

THE BULLETIN



OF THE WESTPORT WOMAN'S CLUB

DECEMBER 2014

WWC DECEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 <i>Garden Boutique Workshop 10am-2pm</i>	3 <i>Garden 10am-2pm Mah Jongg 1:00 - 4:00 pm</i>	4 <i>Garden 10am-2pm Bridge 9:30 Zumba 10:15</i>	5	6
7	8 Club Day	9 <i>Ladies Who Lunch 12:00</i>	10 <i>Mah Jongg 1:00 - 4:00 pm</i>	11 <i>Bridge 9:30 am Zumba 10:15</i>	12 <i>Holiday Gift Card Mailing 10am-11am</i>	13
14	15 <i>Board Meeting 10:00 am C.A PotLuck 5:00pm</i>	16 <i>Gourmet 11:30 Bunco 6:30 pm</i>	17 <i>Mah Jongg 1:00 - 4:00 pm</i>	18 <i>Bridge 9:30 am Zumba 10:15</i>	19	20
21	22	23	24 Office Closed	25 Office Closed	26 Office Closed	27
28	29 Office Closed	30 Office Closed	31 Office Closed			

Officers

President *Dorothy E. Curran*, **1st Vice President (Special Interest Groups)** *Dorothy Packer*,
2nd Vice President (Finance) *Arlene Johnson*, **3rd Vice President (Ways & Means)** *Suzan Murphy*,
Secretary *Becky Ruthven*, **Treasurer** *Barbara Szefc*. **Directors: Communications** *Josephine Calcagni*,
Community Service *Nancy Saipe*, **Membership** *Susan Hricik*, **Parliamentary Advisor** *A. Elizabeth Donofrio*,
Grounds *Janette Duchnicki*, **Program** *Rose Jordan*, **Rentals** *Susan Loselle*, **Curio Cottage** *Jerilyn Deveau*,
Yankee Doodle Fair *Dorothy E. Curran and Christina McVaney*, **Past President** *Mary Lee Clayton*

Staff

Office Manager *Colleen Fenton*, **Resident Manager** *Dora Sweet*
Office Phone #203-227-4240
Office Hours M-F 9:00 am-12 Noon and 1:00 pm -4:00pm

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

November Club Day--with its focus on Food Closet donations--was a festive opening to the Season of Gathering & Giving. As is her annual custom, Carol Goetz decorated baskets of her own Food Closet donations as centerpieces, and the rest of us brought needed food and checks for the Food Closet bounty. Our 50-50 Raffle proceeds benefited the Gerry Munce Scholarship Fund. Prep for Suzan Murphy's November 29 Nutcracker Tea Fun(d)raiser taught legions of us to make fantastic (and genormous!) paper snowflakes as décor, all to benefit Bridgeport's Waltersville School Performing Arts Program. (We're hoping to sell them after the event!) The Curio Cottage Half-Price Sale attracted good revenue and our "finds" resolved gaps in personal holiday gifting, serving and entertaining supplies.

December will be a short month for Club activity, so let's make the most of it! The Toy Drive and the Garden Department's Holiday Décor Sale at Club Day kick off the season and the Special Interest Groups and Yankee Doodle Fair Planning continue. Along with Club Day, why not sign up for one or both Cultural Affairs events and bring spouses or friends?

Finally, December's season of Gathering and Giving also marks the end of the tax year. Our 107-year-old lady-powered WWC accomplishes amazing amounts annually for community benefit, but we also are one of only two women's clubs in Connecticut with the joys, burdens and opportunities of "home ownership." PLEASE consider making a tax-deductible gift or bequest of ANY size--in the form of a check or securities--to YOURSELF: to our own non-profit Westport Woman's Club. Your dollars help offset our operating costs, including repair and maintenance of our landmark antique house and auditorium, plus staff expense. Restricted gifts to our Holiday Meals, Food Closet or our Scholarship Fund also are deeply appreciated.

Meanwhile, warm wishes for WONDER-FILLED HOLIDAYS! And THANKS to each and every one of you for your membership, your companionship, your generosity and your good-hearted service. Together, through our WWC, we touch many lives in times of need each year, and that is the greatest gift of all.

Dorothy E. Curran, President, 203-246-0543

CLUB DAY

Join us Monday, December 8 for Club Day, hosted by Gourmet Club, co-chaired by Barbara Gladnick and Lisa Allison. Please make sure you make a reservation by 1 PM Wednesday before Club Day. Lunch is \$20.00. Plan to arrive by 11:30 AM to enjoy...

Combo Mini Cake - Lobster & Artichoke Cake plus Salmon Cake w/ remoulade sauce; Field Greens with Frisee, Crispy Bacon & Gorgonzola w/Red Wine Vinaigrette dressing; Israeli Cous-Cous Salad w/Toasted Almonds, DriedCranberries, Scallions; 8 grain dinner rolls; Pumpkin Pie garnished with whipped cream rosette.

If you have a serious food allergy or are a vegetarian, please let me know. If you need to cancel a reservation, please call the Office 203 227-4240 by 1 PM Wednesday before Club Day to avoid being charged.

Please note that this month's Club Day is on the second Monday of the month, and not the usual first Monday.

Dorothy Packer, 1st VP, dmpacker@aol.com 203-227-7769

PROGRAMS

Get ready to enjoy a program of fabulous music with Dr. Joe Utterback at our grand piano. Dr. Joe has been on the American Jazz scene for more than fifty years. He holds degrees from Wichita State University in classical piano performance and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Kansas. He has taught for more than twenty years at Sacred Heart University and has served as Director of Music at the First Congregational Church in Stratford since 1996. Blues, ballads, Broadway and traditional jazz are all hallmarks of Dr. Joe's piano style. His many works for piano, voice, chamber music, organ and choir have been performed throughout the United States and abroad. But what I enjoy most, and I think you will too, are Dr. Joe's renditions of songs from the "Great American Songbook," some of which he will perform for us as well as a medley of holiday music. You will not want to miss this brilliant performance by a truly amazing artist. Rose Jordan, Program Chairperson

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Holiday Food Gift Cards

This program provides grocery store gift cards in November and December to local residents in need of assistance. The Westport Human Services Department generates a list of qualified recipients and the WWC manages the actual purchase and mailing of the gift cards. This program is funded by the WWC, donations from members and the community at large. In addition, the program reaches out to residents in assisted living facilities with a thoughtful card at holiday time. This is your time to help in a small way that has a big impact. Please mark your calendars for Friday, December 12th between 10 am & 11 am to help us mail Holiday Food Gift Cards. Thank you. For further information please contact:

Leah Scherzer, Chair, Holiday Food Gift Cards and Holiday Meals; leahsart@aol.com, 203-226-3042

BOOK REVIEW

The book review group will not meet in December. Enjoy the Season. Lee Mennitt, leemennitt@gmail.com, 203-523-0904.

BUNCO!

BUNCO HOLIDAY PARTY! DATE: Tuesday, DECEMBER 16th TIME: 6:30 PM....NOTICE THE TIME!!! Earlier than usual so we can "feast" on all the "goodies"!! Bunco play will begin at 7:30 p.m. This is our annual "Holiday Party" ...It is a "Potluck" provided by ALL the attending Bunco ladies!!! There will be a sign-up sheet in the foyer where you can put your name - and an idea of what you will be bringing (so we can have a wide variety of "delicious delights") Remember - no calorie counting!!!! Hope to see you all in your festive finery!!!

Wendy McKeon, 222-0038, XWAMX50@aol.com

B.Y.O.B

Due to Auditorium Ceiling Demolition/Renovation/Reconstruction in late December through late January, we will defer our next BYOB Friday to February. At that time, please plan to join us in the Kitchen to identify and solve the world's problems, evaluate the pros and cons of the current weather, admire the NEW Auditorium Ceiling and Lights and discuss the progress of Fay Farquhar and her little dog, Suzie, in taming The Wild West. Dorothy Curran, DorothyECurran@aol.com, 203.246.0543

CURIO COTTAGE

The Cottage will be closed from Dec. 24 through Jan 5, 2015. Please don't forget to shop here for some wonderful holiday serving pieces or great gifts...and please remember that the shop is a perfect place to donate gifts that you received and just can't use. Wishing everyone a wonderful Holiday Season, full of love and joy. Karen Eickhoff, 203-454-3889, kayrog@optonline.net

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION

It is time to think of the holidays and those less fortunate. There are many little ones and teenagers who are neglected, abused or considered "at risk." We will have our traditional drive for donations of NEW, UNWRAPPED gifts, checks and gift cards. Please bring yours to the Westport Woman's Club no later than December 8th Club Day. (The Connection collects the toys the second week of December). We also will accept gift wrap rolls or packages, ribbons and/or bows. During November, any time you are at the WWC, look for the Children's Connection gifts and wraps drop box outside the office by the grandfather clock. Prefer Cash? Please make your tax-deductible check payable to "The Children's Connection" and give it to Colleen in the office. Please be sure to include your check name, address and a reference to the WWC in the memo line. What to give? Favorite Requests: Infant toys and clothing; Fisher-Price, Playskool and similar sturdy toys; Dolls--all sizes; Disney items; balls of all types; toy trucks; remote control cars and batteries; sports equipment; hand-held video games and batteries; Walkmans, small radios and batteries. We must not forget the older children. Gift certificates to Kohl's, Target, Bob's and Old Navy are good gifts. Sweatshirts, sweaters, hats, cosmetics, organizers and manicure kits are also appreciated by the older kids. These items must be new. Thank you in advance for your generosity. Diana Zaslow, Deezaslow@aol.com, 203-227-1346

CULTURAL AFFAIRS

YOU'RE INVITED! Hope you can join us for one or both. Spouses or Friends are welcome, too!

Thursday, December 11, 7:30-9 pm at the WWC Auditorium: Play With Your Food/Season's Readings will stage Truman Capote's A Christmas Memory in our Clubhouse. Tickets are \$30, including an eggnog and dessert party after the show with the cast. To order tickets, visit jibproductions.org, or phone (203) 293-8729. Monday, December 15: 5 pm Potluck Buffet Supper in our Clubhouse Kitchen, followed by 7 pm Script-in-Hand Reading of The Mousetrap, by Agatha Christie, at the Westport Country Playhouse. For tickets, call the WCP Box Office at 203.227.5137 and ask for Orchestra Seats with the Westport Woman's Club block THEN, to join the Potluck, please let me know by Dec. 10, so that we can split the menu. THANKS! We look forward to seeing you! Dorothy E. Curran, Cultural Affairs Chairperson, DorothyECurran@aol.com, 203.246.0543

GARDEN DEPARTMENT

Holiday and Boutique workshops will be held on Tuesday, December 2nd, preparation for workshops; Wednesday, December 3rd, Boxwood Trees, instruction by Carol Wahl; and Thursday, December 4th, Wreaths and Arrangements. Workshops are from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (Bring your lunch, snacks and beverages will be provided). Sunday, December 7th, 1:30 p.m. Boutique Setup. Monday, December 8th, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Boutique/Club Day Luncheon. Friday, December 12th, take down the trees in the banquet room in preparation for the ceiling tile renovations. Jerilyn Deveau, 203-372-2920, jerilyndeveau@yahoo.com

GOURMET

Gourmet Group will meet on Tuesday December 16th for our annual "Sparkling" Holiday Party. This event will be a Pot Luck including hors d'oeuvres, desserts and sparkling wine. Members should therefore bring items ready to serve without further heating. Please RSVP to Lisa Allison, mentioning what you will be bringing so that we can avoid duplications. Lisa Allison, 203-227-9563, liallison@optonline.net, Barbara Gladnick, 203-854-0424, bagladnick@optonline.net.

HOUSE

Starting Friday, December 19th, our Auditorium will be off-limits until late January as our Ceiling Demolition/Renovation/Reconstruction Project begins. Access to the Kitchen will be by key only, from the Parking Lot, and not encouraged. A 25-yard dumpster and contractor trucks and equipment will occupy the parking lot area near the Kitchen. Special Interest Groups may continue to have access to any other available Clubhouse rooms during this time. MANY THANKS for your patience through any inconvenience you may experience. Dorothy E. Curran, Acting House Director

LADIES WHO LUNCH

This month we'll be having a special Holiday Lunch, earlier than usual, as our regular Fourth Tuesday falls two days before Christmas.

It will be at that old favorite, The Red Barn on Wilton Road, which is traditionally decorated beautifully for the Season. DATE: Tuesday, December 9th at noon The menu can be found at <http://www.redbarnrestaurant.com/menu-lunch.htm> Please let me know by Friday, December 5 if you'll be joining us so I can let them know how many to expect. And, as always, I ask that you call or email me, as I may not remember if you tell me in person. Bobbie Herman, 203-255-1577, sangazure1@aol.com

MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg meets every Wednesday from 1:00 pm-4:00 in the living room. Please call Diana Zaslow if you are interested in playing. Diana Zaslow, 203-227-1346, deezaslow@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP

Greetings to our returning member Betty Auber. Her contact information is: 8 Bedford Drive, Westport, CT 06880 ;Emauber@optonline.com We enjoyed meeting our newest member, Marria Fraioli, at the November luncheon. We have two new members: Pamela Stautberg-Moffett, 337 Greens Farms Rd., Westport, CT 06880 Stautbergmoffett@gmail.com and Lorraine Hodes, Westport CT tigrass1978@hotmail.com. Susan Hricik, 203-226-1372, susanswhim@yahoo.com

TOURNAMENT BRIDGE

Please note that this year's December Club Day has been changed to the second Monday of the month so Tournament Bridge will meet on the first Monday, December 1st instead of December 8th. We will also play on Monday, December 15th, but there will be no bridge on Monday, December 22nd or 29th. Remember during the winter months the Club is closed on snow days when the Westport School System is closed or delayed. Check TV Channel 12 or call Staples High School for information at 341-1766. If you are interested in joining us and/or being on the substitute list, please call us. Tommie Ross, 203-227-2444, Helen Doxtator, 203-221-7934

WWC KNITTERS

Westport Woman's Club members have been knitting since 1991 for a variety of local organizations. We make hats, scarves, mittens and other items for children in Norwalk and Bridgeport. All levels of knitters are welcome. We are happy to teach beginners. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 10th, at 1:00 downstairs in the dining room. Please bring a holiday treat to share. Please note that this is not our usual 4th Wednesday. Joan Miller, mmiller@optonline.net, 203-226-7036

YANKEE DOODLE FAIR

Please come help us plan OUR Yankee Doodle Fair, our largest and most important FUN(d)raiser and Westport's last remaining Carnival-style Fair! Our next meeting will be held in the Living Room at 10 am on Wed. Dec. 10. We have renewed our contract with Stewart Amusements for June 18-21, 2015, but there's LOTS to be done--tasks of all sizes--every month between now and then. Come and learn more! 2015 CO-CHAIRS Dorothy E. Curran, 203-246-0543, Christina McVaney, 203-293-5190

ZUMBA

I am looking forward to another season of Zumba. We will continue to meet on Thursdays with a new time: 10:15-11:15. The fee is \$40 for the month whether there are four or five Thursdays. Classes will start Sept 4th. Please make checks out to Jill Franke. Walk-ins are \$12.00. For further information please contact me. Leah Scherzer, Chair, Zumba; 203-226-3042, leahsart@aol.com

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