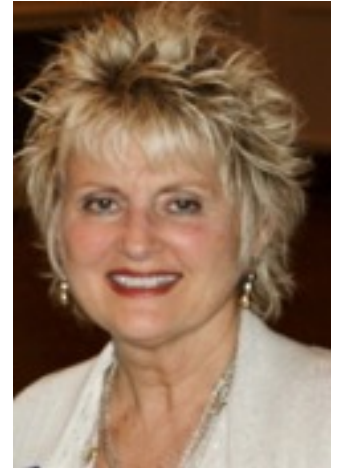


SPOTLIGHT

Ingrid Watson

A mere hour with this member harvested a bonanza of unknown details about this striking blonde woman! I will have to work hard here to condense it in the space I have!

Ingrid Karnes Watson is the youngest of 3 with a brother and sister and descended from a German war bride and a GI, who met during WWII. She was born in the states but has traveled to Germany many times, sometimes for lengthy periods with her mom who visited her family throughout her life. On an extended 2nd trip there in her youth, she was enrolled in a German school for some time. Needless to say, her heritage is indelibly imbedded and she speaks a considerable amount of German. Mid-state along the Susquehanna River, she was surrounded by the strong German culture in her hometown of Bloomsburg, Pa.



Ingrid's future was pretty well carved out early in her life. While acing German language studies in 8th grade, she was asked to teach her own fellow students when her school couldn't find a replacement teacher! She could hardly say no when she learned she'd be excused from all her other classes for a week! She would go on to Bloomsburg State University majoring in education and German studies, and then teach German for 11 years at Lyman High School and at-risk readers in middle schools right here in Seminole County. Her career has spanned 32 years.

She was quite the athlete in school and a valued player on the girls basketball team as a rover -shooting, dribbling and stealing the ball from the opponents, but she also played volleyball, was a cheerleader, a snow-skier and later played tennis and—get this—a trained sky diver! She has nearly 100 dives to her credit, made her own jumpsuits, learned to pack a parachute and became pretty skilled at maneuvering a parachute and landing on target and is here to tell about it! Pretty impressive!

She and husband Greg have lived in Keenwicke for 3 years with Bailey, their Poodle/Bichon mix where Ingrid gardens organic veggies, flowers and herbs, swims and part-time tutors. She's very involved with our club both directly and socially. You might remember that Greg's Plasmology 4 was our gala title sponsor last year, Ingrid has been Recording Secretary, been hands-on through Charitable Endeavors with "Somebody's Hungry", Kid's Club, assisting kids in their selection of books, attends our meetings, and galas and has been a host for our progressive dinners, participates in dine-arounds and a Bunko group, Ladies Night Out, Ladies Lunch Bunch and leads one of the HWC book clubs. She's the type of member that really makes our club successful—reaching out in so many ways. She's yet another blessing to the club and those privileged to know her. Danke Ingrid!

BY CAROLYN TAYLOR