan

Governors

Ms. Julie Christoph

Ms. Diana Lola Evans

Ms. Susan Gerrity

Mr. Chandrakant R. Gupta

Ms. Gene Kosich

Ms. Sheila Leith

Mr. Michael Lynagh

Ms. Elizabeth Mills

Ms. Amanda Mucklé

Mr. S. Douglas Pugliese

Dr. David Richards

Dr. Valence Sauri

Mr. George Tyndall

Executive Director: Judith K Francis

Tel. 215-545-3619