

# NORWICH WOMEN'S CLUB

Community Service Since 1907

JUNE 2014

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I can't believe I'm wrapping up my first year as NWC President. The Club is in great shape – record receipts at the Spring Nearly New Sale and record Spring Gala results, as well! Thanks to all of you who volunteer and participate in our activities, and particularly to Elaine Waterman who heads up the Nearly New Sales and to Sue Pitiger who will once again chair the Spring Gala next March. And thanks as well to the Scholarship Committee (Martha Graber) and the Finance Committee (Carol Loveland) who give away our hard earned dollars.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the **Annual Meeting and Luncheon on June 10** at Sophia Crawford's lovely home on Bragg Hill. Details on time and location are included in this newsletter and on the website. While we have some business to attend to at this meeting, it's primarily an opportunity to socialize with friends old and new.

Don't forget to join us for the **Summer Concerts on the Green** – the first one is on Friday evening, June 27 with the Panhandlers Steel Band. And there are three more after that – check the website for more information.

And finally, it's time to make your **dues payment** for the 2014-15 membership year – still a bargain at just \$20!

Have a wonderful summer!

Debby

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## NORWICH WOMEN'S CLUB ANNUAL MEETING Tuesday June 10th, 11am-1pm, at 1282 Bragg Hill Road

You've received your invitation; do let us know that you are coming. We provide the greens (and the breads, desserts and beverages); you bring a pint of salad ingredients to share.

Any questions? Phone me 802-369-9465.

Or email: [pjstanwood@gmail.com](mailto:pjstanwood@gmail.com).

PJ Stanwood, Hospitality Chair



## NWC CALENDAR

### Annual Meeting & Luncheon

Tuesday, June 10, 11am–1pm  
1282 Bragg Hill Road

### Summer Concert Series

All concerts are FREE, Fridays,  
7-9pm on the Norwich Green  
June 27: *The Panhandlers Steel  
Band*

July 11: *Still More Cats*

July 18: *The Flames*

August 22: *Wind that Shakes  
the Barley*

### Coffee & Conversation

Monday, September 8  
Norwich Inn, 10-11am

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## MEMBERSHIP

A warm welcome to new members Lisa Christie, Jenny Gelfan and Betsy Maislen. Want to help our community further by contributing to our Community Project and Scholarship Funds? Haven't yet paid your \$20 dues for our fiscal year June 2014-May 2015? You could save yourself a stamp and bring your check, payable to NWC, to the Summer Meeting.

Anyone interested in joining will find details on our website [www.norwichwomensclub.org](http://www.norwichwomensclub.org)

Sophia Crawford  
Membership Coordinator

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## Storage Of Supplies

After 50 years of New Sale fixtures, mirrors in the door to the Congregational Church, we need to find a new location as the Nye children have decided to sell the family home now that both parents are deceased.

I spoke with Chris Nye recently regarding this. Ideally it would be great if the NNS items could remain in their barn until our October sale after which we would relocate everything to a new location. But this will depend on the terms of the sale of their house.

Hence the dramatic **SOS** - the NWC is looking to its membership to see if there is anyone within the membership, or knows someone else, who might have a 14' x 14' or larger storage space available to the Club; space just has to be dry, and accessible even in snow.

The coordinators of the various NNS components met recently at my home for a debriefing meeting following the spring sale - *which broke records for gross sales and number of consignors* - and concluded our agenda with brainstorming some perks that might entice someone with extra space to let the NNS fixtures reside there (thus saving storage rental fees which leaves more for scholarships):

- Attendance at the workers' sale without doing a shift
- Yearly membership of the NWC paid by the NNS operating funds
- Claim a tax deduction for the value of the storage provided (subject to consultation with your tax advisor)

PLEASE think, think, think and e-mail me (e.waterman@valley.net) as soon as you have a possible name or possible location. In Village is ideal but not necessary - we've done very well over the past many years - now we just need it in Norwich.

Elaine Waterman  
NNS Chair



storing Nearly  
hangers and  
Nyes' barn next

## NWC Summer Concerts Friday Nights at 7pm FREE on the Green

June 27: *The Panhandlers Steel Band*

July 11: *Still More Cats*

July 18: *The Flames*

August 22: *Wind that Shakes the Barley*



## COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

We won't offer a coffee morning this month because of the Summer Meeting, or in the vacation months of July or August.

But we shall look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to Coffee & Conversation on Monday, September 8th, at the Norwich Inn from 10am to 11am



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## Norwich Women's Club Newsletter Member Profile DEB KAPLAN



This is the final newsletter of the NWC year, and the final edition with Deb Kaplan as our editor. If you have watched how our electronic edition keeps getting better and better, it is a tribute to Deb.

Interviewing Deb was such fun. We had planned to talk for about an hour over a cup of coffee. We never drank the coffee but spent about three fun-filled hours while she reminisced about her life.

She spent the first 30 years of her life in Chicago where she earned a degree in nursing, graduating from Loyola in 1978. She worked at Northwestern Memorial Hospital Medical Center beginning as a staff nurse in the ICU, then as a charge nurse, and finally as the head nurse in the Recovery Room. She also ran a cardiac rehab program. Deb is clearly a people person, and the personal interaction with patients is very important to her. While working at the Medical Center she earned a master's degree in Nursing Administration from the University of Illinois. It was during this time that she first met her husband Aaron who was doing a residency at her hospital.

She told me the unique circumstances surrounding their first date. One Friday night in 1988, she was going out with two friends, when one suggested, "Let's go to the birthday party for Aaron Kaplan". When they got to the party, which was in a

studio apartment with a loft and about 200 people, "a guy with a big bushy beard was at the door selling five cent raffle tickets—only to women". The prize was a date with Aaron, and all the nickels were to pay for the date. You guessed it, Deb won! They went out about six times, but Deb really didn't want a boyfriend at that time.

Starting in 1982 and continuing biennially, Deb ran marathons. The most outstanding experience was in November 2001, right after 9/11. She had trained with five other women to run the New York marathon. Three of the women dropped out, but Deb and a friend experienced the exhilaration of running in New York at that emotional time. Security was very tight with army helicopters flying overhead while they crossed the Verrazano Bridge, and with runners whose t-shirts carried pictures of missing loved ones.

Deb moved to California in 1990 when she took a sales support job with a medical device company. Her territory was California and Arizona, but because of staff shortages she was on the road from Monday to Friday, traveling 115,000 miles in one year. Meanwhile, unbeknown to Deb, Aaron had also relocated to California to complete a fellowship in Cardiology.

The guy who sold the raffle tickets once again played a role in bringing Deb and Aaron together. Deb was scheduled to make a sales call at the Stanford University Medical Center where Aaron was doing his fellowship. The friend gave Aaron's phone number to Deb, suggesting she call him. She did, and she met Aaron for dinner the night before her presentation. Aaron knew the doctor she was meeting with but neglected to tell her that he was the wrong person to see. The next day she went to her meeting, saw the doctor's card, and knew immediately that he wouldn't be interested—but he sent her down the hall to the right person. When she got into the elevator, she ran into Aaron. And the rest is history. They were engaged within six months, and married in 1992. She added "He

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didn't listen to me at dinner that night, and still doesn't listen to me"!

It was around this time that Deb realized she was exhausted from travelling and missed direct patient care. She changed jobs to work as the clinical director at El Camino hospital in Mountain View, the heart of Silicon Valley.

Their first daughter Ella was born in 1994. With the help of an amazing babysitter from El Salvador, Deb went back to work full-time. When Rainie was born the following year, she cut back to part-time work. Aaron was travelling two weeks out of every month while she was home with two little kids. Aaron's mom, who had five sons, had some good advice for Deb. "When planning a family, pick a number, not a sex". Two girls have been perfect for Deb and Aaron. But eight of her mother-in-law's eleven grandchildren are girls!

When Deb and Aaron started their family, Deb became involved in her local California synagogue and the PTA at her children's school. She organized a "tot Shabbat" for her synagogue once a month, a special service for small children. She made Chanukah parties, decorating cookies for that as well as a Purim Carnival. She loved her life in California, but worried a little about raising children in such a "conspicuous consumption" environment. Although they had wonderful friendships that they still maintain, she acknowledged that life in the Bay area was stressful.

Aaron was recruited by DHMC in 2002. Deb came to look at the area and her first impression was "people seemed so happy here". On an exploratory trip with the children, she took them to see the Marion Cross School. The kids made the decision for the family. They fell in love with Marion Cross, having been shown around by Dani Ligett and hanging in the art room with Tracy Smith, and so the Kaplans moved to Norwich. Ella started in the 3rd grade and Rainie entered 1st grade. She also joined the Upper Valley Jewish Community (UVJC) at the Roth Center. Deb immediately began

working in both girls' Marion Cross classrooms, and taught 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes at the Roth Center.

One year later she was elected to the Norwich School Board. It was a strong board and she liked the work but she didn't like the public nature of the job. The hot contentious issue de jour was the purchase of land for the Dresden field. The bond issue failed twice. "People tended to make things personal, and when they got angry they took it out on the Board".

The following year she became chair of the Marion Cross PTO, which was much more to her liking. It was there that she taught herself about computer publishing and graphics so that she could produce the PTO newsletter.

In 2009, she joined the Board of Trustees at the UVJC (she is now the President). She also improved the quality of food at various UVJC functions by volunteering to be the caterer. Together with Susan Israel, she started a small catering business, catering events at the synagogue or for Bar and Bat Mitzvahs. But Deb's love is for feeding friends, not running a "real business".

Deb's volunteer life has centered around her two passions - family and cooking for large groups of people. I can attest to the fact that Deb is a consummate hostess and a fabulous and confident cook. She acknowledges that she loves to try new recipes and has no hesitation in trying them out on large groups of people.

About 5 years ago, Deb resumed her nursing career and is currently working at the VA Hospital in White River Junction. They needed help in their inpatient psychiatric unit and although this was new to her, she loves her work which offers new challenges and a different patient care environment.

Fortunately for us, Deb says, "I just love the Women's Club". We can look forward to being greeted and fêted by Deb as she is taking on the role of Hospitality Chair beginning with this year's Fall Welcome Meeting.

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HERE ARE TWO RECIPES FOR SUMMER PICNIC FARE...  
THINK THE NWC SUMMER CONCERT SERIES....  
JUST ADD SOME GRILLED CHICKEN OR FISH AND YOU HAVE DINNER!

## **Orzo with Arugula, Pine Nuts and Olives**

**8 servings**

2 cups orzo (1lb. box), cooked al dente	½ cup pitted Kalamata olives, coarsely chopped
6 tablespoons olive oil	1 ounce arugula, finely chopped
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice	½ cup grated Asiago cheese
3 green onions, finely minced	½ cup toasted pine nuts.

Cook orzo in a large pot of salted boiling water for about 6-7 minutes until al dente. Rinse under cold water and drain thoroughly. Transfer to a large bowl and toss with olive oil and lemon juice. Mix in remaining ingredients. Season with salt and pepper. Adjust seasoning before serving; you may want to add a bit more olive oil, lemon juice, or cheese. May be made up to 6 hours ahead.

## **Roasted Corn, Black Bean & Mango Salad**

**8 servings**

2 teaspoons canola oil	1/2 cup diced red bell pepper
1 clove garlic, minced	1/2 cup chopped red onion
1 1/2 cups corn kernels, (from 3 ears)	3 tablespoons lime juice
1 large ripe mango, (about 1 pound), peeled and diced	1/4 teaspoon ground cumin
1 15-ounce or 19-ounce can black beans, rinsed	1/4 teaspoon salt
1 small canned chipotle pepper in adobo sauce, drained and chopped	
1 1/2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro	

Heat oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add garlic and cook, stirring, until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Stir in corn and cook, stirring occasionally, until browned, about 8 minutes. Transfer the corn mixture to a large bowl. Stir in mango, beans, onion, bell pepper, lime juice, chipotle, cilantro, cumin and salt.



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This year the Women's Club received \$35,158 in Grant Requests. The Finance Committee had \$30,708 to distribute back to the Norwich Community, and they worked diligently to give money toward each request. Canny Bensen was celebrated at our March Spring Gala as the 2014 Norwich Citizen of the Year for Community Service. This major fundraiser for Community Projects raised over \$24,500 in one night. Thank you to our members and the community for supporting the NWC with your time and donations.

## 2014 Community Projects Grants Totaling \$30,708

Aging in Place Norwich: <a href="#">Community Education Programs</a>	Norwich Women's Club:
Beaver Meadow School House: <a href="#">Capital Improvement Project</a>	<a href="#">Spring Gala 2014 Honoree</a>
Giving Bowls	<a href="#">Candidates Night</a>
Hartford Holiday Baskets	<a href="#">League of Women Voters</a>
High Horses Therapeutic Riding Program: <a href="#">Helmets</a>	<a href="#">Memorial Books</a>
Marion Cross School: <a href="#">Visiting Author James Sturm</a>	<a href="#">Spelling Bee</a>
Norwich Historical Society: <a href="#">Collection Care Window Shades</a>	<a href="#">Summer Concerts</a>
Norwich Nursery School: <a href="#">Gail Dolan Scholarship Fund</a>	<a href="#">Triangle and Sign Plantings</a>
Norwich Public Library: <a href="#">Community Room Wireless Projector and Tables</a>	<a href="#">Membership Development</a>
Revels North: <a href="#">Summer Solstice Celebration</a>	<a href="#">Off Cycle Requests</a>
Root District Game Club: <a href="#">Sponsorship Documentary on History of Norwich Schoolhouses</a>	
Town of Norwich: <a href="#">Updating Wireless Sound System Tracy Hall</a>	
Town of Norwich Historic Preservation Committee: <a href="#">Sponsorship Documentary on Farms of Norwich</a>	
Town of Norwich Trails Committee: <a href="#">Gile Mountain Trail Restoration</a>	
Town of Norwich Fire District: <a href="#">Lower Ballard Trail Repair Phase II; Firewood Shed</a>	
Town of Norwich Recreation Dept: <a href="#">Huntley Meadow Receptacles</a>	
Town of Norwich Recreation Council: <a href="#">Backstop for Baseball Field on the Green</a>	
Upper Valley Trail Alliance: <a href="#">Passport to Winter Fund at MCS; Gile Mountain Trail and Fire Tower</a>	
Vermont Center for Ecostudies: <a href="#">Speaker Honorarium</a>	

Submitted by: Carol Loveland, Chair of Finance Committee  
Joanne Kent, Debby Hall, Sue Pitiger, Geneviève Verlaak-Graham, Karen Ward