

NWC May/June 2016 Newsletter

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NORWICH WOMEN'S CLUB



The Norwich Triangle Garden in May

Head Gardener Mary Ann Holbrook advises, "put on your sunglasses to view the garden this summer. Colors will be bright and bold! "

Thanks to our experienced gardeners Carol Loveland, Dana Ireland, Bonnie Lawlor, and Anne Silberfarb, and welcome to our new volunteer, Barbara Kenney.



President's Note Sue Kaufman

The pansies are smiling, and the trees are wearing flowers of delicate and delightful spring greens. These are signs of the season and they also tell me that this is a transition point for me from the end of one year to the beginning of another, as president of the Norwich Women's Club.

The past NWC year has been busy – as they all are – and filled with successful events and fun experiences. I want to thank the members of the board of the NWC who have been dedicated, hardworking and enthusiastic about the Club, its mission, and its promise. You can see who is on the NWC board now, in the front of your Norwich Women's Club directory or on our website at: <http://www.norwichwomensclub.org/ourboard.html>. The proposed board slate for the year that starts on June 1 is presented below.

It is almost time for the NWC Annual Meeting and Lunch on Tuesday, June 7th at Arline Rotman's house (thanks Arline). More details are included later in this newsletter. Please do come to the meeting and enjoy the lunch. This is always a nice, comfortable event - good to share with a friend, maybe someone you don't see often enough, or who is new to Norwich, and/or isn't a Club member.

I am so looking forward to the Summer Concerts that Lily Trajman has scheduled for us this year – note the earlier start time. I highly recommend the concerts, whatever your taste in music. They provide an opportunity to relax, visit, and picnic on the Norwich Green while being entertained.

Summer always goes by way too fast in our neck of the woods. Be sure to take time to enjoy the NWC Triangle Garden, near Tracy Hall, that Mary Ann Holbrook and her crew provide for the rest of us to enjoy from spring through fall. The tulips have already been beautiful this year and I'm sure we will be pleasantly surprised by what is to follow.

I want to thank the members of the Norwich Women's Club for the opportunity and pleasure to meet many of you at one of the Club's more social events and also work with you on a Nearly New Sale or the Gala. The NWC makes a significant contribution to the greater Norwich community. We have a strong history supported by strong and caring members.

Have an enjoyable and memorable summer.

Best,

Sue

Overwhelmed by Our Own Success!

Elaine Waterman, Chair

The spring Nearly New Sale set a new record: number of items inspected and hung or folded. For the first time during my 12-year tenure, WE RAN OUT OF HANGERS and had to resort to wire hangers and clothes pins to hang pants and skirts. Thank you to all who answered the call to bring in hangers. The racks were teeming with the largest selection of spring/summer clothing in the fifty plus years of the sale. Gross sale total is \$21, 150.

Thank you volunteers, consignors and shoppers alike for yet another successful sale. Mark your calendars for the fall sale dates: October 14, 15, 16.

Digital Update

The spring test group of 10 digital pre-consigners found the experience to be easy and less time consuming. We are expanding the fall test group to 35 digital pre-consignors and there will be at least two digital consigning stations at Tracy Hall. Going digital is the ultimate goal, with consideration for those pre-consignment folks who aren't computer comfortable.

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR NEARLY NEW SALE VOLUNTEERS

These volunteers generously gave of their time, their energy, their hard work, and their cheerfulness. We cannot thank them too often. Without them, we know there could not have been a sale.

Elaine Waterman

Claudia Adami, Anne Alford, Jacqueline Allen, Diane Ames, Dianne Amme, Mary Anderson, Terri Ashley, Sara Bailey, Marguerite Bauch, Cinny Bensen, Licia Berry-Berard, Carole Bibeau, Sarah Bibeau, Natalie Billings, Debbie Birenbaum, Janna Borg, Lydia Bos, Amy Bosco, Christine Bothe, Sally Boyle, Isabelle Bradley, Megan Brendel, Erika Breton, Erica Brinton, Annette Brown, Arnie Brown, Charlie Buell, Debbie Carter, Nancy Carter, Peter Carter, Suzanne Champlin, Devra Chicoine, Ann Christiano, Lisa Christie, August Chu, Nicole Chu, Wendy Cole, Jane Collins, Sue Cooley, Fred Crawford, Sophia Crawford, Nancy Cressman, Candace Crosby-Rogers, Walli Croteau, John Currier, Frank D'Aprile, Madeline Dalton, Stephanie Davis, Carole Dempsey, Pat Dempsey, Ruth Dixon-Vestal, Margo Doscher, Martha Drake, Laura Duncan, Annah Dupuis, Deb Dworak, Lee Emerson, Robyn Fairclough, Ann Fenton, Manuela Fonseca, Clare Forseth, Lori Fortini, Keith Fossett, Carol French, Carolyn Frye, Milt Frye, Carolyn Fryer, Anne Garrigue, Jenny Gelfan, Bruce Genereaux, Linda Glasgo, Nancy Golder, Terri Goletz, Deirdre Goodrich, Michael Goodrich, Mary Lee Goodwin, Bonnie Gordon, Michelle Gottleib, Andrea Granger, Ginny Gray, Linda Gray, Lizzie Gray, Mary Ann Greene, Abbie Griggs, Peter Griggs, Day Guest, John Guest, Martina Hackett, Susan Haedrich, Deborah Hall, Laurie Halpern, Naomi Hartov, Bernard Haskell, Ellen Haun, Tracey Hayes, Cheryl Herrmann, Kelsey Herrmann-Stanzel, Olivia Hinch, Ellen Hobson, Mary Ann Holbrook, Brucie Hubbell, Ellie Huke, Dana Ireland, Ruth Jabbs, Annie Janeway, Carol Johansen, Corlan Johnson, Jaye

Johnson, Maura Jones, Sue Kaufman, Carolyn Keck, Barbara Kenny, Joanne Kent, Rose Knaus, Karen Kniffin, Anne Kolkin, Jean Krieg, Karen Kuntne-Woodward, Penny Kurdeka, Lisa Ladd, Toni LaMonica, Carole Lang, Heidi Lang, Jean Lawe, Bonnie Lawlor, Mary Layton, Nancy LeSourd, Victoria Levin, Cheryl Lindberg, Carol Loveland, Renie MacArthur, Lorinda MacLeod, Betsy Maislen, Natalia May, Isabel McCarthy, Penny McConnel, Susan McGrew, Mary McKenna, Melanie Michel, Fiona Milchman, Lisa Milchman, Pam Mobilia, Eileen Moran, Robin Morley-Ploof, Amy Nartowicz, Gavin Nartowicz, Ruby Nash, Candace Nattie, Elizabeth Nelson, Jill Niles, Theresa Oden, Jane Officer, Nancy Osgood, Rebecca Paquette, Barbara Payson, Carolee Perry, Judith Pettingell, Dee Pingleton, Jane Piotrowski, Patty Piotrowski, Heather Pitiger, Dominica Plummer, Glynis Price, Beth Reynolds, June Richardson, Maureen Ripple, Libby Robbie, Sarah Robson, Heidi Rogers, Arline Rotman, Darlene Saler, Edye Scheier, Sue Schiller, Nan Schwartzman, Ivy Schweitzer, Rebekah Schweitzer, Debby Scribner, Eileen Shaevel, Jen Shepherd, Mimi Simpson, Pauline Smith, Sydney Smith, Joan Sorenson, Sue Spademan, Patricia Spellman, Marieke Sperry, Peter Stanzel, Judy Sterndale, Melinda Stucker, Melanie Subbiah, Brie Swenson, Diane Tensen, Hetty Thomae, Veronica Thurston, Sandra Tomeny, Lily Trajman, Suzanne Trumbore, Ceci Tseng, Britta Van Arman, Deborah Van Arman, Kate Van Arman, Candace Vandouris, Jonathan Vincent, Priscilla Vincent, Paige Wallis, Shannon Wallis, Suzanne Wallis, Karen Ward, Ann Waterfall, Cornelia Waterfall, Heidi Webster, D.C. Whitfield, Mariah Whitfield, Linda Williams, Sybil Williamson, Penny Wiltz



The May Museum Trip that Wasn't!

It was 7:00 AM on an overcast and chilly Tuesday morning, with 34 women standing in the parking lot at Huntley Meadow, looking down the road for the bus that was to take us to the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston. When no bus appeared by 7:15AM, the time for our scheduled departure, a call confirmed that there had been a miscommunication between the bus company and the assigned driver. Since no bus was on its way, we had to cancel the trip.

The women, although disappointed, took it in stride. Many went out for breakfast, others took advantage of the free day and played Mah Jong, and everyone said they looked forward to rescheduling. So for those of you who wanted to join us but couldn't, you will have a second chance this fall. We will get the date to you as soon as it is arranged with the museum.

We received the following letter from Lamoille Valley Transportation:

Please accept our apologies for any and all confusion regarding the bus you had planned on for your trip to Boston on Tuesday, May 10th. Please know that the bus not arriving as expected was completely our fault. While we cannot change the disappointment and frustration you must have all felt upon realizing

the bus was not showing up as expected, we would like you to know that in the 20 years of driving, the driver that was scheduled for your trip has never not shown up nor have we experienced a situation where the driver wasn't aware they were scheduled in the 30 years we've been in business. This unfortunate situation has brought to our attention a major flaw in our process with scheduling drivers. As a result of this, we are reviewing our current processes and making some necessary changes to ensure that going forward, this type of incident does not occur again not only for you but for any customer.

We have negotiated a fair settlement with them. As those of you who went on the NWC trip to the Isabella Stewart Gardner museum with Lamoille Transportation remember, they provided a beautiful bus and a very courteous driver. We are sure they will come through with the same good experience

for our fall outing, and we look forward to seeing you in the parking lot early in the morning, once it's on the calendar!

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Community Projects Grants Report for 2016/2017

Grant Applications received by May 1st totaled 39 requests in the amount of \$42,050. The amount of \$33,300 available for distribution was supported by the following:

Donations with dues

Wine Tasting – September 2015

Spring Gala – March 2016, which raised over \$27,000

Reserve Funds – 2015 Phone Book Sales

Phone Book Sales – 2016

Balance of Unspent Community Projects Grants 2015/2016

We receive an increasing number of grant requests each year. The Norwich Women's Club was able to fully fund 65% of the eligible requests for 2016/2017.

Letters will be going out in June to all organizations that applied for grants and funds will be available July 1 for distribution.

Thank you for helping the Norwich Women's Club continue to give back community on such a large scale.

Carol Loveland, Finance Chair

Committee Members: Sue Pitiger, Linda Ely, Joanne Kent, Sue Kaufman

NWC Board Nominee Slate for 2016 - 17

<u>Board Position</u>	<u>2016-17</u>

President	Sue Kaufman
Vice President	Linda Ely
Treasurer	Joanne Kent
Recording Secretary	Annette Brown
Public Relations	Jaci Allen
Membership	Melanie Michel
Auditor	Linda Ely
Scholarship Co-Chair	Martha Graber
Scholarship Co-Chair	Karen Ward
Digital Communications/Social Media	Debby Hall
Nominating	Debby Hall
Town Gardens	Mary Ann Holbrook
Hospitality Co-Chair	Sue Pitiger
Hospitality Co-Chair	Barbara Kenny
Finance	Carol Loveland
Town Directory	Sophia Crawford
Programs Co-Chair	Isabel McCarthy
Programs Co-Chair	Arline Rotman
Newsletter	Mary Otto
Spring Gala	To be determined
Membership Development	Arline Rotman
Historian	Holly Sateia
Corresponding Secretary	Eileen Shaevel
Summer Concerts	Lily Trajman
Nearly New Sale	Elaine Waterman
Voter Information	Margo Doscher
Coffee & Conversation (non-board)	Debbie Carter

Norwich Women's Club Calendar of Events

Tuesday, June 7th, 11:00-1:00pm, Annual Meeting

Friday, June 17th, 6pm, Summer Concert on the Norwich Green, The Joe Mitchell

Project

Friday, July 8th, 6pm, Summer Concert on the Norwich Green, Still More Cats

Friday, August 5th, 6pm, Summer Concert on the Norwich Green, Toast

Friday, August 19th, 6pm, Summer Concert on the Norwich Green, The Brian Cook Band

Monday, August 29th, 10am-11am, Coffee and Conversation, Norwich Inn

Monday, September 26th, 10am-11am, Coffee and Conversation, Norwich Inn

Wednesday, September 28th, 5-7pm, Wine Tasting at Norwich Inn

Thursday, October 6th, 5-7pm, Fall Gathering

Friday-Sunday, October 14-16th, Fall Nearly New Sale

Monday, November 7th, 10am-11am, Coffee and Conversation, Norwich Inn

For more information on these events, visit www.norwichwomensclub.org. All welcome!

Membership

A warm welcome to new member Mary Fowler.

You will have received your reminder to pay your annual dues (our fiscal year running from June 1st to May 31st): your dues meet the Club's operating expenses and allow us to bring you more programs, as well as entitling you to a copy of the membership directory, and discounts on the book and author lunches, museum trips and the Spring Gala. Above all, membership gives you the pride of knowing that your club does so much for our community through its Scholarship and Community Projects Funds.

Do you plan to attend the Summer Meeting on June 7th? You could save

yourself a stamp and bring your check (payable to NWC) to the Meeting!

You could also bring along an old friend or a new neighbor (having let us know, please, at info@norwichwomensclub.org) – it is a pleasant moment for non-members to see the Club.

Details of membership can be found on our website www.norwichwomensclub.org. And I'm always happy to answer any questions.

Sophia Crawford
Membership Coordinator
sophiajcrowford@gmail.com

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

The Norwich Women's Club Annual Meeting and Luncheon will take place on Tuesday, June 7th from 11 am to 1 pm at Arline Rotman's house, 95 Douglas Road, Norwich.

For this event, we ask that each person bring a pint of ingredients for a salad. It is fun to see what people bring, and the salad is always good. Please bring your contribution to the luncheon in a serving dish with an implement to serve it, as needed. The Women's Club will provide the greens, bread, drinks and dessert.

Parking is limited at Arline's house. If possible, please car pool. If you are able to walk up the slightly steep and longish driveway, then please park on Douglas Road. The Rotmans' driveway will be marked so it will be easy to find.

The business meeting will be first and be kept short so we can get to the important part – lunch. Please invite someone to join you for this event who

might not come on their own. It is a good opportunity to introduce people to the Women's Club.

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**Debbie Carter:
Carrying on the Family Tradition of Public Service**

by Arline Rotman

Debbie McLane Carter was born in Hanover, into a politically active family committed to social service. She traces her family's arrival in America back to her paternal great-grandfather, who, at the age of three, sailed here from Scotland together with his parents and two siblings. One of his siblings died at sea, and his father died only two weeks after arriving in America. His mother, who barely spoke English, placed his brother in foster care but successfully raised Debbie's great-grandfather, and he went on to be elected governor in the state of New Hampshire in 1905. Interestingly, her great-grandfather married a woman who herself had been raised in foster care.

The McLane family was involved in establishing the Child and Family Services

of New Hampshire, the oldest charitable children's organization in that state. In 1914, several social services agencies, including one established by the McLane family, joined together to form CFS as it is today. The agency is dedicated to advancing the well being of children by providing an array of social services, including, not surprisingly, foster care. There has been a McLane on their board since 1914, including Debbie, who has served for the last 15 years and is chair of the Upper Valley Board.

Raised in Concord, New Hampshire, Debbie was exposed to political campaigning at an early age. She went leafleting door to door for her mother when she ran for the state legislature and campaigned for her father in 1972 when he ran as an independent for governor of New Hampshire. That same year, Debbie took a semester off from Harvard to work for Pete McCloskey, who was running against Nixon in the primary. She then went on to work for McCloskey at the Republican convention in Florida and on his congressional campaign in California.

Debbie graduated from Radcliffe with a degree in psychology. While there, she met her husband, Peter, who had graduated from Harvard and returned to Cambridge to coach the Harvard ski team, of which Debbie was a member. The two of them moved to the Upper Valley in 1975. She taught 2nd and 3rd grade students in Lyme for six years and then worked part-time while raising their four children: Sasha, Ashley, Maile, and Laurel.

The Carter family spent the 1989-1990 school year living in Spain in order to expose their children to a different language and a different culture. Debbie told me, "We understood the importance of learning a language while young. Peter's father was a language teacher and Peter grew up speaking Spanish." Their children went to public school in Spain and were fluent in Spanish when they returned to Norwich.

In 1992, Debbie, continuing in the family tradition of public service, won a seat on the Norwich school board, where she served for six years. As a school board member, a job at the school would have created a conflict of interest, so Debbie and Carolyn Frye, wife of Marion Cross principal Milton Frye, started Afternoon Adventures, an afterschool program for kindergarten

children. As Debbie told me, "we did fun things parents would do if they were available." These included art projects, blueberry and apple picking, hiking, watching a lamb being born, and getting behind the scenes views at places like the airport and a pizza restaurant. Debbie went on to get a Master's in Education at Harvard and took a job coordinating curriculum and assessment at Marion Cross.

When asked about the Women's Club, Debbie acknowledges that she didn't join when she was younger because she thought you were supposed to volunteer and she didn't have time. But, always a Nearly New Sale shopper and a Floribunda fan, when her children got older, she worked at the Nearly New Sale and now heads up the telethon volunteer recruitment. She previously served on the board as auditor and as program chair.

Today we always tell people that they can join the Norwich Women's Club and do as much or as little as they want. We offer a wide variety of program opportunities, such as the morning coffee and conversations at the Norwich Inn, currently chaired by Debbie. She enjoys the social aspects of the coffees and meeting other women in town. She concludes, "Just by virtue of your membership you show that you support the Women's Club and all the wonderful things we do for the community."

Debbie is still involved in politics as she works actively in the congressional campaigns of her sister, Annie McLane Kuster. She cites Annie's efforts as an American success story. Their father ran unsuccessfully for governor of New Hampshire, their mother ran unsuccessfully for congress, but Annie personified the dream that "children will surpass their parents," as she went off to Washington to represent New Hampshire.

Mary Otto, Editor

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