

NORWICH WOMEN'S CLUB

Community Service Since 1907

September 2013

President's Message

I have very big shoes to fill! **Arline Rotman** did a terrific job leading this organization for the past 3 years, and she will be missed – not that she's going very far away since the past president remains on the Board as Nominating Chair. Among the wonderful things that Arline has done for the Club is building the membership to more than 250 women from Norwich and surrounding towns. I'm hopeful that we can continue this trend and, in particular, continue to attract more members from the "younger demographic". Increasing our younger membership is vital to continuing the NWC's good work in the community, both scholarships and community projects, which are funded by lots of hard work – and good fun – on both the twice-yearly Nearly New Sale and the Spring Gala. These events net around \$45,000 a year!

So what are we doing to attract new members, both young and "mature"? We have created a new Board position, **Membership Development**, held by Karen Ward. Our VP, Geneviève Verlaak-Graham, has begun a series of evening **"Wine & Apps"** gatherings designed to attract women who are not free to attend meetings during the day. Sue Spademan continues to head up the successful **"Coffee & Conversation"** monthly mornings at the Norwich Inn. These gatherings provide additional venues for interested women to learn more about the Club, meet old friends and make new friends, and they've been successful in helping to build membership. If you have any ideas along these lines, please get in touch with Karen Ward – all ideas are welcome!

A highlight of the upcoming year will be the 50th anniversary of the Club's venerable **Nearly New Sale**. (When something is 50 years old we get to use the adjective "venerable"!) This consignment sale of gently used clothing has grown over the years to fill every square inch of the Tracy Hall gym and has generated over \$500,000 in scholarships for Norwich students since its inception. As always, it is led by Elaine Waterman, queen of the sale, aided by Debbie Carter and Sophia Crawford, who run the volunteer group with velvet gloves, looking for both new and "gently used" volunteers – it's fun to be part of something that has so much history in Norwich – and all volunteers get first dibs on the great clothing, too. As part of the 50th anniversary celebration we're rolling out a new logo for the sale, designed for us by the lovely and talented Jennifer Shavel Hopkins, whom we thank profusely for her efforts – see overleaf. The Fall Sale will be held from Friday night October 18 through Sunday October 20.

Please keep an eye out for the date of the **Fall Welcome Meeting**, to be held in early October. You will, of course, receive an invitation in the near future. In addition, both the website and our Facebook page are great places to find up-to-date info on Club activities. Bookmark the website in your browser for easy access: www.norwichwomensclub.org. We regularly post pictures of our events on both the website and Facebook – we are an extremely photogenic group!

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the Fall Welcome Meeting in October, and I'm anticipating lots of fun times ahead with this great group of women. Please invite a new friend or neighbor to join us!

Debby (Hall)

NWC Calendar

Coffee at the Norwich Inn
Monday September 9
10:00-11:00am

**D&W Wine Tasting
at the Norwich Inn
Raising Funds for NWC**
Wednesday September 18
5:00-7:00pm

**Fall outing to Hildene & outlets
Manchester, VT**
Thursday September 19
7:00am-5:30pm

What's happening in Montpelier
Norwich Public Library
Monday September 30
7:00 pm

Nearly New Sale
Tracy Hall
October 16-20

NWC Board Meeting Schedule
Norwich Public Library
Mondays 6:30 pm
September 9
October 14
November 4
no meeting in December due to
Holiday Party
January 13
February 10
March 10
April 7
May 12 (Board Dinner)

SAD FAREWELL

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Jeanne Baumgartner on June 28th.

Our thoughts are with her family.

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Coffee and Conversation

We are offering coffee and conversation at the Norwich Inn on September 9th, from 10am to 11am (avoiding Labor Day on the first Monday).

This is open and free to anyone whether or not a member of the Women's Club, so do bring a friend and encourage any newcomers you know. However, for best planning, it would be helpful if you are able to RSVP to Sue Spademan, SSpademan@gmail.com.

We thank the Inn for their warm welcome.

MEMBERSHIP

We welcome warmly new members: Judy Brown, Chrissy Morley, Jenny Snyder, Meghan Teachout.

We also announce with great pleasure the award of honorary memberships to four members who have each given many years and countless hours of service to the Club: Nancy Dean, Flos Henry, Jean Lenzner and Fran Nye.

Most of you have paid your dues for our fiscal year of June 2013-May 2014, for which we are grateful. If you aren't sure if you've already paid, I'd be happy to tell you: sophiajcrowford@gmail.com

Do you know anyone who is interested in becoming a member? You and she will find more information on our website – www.norwichwomensclub.org.

Sophia Crawford, Membership Coordinator

Wine Tasting, and Fund Raising Too!

Thanks to the great generosity of Dan Fraser of Dan & Whit's, and the kind hospitality of Joe and Jill Lavin, there will be a wine tasting, at the Norwich Inn on Wednesday, September 18th, from 5-7pm, to benefit the Norwich Women's Club's Community Projects and Scholarship Funds.

Tickets will cost \$15 a head if bought ahead (cash or check from the office at Dan & Whit's), \$20 if bought after 2pm on the 18th or at the door. They are non-refundable but they are transferable: buy a ticket and your plans change? Give it to a friend. (And there is the version for anyone drinking only water: \$5 a head.) To make it even easier for you, we'll have tickets to buy at the coffee morning on September 9th, 10-11am, at the Inn!

You buy a ticket and have the fun of tasting some 20 wines from around the world selected by the distributor, probably equal numbers of reds and whites, with perhaps a sparkling wine as well.

And now you'll want to buy! Prices will mostly range from between \$10 to \$20 a bottle – but all are 10% or more below normal. And the wines are sold by the bottle, so you can mix and match, with your orders in by 7pm that evening. Wine orders do not need to be paid for until they are picked up at Dan & Whit's, arriving usually 3-10 days after the event (and now you can use your credit card).

The fund raising? Dan & Whit's will donate \$6 of every ticket to the Club! Wait, there's more: \$1 from every bottle you order that evening will also go to support the Club! Additionally, your ticket is also good for \$5 off your next meal (though not beverages) in the pub or dining room of the Inn any time before October 18th.

If you've attended one of Dan & Whit's wine tastings before, you'll already know that this will be a really enjoyable event. Any questions? Email Sophia Crawford, sophiajcrowford@gmail.com



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Interested in learning more about the Lincoln family??

After last year's box office movie hit, *Lincoln*, Hildene in Manchester VT, the home of Robert Todd Lincoln, saw a surge in visitors and the NWC will be adding to those numbers.

Join us on **Thursday, September 19th** for a morning visit to Hildene and lunch with your NWC friends, followed by a trip to the Manchester Shopping Outlets before heading home.

Here's the schedule:

7am: depart Huntley Field in Norwich (enjoy a morning muffin on the way)

9am: arrive at Hildene in Manchester Center

9:30am-noon : explore on your own (learn about VT history, visit the Cutting and Kitchen Gardens, the Observatory, Hildene Farm, and the exhibits)

12noon-1pm: lunch at Hildene

1 -3pm: outlet shopping on your own

3:30pm: depart for Norwich (enjoy the traditional wine and cheese on the ride home)

5:30pm: arrive at Huntley

Cost including transportation, admission and lunch at Hildene:

\$58 NWC members \$63 non-members

Contact Debbie Carter to reserve a spot:

email: debbiecarter22@gmail.com phone: 649-1216

Hope you'll join us for our Fall outing!

Look at that Garden!

Have you seen (how could you NOT?!) the spectacular Norwich Women's Club Triangle Garden near Tracy Hall? What a beautiful job master gardener Mary Ann Holbrook and her band of green-thumbed volunteer helpers have done this year - it just gets better every year.



A Public Forum:

**Your Rights, Your Money,
And Your Vote: What's
Happening in Montpelier!**

**(Vermont Legislators
Report)
Margaret Cheney and
others**

**A chance to get your
questions and concerns
heard**

Monday, September 30th

7:00 PM

Norwich Library

Refreshments provided

Sponsored by

**The League of Women
Voters of the Upper Valley
with the Norwich Women's
Club**

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The Nearly New Sale Celebrates Its 50th ANNIVERSARY YEAR

Fall sale window: October 16 – 20

*****Spring sale window: April 30 – May 4, 2014*****

SAVE SHOPPING BAGS FOR THE FALL SALE

NEW Nearly New Logo

Many thanks to Jennifer Shaevel Hopkins, daughter of NWC board member Eileen Shaevel and member herself, for taking on the challenge to incorporate tradition with a modern look in her design. The first application of the new NNS logo will be on the hot pink sale announcement coming to your mailbox the second week in September. Hope your curiosity has been piqued.



NEW Pre-consignment Packet Pick-up & Inspection Schedule

Pre-consignment packets will be available beginning *midweek* on Wednesday, September 25th giving pre-consignors three full weekends to mark their clothing.

Remember to organize your items prior to picking up the packet. If you wait until the last weekend to tag your items, please note:

ALL pre-consignment materials MUST be returned to your pre-consignment contact by 5 pm SUNDAY October 13th, before the sale.

This allows your contact person and the Pre-consignment Chair, Claudia Adami, the time necessary to process paperwork for pre-consignment inspection day on Wednesday, October 16 from NOON – 8 pm.