



# The BULLETIN

OF THE WESTPORT WOMAN'S CLUB

SEPTEMBER 2010

## WWC SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> <i>Mah Jong 1-4</i> Diana Zaslow 227-1346	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>Office Closed</b> <b>Labor Day</b>	<b>7</b> <i>Garden Board</i> 1:30pm	<b>8</b> <i>Mah Jong 1-4</i>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <i>Club Day</i>	<b>14</b> <i>Garden General</i> 12:30pm	<b>15</b> <i>Cultural Affairs</i> 9:30 AM <i>Mah Jong 1-4</i>	<b>16</b> <i>Bridge 9:30am</i>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <i>Board Meeting</i> 10:00-12:00 <i>Bridge 10:00</i>	<b>21</b> <i>Ways &amp; Means</i> 5:00pm <i>Bunco</i> 7:00pm Wendy McKeon 222-0038	<b>22</b> <i>Antiques</i> 10:00am <i>Mah Jong 1-4</i> RSVP 1:00	<b>23</b> <i>Bridge</i> 9:30am <i>Book Review</i> 1:00pm <i>Wine &amp; Cheese</i> 7:00pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <i>Bridge</i> 10:00 <i>Community Service</i> 9:30am	<b>28</b> <i>Gourmet</i> 11:30	<b>29</b> <i>Mah Jong 1-4</i>	<b>30</b> <i>Bridge</i> 9:30 am		

**Officers** *President* Mary Vickery; *1st Vice President (Special Interests)* Leah Scherzer; *2nd Vice President (Finance)* Wynne Abrams;  
*3rd Vice President (Ways & Means)* Susan Cugliari; *Secretary* Pat Voris; *Treasurer* Anne Hunt **Directors** *Communications* Denise Kuendig;  
*Community Service* Jo Fuchs Luscombe; *Grounds* Brenda Sciarra; *House* Ruthann Carroll/Conchita Cassell;  
*Membership* Clare Clark; *Parliamentary Advisor* Joyce Nethernton; *Program* Kathy Groener, Mitzi Lyman, Barbara Levy; *Rentals* Rose Jordan  
*Curio Cottage* Carol Goetz **Staff** *Office Manager* Colleen Fenton ; *Resident Manager* Dora Sweet

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Office Hours M-F 9:00am-4:00pm  
 12:00-1:00 Closed for Lunch  
 Office Phone 203-227-4240

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Fellow Members,

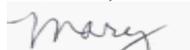
I hope you all have had a restful and fun-filled summer. For the past two months, your new Board of Directors has been working hard preparing the year's budget, overseeing repairs and annual maintenance for the house and planning exciting programs and events for the coming year. There are a wide variety of wonderful activities in the works, so please be sure to mark your calendars and plan to attend.

September highlights include:

- September 13 Club Day -- Finance Committee will present their budget for membership approval. Copies of the proposed budget are available in the office for your advance perusal.
- September 21 Ways & Means Committee Meeting -- all members are encouraged to attend and volunteer to assist with a variety of exciting fundraising events. (See Ways & Means article for more details.)
- September 23 New Member Wine & Cheese -- all members are invited to attend and are encouraged to bring friends who might be interested in joining. (See Membership article for more details.)
- September 24-26 3rd Annual Blues, Views and BBQ Festival -- See article for more details.)
- September 27 Community Services Committee -- a number of new volunteer opportunities will be announced and plans will be set for the year. (See Community Service article for more details.)
- All of our wonderful Special Interest Groups will be resuming their regular activities. (See the calendar for specific dates & times.)

We look forward to seeing you at these and other events.

Cheers,



Mary Vickery  
President

## Membership

Hope all have enjoyed a relaxing summer and are looking forward to a year of active involvement at the Club. Thank you to all who have already renewed their membership. Just a reminder that we need your check and paperwork by Sept. 1 to insure your listing in the 2010/11 Membership Directory.

The committee that is working on the Handbook has been busy this summer and we thank all of you who we contacted for information for all your work and support in helping to accomplish this. We all look forward to its completion in time for publication with the Directory!

Please be on the lookout for potential members for our remarkable Club and forward any and all names to me. We have planned a Wine and Cheese for prospective and new members for Thursday 9/23 at 7:00-PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE. You are the best source of new members and I appreciate and will follow up on all referrals! Inviting a friend to Club Day is another great way to interest prospective members.

Speaking of new members, we have two women to welcome who joined over the summer. They will be included in the new directory, but here is their basic contact info.

Dorothy Robertshaw

Cynthia A. Williams

Clare Clark  
Membership Chair

## Ways and Means

Wanted: "Chiefs" and "Indians"  
Do having fun and raising funds sound up your alley? Do your creative juices cry out for expression? Do you have some exciting ideas to raise funds? Would you like to volunteer to work on or even chair a Bridge Tournament, a Fashion Show, a Wine and Art Sale, Cooking lessons?

Then come to the opening Ways and Means committee meeting on September 21st at 5:00 pm in the Living Room. And, don't forget, every member of WWC belongs to the Ways and Means committee. Come and be a part of the fun!

## CLUB DAY

Welcome back. I hope everyone had a good summer.

Our first Club Day Luncheon is Monday, September 13th. Wine and punch is served at 11:30. Lunch is served at 12:00. We will be serving chicken salad with grapes and almonds on a bed of baby greens, rolls and butter, Mississippi Mud Cake for dessert.

The cost of Club Day, \$15, may be paid by check (to WWC) or cash (exact amount if possible).

Permanent List: All members who would like to be on the permanent lunch list, including those who were on last year's list, must contact Colleen Fenton at the office 227-4240. Board Members are automatically included on the Permanent List.

Reservations: If you are not on the permanent list, please call Colleen Fenton by 1:00pm Wednesday prior to Club Day. If you are on the Permanent List there is no need to call.

Cancellations: If you are on the permanent list, let Colleen know by 1:00pm by the reservation deadline date (Wednesday before Club Day) if you cannot attend. Unfortunately, anyone who does not cancel either permanent or monthly reservation is expected to pay for the cost of the lunch since the WWC must pay the caterer for the number of lunches ordered.

Food Allergies: Please contact the caterer directly: Nick, 203-368-1823.



## Sunshine Girls

Hopefully, you all had an enjoyable summer that was not too busy.

Once again, I would like to welcome everyone back and thank you in advance for your dedication and commitment to our Westport Woman's Club community. As in the past, we meet in September and March following our Club Day lunch. I look forward to seeing all Sunshine Girls of the Month, alternate Sunshine Girls and, of course, any member who wishes to join us is always welcome.

September Sunshine Girl: Zita Casey 203-3752 or croxie30@aol.com

Thank you. Leah Scherzer, First Vice President

## Programs

Our September Speaker will be Michael Evans, a native of Weston, CT and Founder of Full Court Peace, an organization which uses youth sports as a platform to enhance the peace movement globally. Michael has brought his peace initiative to Belfast, Northern Ireland, Ciudad Juarez, Mexico and Cuba.

[www.fullcourtpeace.org](http://www.fullcourtpeace.org)

Program Directors

Kathy Groener

Barbara Levy

Mitzi Lyman

## Community Services

Please mark your calendars for Making Strides against Breast Cancer Walk at Sherwood Island State Park on Sunday, October 24 at 11:00 a.m. A Westport Woman's Club Team has been set up on the event website. You can register for the walk or make a donation at [www.cancer.org/stridesonline](http://www.cancer.org/stridesonline). Registration will also be available at the park starting at 9:00 am or you can add your name to the sign up sheet at the Club.

Forty four letters soliciting applications for grants went out on August 1st, with a request that all applications be returned for review by October 15th.

We will continue the practice of meeting on the 4th Monday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in the living room. I look forward to seeing many of you on September 27th and to working alongside you on behalf of those in need in our community.

Jo Fuchs Luscombe  
Director, Community Services

## Cultural Affairs

"Carnival" Goodspeed Opera House East Haddam, CT. Wednesday September 15th. This trip is sold-out with a short wait list of two. We need a longer wait list as the cancellation rate is usually about 10% and we have already started to receive cancellations. Cost of this trip is \$99.00 per person which includes lunch (except alcoholic beverages). The four lunch selections are: Bistro Steak, Chicken Marsala, Pan Seared Tilapia or Penne Pasta with fresh vegetables. Please choose one entrée and phone or email your selection to the office before Labor Day. The bus will leave the lower level parking lot at 10:00am on Wednesday and return approximately 6:00pm.

"La cage Aux Folles" Wednesday, October 13th New York City, Longacre Theater. In the 1983 Tony-winning show Georges (Kelsey Grammer) is the suave owner of a drag club on the French Riviera. His partner is Albin a High strung star performer. The pair lives a charmed life until Georges son announces his engagement to the daughter of a conservative right-winged politician who's coming to dinner.

In June 2010 this show won two Tony Awards, one for best Musical revival and one for Best actor in a Musical for Douglas Hodge.  
Cost of this theater trip is \$128.00 per person

## Book Club

The Book Group will begin this year on September 23rd at 1:00pm in the living room with a discussion of "Strapless" by Deborah Davis, the story of John Singer Sargent and the lady in the famous portrait. Betty McGrath will lead the discussion. Copies will be available at the Westport Library, and all are welcome to attend - just show up.

Barbara Raffel

## Antiques

On Wednesday, September 22 we will visit The Avenue Gallery in Westport. Owner Diana Wyant has graciously invited us to her gallery, one of New England's largest print and frame galleries. For 12 years, it has been known for its extensive selection of antique prints, maps, charts, architecture, views, and botanicals, as well as innovative framing choices that assures the timelessness of antique paper.

Unfortunately, seating is not available. As space in the gallery is limited, a large group cannot be accommodated. As I have to know in advance the number of people who will be attending, please contact me if you want to go. If there is a big response, we can schedule an additional meeting there on a future date. Diana's presentation starts promptly at 10am and will end at 10:30, when the gallery opens for business.

Please note that we will not be meeting first at the Club for refreshments, as there is a rental at that time. Due to the limited space, this meeting is open only to members.

Audrey Rabinowitz

## 3rd Annual, Blues, Views and BBQ Festival

The 3rd Annual Blues, Views and BBQ Festival will be held from September 24-26 on the grounds of the Levitt Pavilion, the Westport Library, and the upper commuter lot located behind the Woman's Club. Hours are Saturday, 11am-7pm, and Sunday, 11am-6pm. The WWC, a collaborator of this community wide event since it started, has received a generous grant each of the past two years from the Downtown Merchants Association, which arranges this Festival. This year our Food Closet has been chosen as the recipient of the funds raised from the "Cookin' For a Cause" portion of the Festival.

As in the past, we need volunteers to work at the entrance booths on Sept. 25th and 26th. Contact Audrey Rabinowitz at 227-6010 or put your name on the sign-up sheet on the Club's bulletin board.

## Gourmet

We are launching our year with fabulous menu compliments of the Barefoot Contessa. Spearheaded by Marylee Clayton, members of our group are preparing a luncheon at the clubhouse on Tuesday, September 28 at 11:30 AM. Fee required for non-members to cover cost of food.

On Wednesday, October 27, our group will be going into New York City to the French Culinary Institute. As space is limited to 25, don't delay to get your checks in the mail! For further information on our group or our up-coming trip, please contact:  
Anne Hunt

## Necessities Bags

The Club is excited to be launching a new service project in October. In support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we will be putting together Necessities Bags for mastectomy patients. Maureen Lutz founded Necessities, Inc., a 501c(3) charitable organization 5 years ago after her own personal experience gave her new perspective on how to prepare for her personal needs in the hospital and post surgical recovery at home.

The bags are free of charge and distributed exclusively through surgeons, nurses and hospital affiliated breast cancer support centers, throughout Fairfield County. These reusable totes are filled with essentials for wound care, hygiene and personal comfort for use after surgery and at home. Some of the items are small hand-sewn comfort pillows, cotton undershirts, super soft bandages, gentle paper tape, lip balm, flushable wipes, pocket pack tissues, water bottles, notebooks and pens, and information.

There is a big demand in November and December. The Club's goal is to assemble a minimum of 100 bags. The following donations are requested;

\* Men's white tank shirts (sometimes called A-shirts) – such as Hanes or Fruit of the Loom brands.

Walmart carries multi-packs of 7 shirts for the best price.

\* Flushable wipes – such as Cottonelle, Scott, Stop and Shop generic, Walmart's Equate.

A collection box will be outside the office during the month of September.

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY: people to sew small pillows. If you are interested, please call Audrey Rabinowitz (227-6010) for further information and instructions.

The schedule is:

Wednesday, October 6th at 7pm, we will pre-pack some of the items; Wednesday, October 13 at 9:30am, the bags will be assembled. A card will also be inserted in each one that states the bag was put together by members of the Club; the bags will be delivered to the hospitals and doctors' offices.

You can be involved - by sewing pillows, donating shirts or wipes, pre-packing and assembling the bags, or delivering the bags. Please add your name to the sign up sheet on the bulletin board, or call Audrey, 227-6010. Your help is very much appreciated.

## Garden Department

September 7, 1:30 pm Board Meeting

September 14th, General Meeting

**Tour of the Aldrich Museum in Ridgefield with focus on Fritz Haeg's Sustainable Living Exhibit.**

Meet at the club at 12:30 pm. We will carpool. RSVP MLC by September 10th. For further information check the Museum web site at [aldrichart.org](http://aldrichart.org)

Mary Lee Clayton

## BYLAWS AND RULES COMMITTEE

Notice is hereby given in this Bulletin to the Voting Membership of revisions to the Bylaws which will be voted on at Club Day on Monday, September 13, 2010. Each Voting Member shall be given an opportunity to vote thereon in person or by Absentee Ballot available in the Club office.

The Bylaws and Rules Committee, after careful review and discussion, proposed to the Board the following revisions to the Club's current Bylaws, last updated in 2007. The Board approved and recommended acceptance of the revised Bylaws at its June 28, 2010 meeting.

The committee has made some minor changes to the Bylaws as a whole, consisting of section formatting, grammatical corrections, and upper/lower case and wording consistencies, which should increase readability and understanding.

Summarized below are underlined revisions which bring the Bylaws up-to-date with current and recommended practices:

**Article III Membership, Section 2.** - Active voting members and honorary non-voting members shall receive the Bulletin and annual Membership Directory.

**Article IV Dues, Section 4.** - If the dues remain unpaid, such members will be removed from the mailing list and annual Membership Directory.

**Article IV Dues, Section 5.** - Add the sentence: Dues of active members joining after May31 shall be the full amount for the upcoming year with no charge for June, July and August.

**Article IX Community Services, Section 4.** - Chair shall appoint a Scholarship Committee chair from members who have served on the Scholarship Committee for the previous one or two years.

Rewrite of the sub-committee's responsibilities - The Scholarship Committee shall be responsible for preparing and reviewing application forms, and awarding scholarships from the Club to selected high school seniors and one female adult who meet the established criteria for Scholarship grants. The Scholarship chair shall meet with the President, Finance chair and Community Services chair for approval of the committee's recommendations for Scholarship grants before notification or announcement. The Scholarship awards shall be presented at the Club's general meeting or other planned ceremony in June.

**Article XI Standing Committees, Section 3.** Communications Committee - remove the phrase excepting the major fund raiser from the responsibilities.

**Section 7. Membership Committee** - Change "shall maintain an up-to-date membership list" to shall ensure that an up-to-date membership list be maintained.

**Article XII Permanent Committees, Section 5.** Finance Committee - remove the underlined phrases from a) the financial operation and maintenance to the Club building and grounds with funds derived from membership dues, rentals and social events, and (b) the allocation of funds raised for philanthropic purposes.

**Article XIV Special Interests, Section 2.** Remove personal investments and paddle tennis and add Mah Jongg.

**Section 6.** Add the 1st VP: Special Interest section heads shall file a complete list of their members and any changes thereto with the Club's First Vice-President and office manager on a timely basis.

Respectfully submitted by the  
Bylaws and Rules Committee,  
Joyce Netherton, Parliamentary Advisor  
Betsy Dickinson  
Audrey Rabinowitz



## Tap Dancing Anyone?

I have an instructor ready and willing to teach anyone ready to learn and have fun.  
Please contact me if you're interested.

Leah Scherzer  
First Vice President  
203-226-3042

## *The* **BULLETIN** **OF THE WESTPORT WOMANS CLUB**

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Westport, CT 06880

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