



ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY

On Sunday, June 2 The English-Speaking Union was met by a sold out crowd to celebrate the Queen’s Birthday at our Annual Garden Party. This year’s event was held at the childhood home of Princess Grace of Monaco in East Falls. The event co-chairs **Steve and Mary Darlington** and **Andy and Debbie Webster** organized a full afternoon that included a

Benefactor reception hosted by Grace Kelly’s nephew, J.B. Kelly. J.B. told some family stories followed by tours given by himself and Alexandra Golaszewska. Home movies were also playing on the T.V. at the reception that took place in the Pub of the house.

The house was opened to additional members after the reception. They enjoyed a huge delicious spread catered by Tender Loving Catering outside under the tent with dessert inside. Volunteers, Isaac Newman and Nancy Sullivan provided information on many of the treasures in the downstairs rooms.

Also in attendance was the Philadelphia ESU Branch Shakespeare Competition winner, Max Yillah. We were pleased to announce that he came in 2nd place overall at the National Competition at Lincoln Center in New York. He talked briefly about the competition in New York.

The rainy weather held off until after the party and a good time was had by all.





President's Column

Dear Friends,

This will be my last column as your Philadelphia Branch President before my term ends. I would like to start by thanking the ESU members for their continued support of

this worthwhile organization. It has been my pleasure to serve as your President for three years and I look forward to attending events as a Past President and guest.

I am happy to announce the members elected **Francis A. O'Donnell, Jr.** as your next President. He comes with experience in non-profit leadership and is enthusiastic to take over.

One of the most enjoyable parts of being President was getting to know our Shakespeare Competition winner, 2 years in a row, Max Yillah. He has so much talent and I see a great future for him. He has started the fall semester at Temple University and joined us at the Annual Meeting on September 10th. At the meeting, he recited his winning monologue and talked with members about the National Competition and his future. It was a great treat.

We continue to be co-sponsors of the Royal Oak lectures at The Union League. There are a variety of interesting lectures set for this fall. The first few are briefly described on the next page.

We are also in the planning stages for a visit from England's singing group, The Queen's Six on Friday, October 25th, for an incredible evening of music. Type in the following link to purchase tickets on-line: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/queens-six-concert-tickets-72982359201>

Once again, thank you for making my Presidency of the Philadelphia Branch of the ESU a memorable one. I look forward to seeing you at the events.

Very Truly Yours,

Pat Bushyager

President



Click or cut and paste the links below to enjoy recent videos from The Queen's Six

Amazing Grace

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fLZBulsZUck>

Isn't She Lovely (Stevie Wonder)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YEJyy74G5KA>

The Queen's Six

On Friday, October 25th we will have a concert fundraiser to support operations and programs of The Philadelphia Branch of The English-Speaking Union.

The Queen's Six were established in 2008, the 450th anniversary of the accession of Queen Elizabeth I, from whom they take their name.

Based at Windsor Castle, all the members of The Queen's Six are also Lay Clerks of St George's Chapel, whose homes lie within the Castle walls. The Chapel Choir, which consists of boy trebles and twelve professional adult male singers, performs some eight services a week, as well as at private and state occasions, often before the Royal Family.

Now Dan, Tim, Nick, Dom, Andrew and Simon have come together to bring their unique style of entertainment to a much wider audience. Their repertoire extends far beyond the reach of the choir stalls: from austere early chant, florid Renaissance polyphony, lewd madrigals and haunting folk songs, to upbeat Jazz and Pop arrangements.

They have chosen to support The English-Speaking Union by offering concerts to some of its branches. The Queen's Six is making their first trip to Philadelphia for one night only. They will perform at St. Mark's Church at 6:30pm, and following the concert, the Queen's Six members will join our Benefactors at a dinner reception. The dinner will be limited. Please email philaesu@gmail.com or call Judith at 215-545-3619 for more information about the Dinner.

Tickets can be purchased by typing in the following link into your browser or making a check out to ESU (\$35/person) and mailing it to: ESU, 1221 Locust Street, Box 502, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

To purchase tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/queens-six-concert-tickets-72982359201>



ROYAL OAK LECTURES

The Royal Oak Foundation is the American Partner of the National Trust of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Their 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.

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.** Lectures are \$30. Lectures with dinner are \$90. Registration is required: <http://www.royal-oak.org/lectures> or 800-913-6565, ext. 201 *use code **19FESUP** to receive the discounted price.

HELEN CASTOR

England's Forgotten Queen: The Life and Death of Lady Jane Grey

Thursday, October 3 | 6:00 p.m. reception | 6:30 p.m. lecture followed by an optional dinner

In July 1553, Tudor England was plunged into political and military crisis. Henry VIII's young son, Edward VI, died at the age of just fifteen, leaving no male heir to inherit his throne. For the first time ever, a woman would wear the English crown, but who would it be: Edward's Catholic half-sister Mary, or his Protestant cousin Jane Grey? On his deathbed, Edward cut Mary out of the succession and named sixteen-year-old Jane as his heir. As fierce a Protestant as Edward himself, and already married to the son of his chief minister, the power-hungry Duke of Northumberland, Jane was proclaimed queen and taken to the Tower of London to await her coronation. But Mary would not accept her disinheritance - and neither, it turned out, would the country. Just nine days later, Jane's brief reign was over. Seven months after that, she lost her head on the block. Author and Historian Helen Castor will explore this dramatic story, examining key events, documents and characters, and assessing Jane's role in the coup that would ultimately cost her life. The tragic tale of the Nine Days' Queen is not only a breathless political thriller, but a defining moment in the history of England's religion, its constitution, and its crown.



OLIVER COX

Prize Stallions and Beasts of Burden: The Horse and the English Country House

Monday, October 7 | 6:00 p.m. reception | 6:30 p.m. lecture followed by an optional dinner

Horses are an integral part of English social, political, economic and cultural history. From the Middle Ages through to the aftermath of the WWI, they were used for agricultural development, the military, transportation, industry, and, of course, sport. Horses were crucial to sustaining life in the English country house. Looking beyond the top hats and fascinators, Oliver will explore the roots of the British love for horses and horse racing while showing great houses, from Mount Stewart in Northern Ireland to Wimpole Hall in Cambridgeshire.



ANNE & JOHNNY CHAMBERS

Kiftsgate Court Gardens: Three Generations of Women Gardeners

Monday, October 28 | 6:00 p.m. reception | lecture 6:30 p.m. followed by an optional dinner

Perched on the edge of the Cotswold Hills, Kiftsgate Court is a family home and garden that has been loved and cultivated by the same family for over 100 years.

In this illustrated lecture Anne and Johnny Chambers will tell their personal tale of Kiftsgate, including family anecdotes and stories. They will show design features of this stunning garden and explain their plans for its future. As the garden writer Robin Lane Fox wrote about Kiftsgate "there is nowhere else in Britain that has such a family tradition of planting and dedication."



*ESU has a new email address
philaesu@gmail.com*

2019 Upcoming Events

- October 3 England's Forgotten Queen: The Life and Death of Lady Jane Grey
 October 7 Prize Stallions and Beasts of Burden: The Horse and the English Country House
 October 25 The Queen's Six Concert at St. Mark's Church
 October 28 Kiftsgate Court Gardens: Three Generations of Women Gardeners
 December 15 Christmas Cocktails at Corinthian Yacht Club

In August The Commonwealth Organizations of Greater Philadelphia hosted a visit from **Reverend Rose Hudson-Wilkin**, The Queen's Chaplain. There were several events surrounding her visit including the Commonwealth Gala at Philadelphia Cricket Club. The adjacent picture is her at a lunch in her honor at Valley Green. She was joined by former Mayor Wilson Good.



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The English-Speaking Union □ 1221 Locust Street, Box 502 . Philadelphia, PA 19107

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