

News & Views

*The Official Newsletter of the
Coast Guard Spouses' Association of Southeastern Conn.*
<http://www.cgspouses-sect.org>

VOLUME 34, ISSUE 5

NOVEMBER 2007

TIFFANI BAUDER, EDITOR

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Catch the Holiday Spirit Thursday, December 13, 7PM

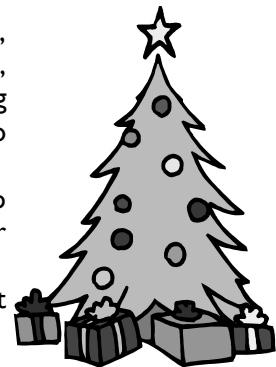
Holiday time has arrived! Time to share in the holiday spirit with your fellow CGSA members! You are invited to our annual Holiday Party on **Thursday, December 13, at 7PM**, at Quarters One, One Seneca Drive, Coast Guard Academy. Please bring an appetizer to share.

To help put you in the festive mood, the evening will include a cookie exchange and a White Elephant gift exchange. Participation in either is voluntary – but more people involved means more fun!

If you'd like to participate in the cookie exchange, please bring three dozen cookies split into six packages, and don't forget to attach the recipe! Then you'll bring home three dozen assorted cookies (and their recipes) to enjoy with your family.

If you'd like to join in on the gift exchange, wrap up the oddest, funniest thing you can find in your house or buy for under \$10 and join in on the entertainment!

Please RSVP by December 11 to Erika Lund at (401) 348-0370 or noahthedog@aol.com.



Holiday Shopping Trip Saturday, December 1

Does the thought of getting your holiday shopping done early sound good to you? Then join us on Saturday, December 1, for our annual Christmas Shopping trip. We have the option to shop at two different centers, Providence Place Mall, www.providenceplace.com, or Wrentham Outlets, www.premiumoutlets.com. Providence Place has a variety of shops to fulfill

your holiday needs – and it also has Cheesecake Factory! Wrentham Outlets has many high end stores with discounted merchandise. Either place is sure to help you cross out the items on your shopping list.

If interested please contact Tiffani Bauder at (401) 348-8789 or tfbauder@msn.com. Be sure to mention your preference of where you would like to shop. Once Tiffani knows who is going she will decide on the location and departure time.



President's Corner

Thanksgiving is almost upon us and just looking at my newborn son has put me in a thankful mood. "Thank you" is a simple phrase but it means so much.

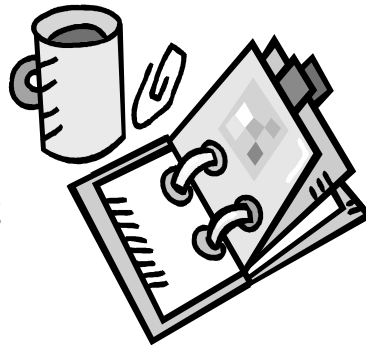
Thank you for helping out at our big fundraising weekends, for baking close to 100 cakes so far, for joining in on our fun activities and helping where it's needed.

Our new Ways & Means chairs have started their year with a bang with over \$4,000 in sales already! Thank you to Takako Dolan and Pat Simpson for their hard work organizing and getting our items ready for all of our sales this year. And thank you to all of the volunteers who helped at Homecoming and Parents' Weekends.

Remember that our "store" is always open and our items make great holiday gifts. Contact Takako or Pat for that special gift.

Not to be outdone, our Cadet Cake chairs have been busy, too, organizing orders and lining up bakers for our many October and November orders. Thank you to all of our bakers who have fulfilled our orders so far!

The Great Lakes Parents' Association kept us extra busy in October by buying a cake for each of the fourth class cadets from their district. What a great way to celebrate getting through swab summer!



Erika Lund and Rachel Benin have had great responses for their committees. Erika expects International Dinner Club to kick off soon with its first gathering. Rachel matched our members who signed up for Secret Pals just in time for Halloween tricks and treats. Let the gift giving begin! Thank you to all the couples who have signed up for IDC and for all the members who are participating in Secret Pal! I am sure many stories and laughs will come out of both.

We have a lot of things coming up as 2007 winds down. We hope to see you at our general membership meeting, craft day event, lunch bunch and our holiday shopping outing.

Be sure to save Thursday, December 13 for our annual Holiday Party at Quarters One. The evening is always full of good food, a delicious cookie exchange and lots of laughs during the

white elephant gift exchange (I wonder if Erika will re-gift the "frogs lying on the beach" ornaments she received last year)!

I hope to see you all soon. In the meantime, Happy Thanksgiving! I hope you all have a great holiday with your family and friends.

Jill Billiau, President

General Membership Meeting Thursday, November 8, 7PM

Our next General Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, November 8, at 7PM in the Reading Room in Leamy Hall.

We will not have a general membership meeting in December, but will be getting together at our annual holiday party instead.

If you are able to attend and/or have any questions, please contact Jill Billiau at (860) 395-2001 or jill@billiau.com.

Happy Birthday! CGSA sends good wishes and cheer to the following members on their birthday:

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Kerri Godfrey | November 4 |
| Claire Tyson | November 5 |
| Laurie Ely | November 8 |
| Erika Lund | November 23 |

Activities & Events

MYSTICAL PIZZA?

Friday, November 16, 11:30AM

Have you had a "slice of heaven" yet? Autumn is the perfect time to go to beautiful Mystic for lunch at Mystic Pizza. Be a tourist in your own town! We will meet you there on Friday, November 16, at 11:30AM. If you are not in the mood for pizza, there are tons of other great options. You can look up the menu at www.mysticpizza.com. The restaurant is located in downtown Mystic.

It is great to have an idea of how many are attending, so please RSVP to Melissa Brown at (860) 495-5500 or jmbrown0806@hotmail.com.

Ladies Craft Outing

Saturday, November 10, 1PM

Wrap your holiday gifts in style! The CGSA is learning how to make fabulous fabric gift bags on Saturday, November 10, at 1PM, at Jill Billiau's home, 126 Ingram Hill Rd, Old Saybrook. Learn from our own Kim Davis how to make these wonderful gift bags. No sewing ability required; we'll teach you everything you need to know. These gift bags can be used for any occasion, and we've decided to give us all a head start on the holiday gift season.

Please RSVP by November 5 to Liz Herman (860) 848-4884 or violets1211@yahoo.com.

The Ways & Means Committee Says "Thank you" for Huge Success!

Two of our major events this year, Homecoming and Parents' Weekends, were held last month. Both weekends were quite successful and we sold a total of \$4571.25 worth! Big thanks to **Christina Pickles, Christy Newell, Erika Lund, Rachel Benin, Loren Hammond, Amy DeNucci, Kathy Sinnett, Loren Hammond, Megan Bennett, Joan Korale, Melissa Hudspeth, and Kim Davis.** We truly appreciate all your help in allowing us to surpass our goal of \$4000.

Our items are always available for sale, please contact Takako Dolan at (860) 437-0042 or takako@ct.metrocast.net for that special something. Our newest items include Coast Guard cocktail napkins and EAGLE stamps. They make perfect gifts for the holiday season!

Ways & Means—*Takako Dolan and Pat Simpson*

CGSA Co-Op: It Takes a Village to Raise a Child

Ever needed to schedule a hair-cut, but unable to secure a time slot while your toddler attends preschool? Wish you could go Christmas shopping sans baby stroller? How about enjoying a date night with your husband without the extra charge of an evening babysitter?

Here within the CGSA Co-Op, we are calling for all -hands on deck in support of family! Please contact Rachel Benin at (860) 691-0876 or beninbunch@gmail.com if you are interested in joining (or learning more about) a members-only **Babysitting Co-Op**. Flexible availability is welcome and personal needs are always honored.

How awesome would it be to know your child is with someone you trust while you attend a doctor's appointment or another errand? We have an incredible resource within our club. Let's help each other in sharing the responsibility of child-rearing. It might even earn you a night-out sipping lattes with your spouse!

One for All, and All for One! Co-Op Babysitting has begun!



Thank You!!

We would like to give many, many thanks to Claire Tyson, Maryanne Ruckes Watson, Jeanine Robitaille, Kim Davis, and Erika Lund, for making and delivering meals after the birth of our son in September. Your delicious meals helped us out so much in those early days of transitioning from a family of three to a family of four. It was so nice to know that dinner was covered for a few days - with lots of leftovers to enjoy as well.

—Jill, Christopher, Saylor & Hugo Billiau

Holiday Bazaar Cancellation

We regret to announce that the CGSA Holiday Bazaar & Fundraiser has been cancelled. Our original venue became unavailable for the type of event that we wanted to hold, and a new venue that fit into our budget and calendar could not be found in time. If you are a consultant who signed up for the Bazaar, a refund will be mailed to you shortly.

Twelve different direct-sales representatives had signed up already, and everyone was looking forward to a successful day of holiday shopping. We will keep the list of people who signed up and contact everyone next year to try again! If you have any questions, please contact Christy Newell at (860) 381-5207 or cnewell925@comcast.net.

Club Notes

Coast Guard Spouses' Association of Southeastern Connecticut General Membership Meeting * October 11, 2007 * Leamy Hall, CGA

Present: Jill Billiau, Erika Lund, Rachel Benin, Loren Hammond, Melissa Hudspeth, Christina Pickles, Tiffani Bauder, Liz Herman, Takako Dolan, Pat Simpson, Christy Newell, Christina Allen.

Call to Order: Jill Billiau called the meeting to order at 19:20.

Report of the Recording Secretary: Rachel Benin moved to have both the September and July/August minutes approved. After review, each month's minutes were accepted. Move was seconded by Erika Lund.

Report of the Treasurer: Melissa Hudspeth provided a summary of the October CGSA Treasurer's Report. Each committee was made aware of his/her available funds. A note was made that all checks from Homecoming sales have not cleared. This money is not listed in October's Report. A request was made to keep collected Cake money and Ways and Means money separate during Parent's Weekend sales.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary: Loren Hammond shared all received thank-yous and other correspondences. Flowers were sent to the Billiau Family. Amendments to mailing address errors will be made and the distribution of book awards verified.

Report of the Vice President: Erika Lund reported on the activities calendar. The following events were successfully completed prior to the General Membership Meeting date: Secret Pals and Membership form deadline, Homecoming Weekend. The next General Membership Meeting is November 8, 17:00, Leamy Hall, CGA.

1. Parent's Weekend - October 12-13th - *The volunteer schedule still has openings. Site: Leamy Hall*
2. Lunch Bunch: Mr. G's, New London - October 16th, 11:30 - *Location is child-friendly. RSVP to Melissa Brown.*
3. Apple picking at Holmberg, Gales Ferry - October 21, 13:00 - *RSVP's will be sent to Erika*
4. Super Suppers, Waterford - October 25th, 18:30 - *12-member participation would be ideal. The six entrée package may be split with another member. Appetizers, sangria, and freezer bags provided. Non-members are welcome.*

Report of Standing Committees:

Cadet Cakes- Loren Hammond reported that there are a lot of cakes to be baked in the upcoming weeks. A minimum of 5-6 cakes is to be expected. Information fliers for Parent's Weekend were provided by Kim Davis. During Parent's Weekend, only accept orders for cakes to be delivered Halloween and beyond. Also, note donations received over sell-price of cake. Positive feedback received via email on Cadet Cake program was shared.

Hospitality/Luncheons and Socials- Liz Herman stated past events were successful and there was nothing current to report.

Membership- Jill Billiau reported forms are still being accepted and contacts will soon be made for directory printing.

Newsletter- Tiffani Bauder noted deadline for November newsletter is October 20th. Creating an assignment list was successful last month in notifying members of article responsibilities.

Ways and Means- A wrap-up of Homecoming Weekend sales was given. The yearly profit-goal has already been reached. Short-sleeved items and all embroidered merchandise were popular. Suggestions for a better storage area were discussed. Sales for Parent's Weekend look strong.

Awards and Scholarships- Gail Boehm was unable to attend. Two awards during Parent's Weekend will be given.

Sunshine- Claire Tyson was unable to attend. Jill Billiau was thankful for meals prepared. Teja Gilmour has family visiting and a cooking schedule is not needed at this time.

Report of Special Committees:

Family Support Fund- The motion was made and accepted to grant the Edwards Family a Family Support Fund Scholarship. Creating Super Suppers meals for them was also discussed. Information on Worklife and Tricare points-of-contact will be shared.

Crafts- Liz Herman is planning a craft-bag sewing night. A location with adequate lighting and electrical outlets is needed.

Co-Op- Rachel Benin opened the table for feedback and suggested beginning a co-op baby-sitting program.

Historian/Publicity- Liz Herman stated the photo scrapbook of the 06-07 year has been received.

OCS Representative- Christine O'Connor was unable to attend. The next tea will be Tuesday, Dec 11, Quarters One. A query regarding babysitting during this time was addressed. For this to be possible, specific info would be needed well ahead of time.

Secret Pals- Rachel Benin has mailed assignments. Program to begin immediately.

Old Business:

Napkin Project: Reimbursement from DC Spouses Assoc. has been received. Total amount was equally split between both Associations. The graphic design discrepancy has been corrected and a new sale price established. 1 package = \$5; 3 = \$15.

Holiday Bazaar: Chair, Christy Newell. Interest shown by 6 sellers thus far. Table size and max applications were discussed.

IDC- Need of two more couples was announced.

New Business:

Christmas shopping: Chair, Tiffani Bauder. Dates of December 1st or 8th were discussed. Location to be RI or MA outlets.

Announcements: Christy and Takako are organizing a "second-chance" Christmas Spectacular NYC trip. More information will be given through email. Jill and Erika agreed to the donation of Ways and Means items to the Coast Guard Auxiliary raffle.

Adjournment: Jill made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 20:55; Christina Pickles seconded the motion.

*Respectfully Submitted October 21, 2007
Rachel Benin, Recording Secretary*

November 2007

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends</i> | 5 | 6 <i>Election Day</i> | 7 | 8 <i>General Membership Meeting, 7PM</i> | 9 | 10 <i>Ladies Craft Outing, 1PM</i> |
| 11 <i>Veterans Day</i> | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 <i>Lunch Bunch, 11:30AM</i> | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22  | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

2007-2008 Leadership Roster

Honorary President

Betsy Burhoe

Parliamentarian
Sunshine
Ways & Means

Kim Davis 434-7047
Claire Tyson (910) 988-9176
Takako Dolan 437-0042
Pat Simpson 739-4033

Executive Board

President Jill Billiau 395-2001
Vice President Erika Lund (401) 348-0370
Treasurer Melissa Hudspeth 367-9280
Recording Secretary Rachel Benin 691-0876
Corresponding Secretary Loren Hammond 405-0757

Special Committees

Standing Committees

Awards & Scholarships Gail Boehm 447-9232
Cadet Cakes Kim Davis 434-7047
Loren Hammond 405-0757
Luncheons/Socials/
Hospitality Liz Herman 848-4884
Membership Jill Billiau 395-2001
News & Views Tiffani Bauder (401) 348-8789

Babysitting

Bowling
Crafts
Co-Op
Family Support Fund
Historian/Publicity
Lunch Bunch
OCS Representative
Phone Tree
Retiree Rep.
Secret Pals

Volunteer Needed

Janice Norton 437-3671
Liz Herman 848-4884
Rachel Benin 691-0876
Erika Lund (401) 348-0370
Liz Herman 848-4884
Melissa Brown 495-5500
Christine O'Connor (401) 823-8707
Melissa Brown 495-5500
Sue Branagan 691-1285
Rachel Benin 691-0876

**COAST GUARD SPOUSES' ASSOCIATION OF
SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT**

Coast Guard Spouses' Association
USCGA Chase Hall, Box A-25
15 Mohegan Avenue
New London, CT 06320

First Class Postage

Be sure to add info@cgsouples-sect.org to your email address book to ensure that all **CGSA** emails and newsletters always go straight to your inbox.

Mark Your Calendar!



| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| General Membership Meeting | November 8 |
| Ladies Craft Outing | November 10 |
| Lunch Bunch—Mystic Pizza | November 16 |
| Holiday Shopping Trip | December 1 |
| Holiday Party | December 13 |