

Newsletter for November-December 2019 and January 2020.



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Letter from the Board

Dear Members,

The board are all excited for the events that are coming together to kick off the holiday season. You'll have gotten an invitation to the Boo! Bash!! on November 2nd. We're dusting off the classic family Halloween Party - apparently AWCCS hasn't held one in 12 years! Maybe next year - we'll hold it in Glasgow? We'd like to open it up to non-member families, especially if they might be interested in joining the club, and so the party is free for member families, and £5 at the door for non-members - if they join AWCCS during the party, the £5 will count towards their first year of dues.

And of course, our big event every year - the Thanksgiving Party! It's set for the 24th of November, alas, I won't be able to make it, as it's a US Thanksgiving year this year - we're always a little sad to miss it. We'll be there in spirit and we hope y'all have fun!

Both Thanksgiving and Halloween are open to non-members, but please remember, we don't advertise these publicly, so be sure to invite folks you think might enjoy them!

The other big event coming up is the Holiday Cookie Exchange on the 13th of December. I'm hoping Maisie and I will have a chance to bake some cookies for this one. We're getting pretty good at chocolate chip banana bread!

We'll be voting for the charity the club will support this year in the coming weeks - please make sure to review the short list and make your voice heard.

And finally, I'd be remiss as FAWCO Rep if I didn't point out the FAWCO announcements here: <https://www.awccs.org/FAWCO> :)

Please check out the events calendar, there's going to be quite a bit on during the next few months!

Looking forward to seeing you this winter season!

Caroline Graves
AWCCS FAWCO Rep

You will need to be logged into your website for AWCCS in order to use the links below:

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Choose our New Charity

Thank you for those who nominated charities for our chosen AWCCS Charity. The chosen charity will receive proceeds from the club for two years.

Voting will be held at Thanksgiving on the 24th of November 2019 and the chosen charity will receive proceeds from this event and from the club for two years. If you are unable to come to Thanksgiving, a poll will be available online in November.

1. YWCA Scotland: Young Women Lead:

Launched in 2017, Young Women Lead is a leadership programme for young women aged 30 and under living in Scotland. Part of the focus of Young Women Lead is to increase young women's political participation. The programme was built to address the underrepresentation of young women in politics and provide support for women who wish to become more involved in local and national politics. More information can be found here: www.ywscotland.org/programmes/young-women-lead/

2. MS Therapy Centre Lothian and Revive MS Glasgow*:

Revive MS provides multiple forms of clinical therapy, advice, counselling and financial support for patients and their families in the Glasgow area. MS Therapy Centre Lothian provides treatment, therapy and support to those affected by MS and other neurological disorders in the Lothians. This Centre has directly supported two of our current AWCCS members. More information about the centres can be found here: www.mstc-lothian.org.uk and here: www.revivemssupport.org.uk

**Due to the very local nature of each charity, the AWCCS board has decided to combine the two MS centres to ensure the entire central belt of Scotland was represented. If chosen, charity funds will be split between the two charities*

3. Macmillan:

Macmillan provides physical, financial and emotional support to those diagnosed with cancer and their families, throughout the UK. Macmillan is a UK-wide charity that provides advice and support from the point of diagnosis and throughout treatment. In addition, there are over 4,500 Macmillan nurses across the UK in hospitals and in the community offering advice and support. You can learn more about Macmillan here: www.macmillan.org.uk

If you have any questions about the charities or the voting process, please contact Alanna Brady, Charity Chair, at charity@awccs.org

Thanksgiving Auction Items are Needed

Each year we have a silent and live auction to collect funds for our Charity of the year. The AWCCS board all provide baskets to auction off and our members and special donors provide other items as well. Would you like to contribute to the auction this year? If so, please send along your donation form and our Thanksgiving team will be in contact with you. Thank you very much for your contribution.

The donation form is attached to the Newsletter email sent out to you or you may download [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Halloween Boo! Bash!!

2 Nov 2019 15:00

18 W Mayfield, Edinburgh EH9 1TQ

Theatre and Music Performance: 'Morag, You're a Long Time Deid'

5 Nov 2019 19:30

Scottish Storytelling Centre, 43-45 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1SR

Daunder 'n' Blether

13 Nov 2019 13:00

Edinburgh Quay Behind Akva

November Birthday Bash Edinburgh

14 Nov 2019 18:00

Whigham's Wine Bar 13 Hope Street-

November Edinburgh Morning Book Group

15 Nov 2019 10:15

Home of Marily MacVicar

Watson Gordon Lecture: Gwendolyn DuBois Shaw

21 Nov 2019 18:00

Scottish National Gallery Hawthornden Lecture Theatre

AWCCS Thanksgiving 2019

24 Nov 2019 14:00

BRAID HILLS HOTEL 134 Braid Road, Edinburgh, EH10 6JD

December Daunder 'n' Blether

11 Dec 2019 13:00

Edinburgh Quay Behind Akva

AWCCS Holiday Cookie Exchange

13 Dec 2019 19:00

2/2 Circus Gardens, Edinburgh EH3 6TN ☒ Home Phone: 0131 260 9201

January Daunder 'n' Blether

15 Jan 2020 13:00

Edinburgh Quay Behind Akva

January 2020 Birthday Bash Edinburgh

16 Jan 2020 18:00

Kimpton Charlotte Square Hotel -38 Charlotte Square, EH2 4HQ

February Daunder 'n' Blether

12 Feb 2020 13:00

Edinburgh Quay Behind Akva

AWCCS Board Officers

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Open

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FAWCO Representative

Caroline Graves

Glasgow Representative

Susan St. Denis

Special Interest Group Coordinators

Edinburgh: Dale Finlayson for Morning Book Group, Coffee Plus Edinburgh and Voting Coordinator

Glasgow: Books Beverages and Banter hosted by various individuals.

Fife: Pat Peters for Fife Dinner Club

Our Advertiser Olivia McLaren, Ltd.

Notes from the Website

Please Log in to awccs.org

Your AWCCS Winter Newsletter has been sent to you in an eMail blast with links directing you to our Member's Ony site. You will have to have



Olivia McLaren, Ltd.

U.S. Immigration Law Advisory Services*

Forth House, 28 Rutland Square, Edinburgh EH1 2BW
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We are an award-winning U.S. law practice providing strategic immigration law advice and support for businesses wishing to establish or strengthen a U.S. presence and individuals interested in visiting, working in or immigrating to the United States of America.

About Olivia McLaren: A U.S. qualified attorney admitted to the bar of the State of New York, who worked in U.S. immigration and nationality law in New York City for a decade before opening Olivia McLaren, Ltd. in Edinburgh in 2014. Listed in *Who's Who in Corporate Immigration* (2015-2016). Co-columnist for the *New York Law Journal* bimonthly immigration law column between 2012 and 2014. Also selected as a Rising Star by Super Lawyers in NY Metro in 2013 and 2014, as published in *NY Times Magazine*. Graduated with a J.D. and LL.M. in International & Comparative Law from Duke University in 2004.

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Member News

Edinburgh Lecture

Watson Gordon Lecture: *Gwendolyn DuBois Shaw*

Scottish National Gallery Hawthornden Lecture Theatre

Date: Thursday 21 November,

Time: 6:00-7:00pm

FREE

In this talk entitled *White House/White Cube: Portraits, Paintings, and the American Presidency*, Dr Gwendolyn DuBois Shaw (Director of History, National Portrait Gallery, Washington DC) will examine art that has been associated with the Presidency of the United States and the White House. It focuses on issues of race, class, and gender, and the politics of identity and representation in a contemporary moment characterized by the death of the post-racial American fantasy.

Happy Birthday

November

- Ellen Brennan 12th
- Suzette Bell 14th
- Joyce Halsan 18th
- Donna Nodson 22nd
- Annette Sprague 30th

December

- Mary Jo Caselton 12th
- Dorothy Hennick 17th

January

- Harshadha Balasubramanian 16th
- Nancy Lynner 27th



logged in to read the details. Last month 64% of you opened your emails. Since email and our website along with Facebook are our primary ways to communicate with you, could we try to make it 100 per cent this month? Let me know if you are having trouble logging in. You can also use your Facebook and Google login to sign in. websitemanager@awccs.org

Email going to Spam?

If your communication from us is going to your Spam folder, all you need do is to place our email (the 'reply to' on the email you receive from us) into your Contacts and it will recognize us as a "friend."

Please Update your Profile

Did we miss announcing your birthday in our Newsletter? We want to make sure to include you in our good wishes, but sometimes we just don't have the information we need.

You could help us. Go into your Profile and add your birth month and day to your contact information. While you are in there, you could fill out other missing information by filling out the details we have left empty. The profile information is used to help identify member's personal preferences and interests and will help us design activities and events that will appeal to you. Even if you filled this out when you applied for membership, it's a good idea to update it--because we are changing constantly. The profile information is not available to anyone outside of the club, and only a small portion is available for other members in our directory.

If there is anything in the directory you don't want to be included, you can just go into your profile and remove permission.

To edit your profile

- sign in with your login name and password
- Go to your Profile page by clicking on your name on the top right corner
- To change anything on your Profile, click on "Edit Profile"
- Be sure to save when you have edited it.



New Members Welcome

- Lindsay Nygren
- Shuster, Margaret Peggy
- Judy Townsend
- Cynthia Holden Welcome back

AWCCS Board Budget for 2019-2020

AWCCS Proposed Annual Budget

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

Final 8 Oct 2019

American Women's Club of Central Scotland - 2019 to 2020	Income	Expenses	Total
2018 TO 2019 CASH BALANCE			£6,481.48
MEMBERSHIP DUES	£1,880.24		£1,880.24
ADVERTISING	£150.00	(£250.00)	(£100.00) 1
NEWSLETTERS		£0.00	£0.00
WEBSITE/DOMAIN NAME		(£784.02)	(£784.02) 2
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING		£0.00	£0.00
SOCIAL EVENTS		(£1,500.00)	(£1,500.00)
CHARITY CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED / (MADE)	£1,000.00	(£1,100.00)	(£100.00)
THANKSGIVING	£1,700.00	(£1,600.00)	£100.00
FAWCO	£400.00	(£1,238.00)	(£838.00) 3
2019 to 2020 TOTAL BUDGETED INCOME & EXPENSES	£5,130.24	(£6,472.02)	(£1,341.78)
2019 TO 2020 BUDGETED ENDING CASH BALANCE			£5,139.70

Notes:

1 - Advertising Expense - brochure redesign

2 - Website / Domain Name - includes £694 purchase of Wild Apricot software & service for two years

3 - FAWCO Expenses - £90 Dues + Conference Fee Assistance £1,148 (£148 c/o 2017-2018 + £400 Auction + £600 Club contribution)

Respectfully Submitted,
Susanne Hathon
AWCCS Treasurer

American Citizens Abroad

ACA is pleased to see that its messaging requesting that the House Ways & Means Committee hold hearings on the tax and tax compliance issues for Americans overseas is getting heard in Congress. In visits to offices earlier in October ACA heard from Representatives that they had received numerous messages from the "Tax Fairness for Americans Abroad: An Idea Worth Fighting For!" campaign. ACA has also heard from members who received communications from their own Representatives after writing in with the campaign platform.

ACA will continue to push the campaign and will be producing podcasts to support the write-in campaign and working to get the word out to a wider audience.

You can help with their goal to hold hearings by participating in the campaign and making others you know aware of the campaign. Tell your friends and get the word out to media outlets in your country/region by writing/blogging and posting the campaign.

Make it your New Year's resolution to register to vote in 2019

Federal law requires overseas voters to (re)register in every year in which they mean to vote. The next national election is in 2020, so make sure that you're registered for the Presidential/Congressional and Primary elections by using FAWCO's dedicated website (<https://www.usvotefoundation.org/>) to register as soon as you can after January 1.

ACA Submitted by Dale Finlayson

Our Advertiser Nomads Tent

the **NOMADS** tent



a warehouse of tribal art



RUGS
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Tues- Sat 10-5 Sun 12-4
21 St Leonard's Lane, EH8 9SH
www.nomadstent.co.uk

0131 662 1612

Update on Postal Service for Americans Abroad

Last month we reported on "the threatened withdrawal of the United States from the Universal Postal Union, a 145-year-old international organization which now includes 192 member countries. The United States had long complained about the way rates were determined to reimburse destination countries who complete the delivery of international post. It was costing the US more to deliver the last leg of international post than they were being reimbursed. Threatening to withdraw from the union was a pretty dramatic action, but it did get everyone's attention. The other members of the UPU ... called an extraordinary session to resolve the issue, less than one month before the US was scheduled to withdraw. ...FAWCO was keeping a close eye on the UPU Congress and thankfully, the countries were in fact committed to finding a resolution.

A compromise solution was accepted by acclamation, the US remains in the union, and crisis was averted. No doubt international postal rates, particularly with respect to small parcels, will go up as a result of the new agreed regulations, but the level of commitment to international postal cooperation has been renewed. How wonderful to see 192 countries work together!" *Thanks to Emily van Eerten, FAWCO president, for her update to this situation.*

Please Support Skyco

No better time to visit Skyco.uk.com to stock up on your holiday goodies. Pumpkin pie mix, dressings, Triscuits and Wheat thins, Cocktail Sauce and many other American goods at your door step in a very short time. You will want to establish a membership to get free delivery. Enjoy!


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Unit F10/F11 The Mayford Centre Woking
Surrey GU22 0PP

Sweet Potato Casserole

Provided by Susanne Hathon



Thanksgiving isn't complete without a homemade sweet potato casserole. Skip the marshmallows this year and try this super sweet recipe curtesy of Susanne Hathon's Aunt from Fort Worth, Texas.



Sweet Potato Casserole

- 1) Preheat Oven 350 degrees F
- 2) Mix Together Potato Mixture:

4 or 5 medium boiled mashed sweet potatoes	*Self Rising Flour:
3/4 cup sugar	1/2 cup flour
2 beaten eggs	3/4 tsp baking powder
1 stick (8 tbsp) melted oleo/butter	1/4 to 1/3 tsp salt
1/3 cup evaporated milk	
1 tsp vanilla (cinnamon optional)	
- 3) Pour into Greased baking dish & set aside
- 4) Mix Together Topping:

1 cup brown sugar
1/2 cup self rising flour*
1 cup chopped pecans
1/2 stick (4 tbsp) melted oleo/butter
- 5) Crumble topping all over potato mixture.
- 6) Bake until heated through & browned 30 to 40 minutes

Cover with foil if needed

Our Advertiser: Mail Boxes Etc.



Weight (Kg)	UPS	Parcelforce
10 (22 lbs)	£120 (£12/kg)	£85
20 (44 lbs)	£147 (7.35/kg)	£110
30 (66 lbs)	£175 (£5.83/kg)	£140
50 (110 lbs)	£227.36 (£4.54/kg)	£234
100 (220 lbs)	£355 (3.55/kg)	£404

* overnight in most cases.
 Parts of New York and New Jersey may be cheaper than the UPS price quoted.
 Prices correct at time of print.



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