Commonwealth 2015 Festival
Sunday, October 4, 2015
at the
Philadelphia Cricket Club
preceded by a service at the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields
in celebration of
Queen Elizabeth II
longest reigning monarch of Great Britain

Did you know? The Commonwealth of Nations comprises 53 member countries and Queen Elizabeth is the titular head. Following a service in honor of the Queen, join in a spirit of friendship and understanding with societies representing member countries and their diverse culture and ethnicities.

5pm: Evensong Service
Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields (St. Martin’s Lane & Willow Grove)
6pm: Follow the procession to the Philadelphia Cricket Club (415 West Willow Grove Avenue)
• Cocktails and Hors d’oeuvres
• Dinner and Dancing to Steel Drums of Raymond Charles’ Caribbean Authentics
• Raffles and Silent Auction
• Scotch Tasting
$85 per guest; $160 per couple; $150 Benefactor; $200 Patron
Proceeds benefit Carson Valley Children’s Aid www.cvca.org
Your invitation is enclosed. Information: susangerrity@verizon.net

Save the Date!
Fall Dinner Dance
Saturday
October 31, 2015
Overbrook Country Club
Costumes Optional     Black Tie
Look for your invitation in the mail or call Barbara at 215-545-3619 to receive an invitation

“Race Night” at the Corinthian Yacht Club: August 5, 2015

With perfect weather and low humidity the ESU enjoyed a lovely evening on the Delaware. There were sailboat races and goose races—betting on the fastest goose! The buffet was outstanding, and no hot dogs and hamburgers (and no goose). Lots of face-to-face conversation with lovely people—ESU and CYC members and guests. (See insert for additional photos.)
By the time you read this, I will have “passed the gavel” to our new president, Gayla McCluskey. This should be a seamless transition, and I am sure that Gayla and the Board of Governors will continue to build E.S.U. Philadelphia, both in membership (now approaching 200!) and in events and activities.

The first upcoming activity we have scheduled is the Fall Dinner Dance at Overbrook Country Club. As my grandmother’s friend Nechama (of blessed memory) used to say (she was a clever woman and a wise one) “health and happiness are only to be found at the table.” With that in mind, please plan on joining us at the dinner table, on October 31 at Overbrook Country Club. Deo volunt, Mariah and I will be there, and as those of us who have attended E.S.U. events at Overbrook in the past can attest, the food is excellent, and no one likes to dance on an empty stomach, so join us for “good food, fun and fellowship.”

Looking at the collage of photos in this Courier from our August cookout and sailboat races at the Corinthian Yacht Club reinforces the above referenced quote of food, fun and fellowship. A big “thank you” to Michael Conti for organizing this event. Our Fall Dinner Dance is certain to be the same, and, with costumes optional, who knows what will happen? Don’t miss it!

“There is no speech, there are no words.” I must, however, take this opportunity to thank the Board of Governors, the Executive Committee, and, of course, Barbara Murray. The past year as your president has allowed me to meet many, if not all of you, and it has been my pleasure. The events in the past year were all diverse, top notch events planned for you, our members. In attending them, I met some of you for the first time, and became re-acquainted with others. In my leaving office, we have a strong and vibrant E.S.U. Philadelphia. I hope to continue to attend events in the future as a member and former president, as “We renew our days as of old.”

Your very obedient servant,
James J. Munnis

A special thank you to Amanda Mucklé for contributing many of the Queen’s Birthday Party photographs published in the Summer Newsletter!
“Race Night” at the Corinthian Yacht Club
August 5, 2015
“Race Night” at the Corinthian Yacht Club
August 5, 2015
Royal Oak Foundation at The Union League

Our branch has received the honor of being listed as co-sponsor of these events to recognize the steadfast support they receive from our membership. For each lecture there will be a reception at 6:00 p.m. and an optional dinner following. Dinner reservations are non-refundable and must be made by the Wednesday before the lecture.

**Lecture only:** $30 members & co-sponsors* $40 non-members

**Lecture and optional dinner:** $75 members and co-sponsors*; $80 non-members

**Location:** The Union League of Philadelphia, 140 S. Broad Street.

Registration is available through The Royal Oak Foundation. Visit www.royal-oak.org/lectures or call: 800-913-6565, ext. 201.

*ESU members use code 15FESUP to receive the discounted members price.

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**The Victorian City:**

*Everyday Life in Dickens’ London*

Judith Flanders | Historian & Author

**Thursday, October 1, 6:30 p.m.**

The 19th century was a time of unprecedented transformation, and nowhere was this more apparent than on the streets of London. From the moment Charles Dickens, the century’s best-loved novelist and London’s greatest observer, arrived in the city in 1822, he obsessively walked its streets recording its pleasures, curiosities and cruelties. Historian Judith Flanders explores London outdoors in an extraordinary, revelatory portrait of everyday life on the streets.

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**Traitors or Tastemakers?**

*Recusant Country Houses & Collections*

Dr. Tessa Murdoch

**Deputy Keeper, Victoria & Albert Museum**

**Wednesday, October 14, 6:30 p.m.**

The English Reformation began in 1534 with The Act of Supremacy in which King Henry VIII declared himself the only supreme head on earth of the Church in England. Any display of allegiance to Rome and the Catholic pope was deemed treasonous and had deadly consequences. Dr. Tessa Murdoch will reveal that despite religious and political obstacles, recusants made great contributions through patronage of art, music, and architecture.

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**Cabinets and Curiosities:**

*Furniture in the National Trust’s Collections*

Lisa White | Furniture and Interiors Historian

**Monday, October 19, 6:30 p.m.**

With the generous support of Royal Oak, The National Trust embarked on an ambitious project to catalogue and research the vast collection of furniture at many of its properties. Art historian Lisa White will explore some of the wonderful, difficult, and often puzzling objects from this significant collection during her lavishly illustrated lecture.

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**First Lady: The Life and Wars of Clementine Churchill**

Sonia Purnell | Best-selling Author

**Monday, November 2, 6:30 p.m.**

Without Winston Churchill inspiring leadership, Britain would not have survived its darkest hour against the Nazi menace. Without his wife Clementine, however, he might never have become Prime Minister. From personal and political upheavals, through the Churchills’ wilderness years in the 1930s, to Clementine’s efforts during World War II, Ms. Purnell presents the inspiring but often ignored story of one of the most important women in modern history.

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**A Family Legacy Restored: St. Giles House**

Nicholas Ashley-Cooper

**12th Earl of Shaftesbury**

**Monday, November 9, 6:30 p.m.**

St. Giles House, Dorset has been home to the Earls of Shaftesbury since the 13th century. On becoming the 12th Earl of Shaftesbury, Nicholas Ashley-Cooper, inspired by his ancestors, embarked on a four-year restoration project to make St. Giles House a family home once again. Lord Shaftesbury will speak about this incredible project which won, among others, the 2014 Georgian Group Award, for the Restoration of a Georgian Country House.

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**The Battle of Waterloo and its Legacy**

Charles Wellesley | 9th Duke of Wellington OBE DL

**Thursday, November 19, 6:30 p.m.**

June 18, 2015 marked the bicentennial of The Battle of Waterloo, a battle that would change the order and political structure of Europe. Its main legacy was a more stable continent, which only came to an end in 1914 with the outbreak of the Great War. In celebration of the 200th anniversary of Waterloo, the 9th Duke, his great-great-grandson, who still lives in these houses, will discuss the battle and this unusual legacy.

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**Save the Date**

**Wednesday, April 6 2016**

**Wrench Speaker**

Richard Buckley, OBE, PhD

**Co-Director of the University of Leicester Archeological Services**

**The King Under the Car Park:**

*The Search for Richard III*
Calendar of Events

Oct. 1  The Victorian City: Everyday Life in Dickens’ London

Oct. 4  Commonwealth Festival 2015

Oct. 14  Traitors or Tastemakers? Recusant Country Houses & Collections

Oct. 19  Cabinets and Curiosities: Furniture in the National Trust’s Collections

Oct. 31  Fall Dinner Dance

Nov. 2  First Lady: The Life and Wars of Clementine Churchill

Nov. 9  A Family Legacy Restored: St. Giles House

Nov. 19  The Battle of Waterloo and its Legacy

Dec. 12 Christmas Celebration

Feb. 15 Annual Shakespeare Competition

April 6  Wrench Speaker: Richard Buckley
       The King Under the Car Park

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

Here is the current schedule:

Gold Leaf Café
Monday to Friday, Noon to 2:30 PM
and beginning October 3 to April
Full Service Brunch
Saturday, 11 AM to 2 PM

1889 Pub
Monday to Friday
5 to 11 PM: Bar Open
5 to 10 PM: Food Served

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