

NORWICH WOMEN'S CLUB

Community Service Since 1907

JANUARY 2013

ARE YOU READY FOR ANOTHER GALA? ONE AS GOOD AS LAST YEAR'S? ONE BETTER?

Good, because we are planning a fabulous winter's evening for you, one filled with the pride of the second annual Norwich Citizen of the Year, the pleasure of good food and drink, and the excitement of walking away with some fabulous prizes. On Friday, March 15, the Spring Gala will be held at Tracy Hall.

Once again this year we have Ledyard National Bank as our lead sponsor, providing all of the funds for our catering and, even more, for the \$500 Ledyard Grant for Community Service awarded to our Citizen of the Year. We are thrilled to have such a prestigious business backing our efforts and, in a sense, acknowledging the important work of the Women's Club.

Of course you know that the proceeds from this event fund the NWC's Community Projects Fund. But what you may not realize is that the Silent Auction at the Gala really provides the bulk of our profits. Please, support our Auction chair, Geneviève Verlaak-Graham, when she or another NWC member asks for a prize. Even better, plan on bidding on prizes.

And here's a spoiler alert – last year a group of mah-jongg-crazy, canasta-loony gals were determined to win Debby Hall's donation of a week at a glamorous home in Duck, NC, so that they could play and party their brains out. Well, they won it all right, and on Feb. 13 those wild gamblers are off to Duck. The alert? Bet they'll want to win a similar item this year. It's up to all of you to find out, 1, who the mah-jongg crowd is and 2, how to win that week away from them!

MEMBERSHIP

A warm welcome to new members Annette Brown, Sugar Genereaux, Beth Hazlett, Hilary Llewellyn-Thomas, Elizabeth McKinstry, Teresa Oden, and Janet Terp.

If you know anyone who is interested in becoming a member, she will find more information on our website – www.norwichwomensclub.org. And I am always happy to answer any questions: 802-649-2662.

Remember: your dues entitle you to discounts on the Book and Author Luncheon, museum trips and entry to the Spring Gala!

Sophia Crawford, Membership Chair

NWC CALENDAR

Coffee at the Norwich Inn
Monday 02/04/13
10:00-11:00am

Book and Author Luncheon
At the Norwich Inn
Monday 02/25/13
11:00am

2nd Annual Spring Gala
Friday 03/15/13
Tracy Hall

NWC Board Meeting Schedule
Norwich Public Library
Monday 6:30 pm
01/14/13
02/11/13
03/11/13
04/08/13
05/13/13

NORWICH TOWN DIRECTORY

Last call for additions/deletions from the 2011 edition! If you have new neighbors, PLEASE let me know ASAP, and if you give me their phone numbers, either land or cell, I'll call them to make sure they want to be included.

Over 100 businesses have already paid \$20 to have their entries in bold face type. Do be sure to patronize them!

The new directory will be available for sale (still \$5) at town meeting March 4 and thereafter at Dan & Whit's and the town clerk's office.

Alison May, 649-8294
don.alison.may@comcast.net

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SPRING GALA SILENT AUCTION

The Silent Auction Committee is looking forward to our Spring Gala on March 15th. We are in search of auction prizes and would love to have our members' help. If you have a donation or prize to offer or you have a source who can provide us with an auction prize, please contact me on belgamco@comcast.net.

We are determined to make this year's gala another huge success.

Yours in service,
Geneviève Verlaak-Graham, Silent Auction Committee

NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR NORWICH CITIZEN OF THE YEAR FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE JANUARY 2 – JANUARY 21, 2013

Any member of the Norwich community is eligible who has made exceptional humanitarian, educational, civic, or cultural contributions to Norwich, the Upper Valley, or the world at large through community service.

Any resident of Norwich may nominate a candidate by describing why the person deserves this special recognition. Nominations may be made in two ways: 1. A nomination form is at www.norwichwomensclub.org and may be e-mailed or hard-copied to Cheryl Herrmann, POB 321, Norwich, VT 05055 or CHerrmann@Remaxgroupone.com. 2. Nominations are also accepted by simply sending several paragraphs to the same address describing the candidate's merits as a Citizen of the Year. Be sure to include contact information for the candidate you are nominating.

The winner will be honored at the Second Annual Spring Gala to be held on Friday evening, March 15, and will receive the \$500 Ledyard Grant for Community Service, to be used for the charity of the winner's choosing.



COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

We are offering coffee and conversation at the Norwich Inn – we do hope you will join us on Monday February 4th, from 10am to 11am.

This is open to anyone whether or not a member of the Women's Club, so do bring a friend and encourage any newcomers you know. It would help us best plan if you would RSVP to Sue Spademan, SSpademan@gmail.com.

We thank the Inn for their warm welcome.

Book and Author Luncheon, Monday, February 25, 11 a.m. Norwich Inn

Mark your calendars for enlightenment, food, fun, and fellowship! Our annual Book and Author Luncheon this year features local author Cynthia D. Bittinger, speaking on her important work, *Vermont Women, Native Americans, and African Americans*, Vermonters' histories that have gone untold.

Doors will open at 11, we will sit down at 11:30, and Cynthia will speak with time for questions. After her talk, we will lunch and chat. Bring an old friend or a new neighbor!

The luncheon, with a choice of entrée and a glass of wine, dessert, coffee, tip and tax, is \$27 for members, \$32 for non-members. Send your check payable to Norwich Women's Club to: Dana Ireland, 44 Bramble Lane, Norwich, VT 05055.

Sorry, no payment at the door – reservations required - as the Inn need a firm number to set up tables and prepare meals.

The Norwich Bookstore will be present and selling Cynthia's book at the luncheon. Thank you, Penny and Liza.



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Late Words from the President

The New Year, 2013, holds promise to be one of the best years yet for the Norwich Women's Club. There is such enthusiasm and vitality emanating from all of our members.

The Holiday Party, held at the Norwich Historical Society, was jam-packed with women. This was the best attended party yet. Everyone was in a festive and jovial mood. It was such fun to see old friends and welcome new ones. There are a few pictures on our website that you might want to look at: www.norwichwomensclub.org. Thank you to PJ and her daughter Kylee Ivany who decorated the rooms so beautifully and to all the Board members who brought such delicious food to share.

As you can tell from this newsletter, we are all gearing up for **The Spring Gala**. Please mark your calendar for **March 15**, as you won't want to miss this event. The indefatigable Sue Pitiger is the overall chair, and she is doing her usual fabulous job of keeping everyone on target and in line. **But we need your help.** PLEASE, consider nominating someone who you think is deserving of this year's award for Citizen of the Year for Community Service. Have a brainstorming session with your friends or family, and then send your nomination to Cheryl Herrmann, this year's committee chair. Check the website for more information. While you are thinking Spring Gala, can you think of something you can offer for the Silent Auction, or can you solicit something from someone you know, or a business that you frequent? We take pride in offering creative and clever items that can't be bought except at our auction.

Once again, Ledyard National Bank is co-sponsoring the event. Their financial participation allows us to have the evening catered and to award the \$500 Ledyard Grant to the Citizen of the Year, to be given to a charity of her/his choice. We want to be sure that we at least match last year's profits, which allowed us to distribute \$21,000 in Community Grants.

The **Coffee and Conversations** at the Norwich Inn continue to be a welcome way to start a new week, and this Monday morning was no exception. A large number of new members or soon to be new members joined a group of old timers for lively conversation. Nobody wanted to go home! The next coffee will be on February 4, from 10:00 to 11:00. Please join us if you can.

I wish everyone good health, good fun and continued good work.

Arline Rotman

