

# News & Views

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

VOLUME 36, ISSUE 7

MARCH 2010

TIFFANI KAMINSKI, EDITOR

## *Chip Boswell Scholarship for Academic Year 2010-2011*

Each year the U.S. Coast Guard Spouses' Association of Southeastern Connecticut provides two \$500 scholarships in memory of Chip Boswell, a past president of the association. One scholarship is available for current members of the CG Spouses Association and the other is given to a deserving member of the local Coast Guard family. Those eligible include Coast Guard members (either active duty or reserve), Coast Guard retirees, Coast Guard-affiliated Public Health Service members and Coast Guard civilian employees. Local is defined as all personnel attached to Coast Guard units in the New London-Groton area and Coast Guard retirees residing in Southeastern Connecticut.

The scholarship may be used for any educational purpose. No person shall be awarded this scholarship more than twice. Priority will be given to members pursuing their initial two- or four-year degree or certification. Please complete the application and mail with postmark dated on or before May 1, 2010. Scholarship recipients will be notified by June 1, 2010.

*For questions and an application, please contact:*

*Jill Billiau*

*Chair, Awards & Scholarship Committee*

(860) [391-5601](tel:391-5601)/[jill@billiau.com](mailto:jill@billiau.com)

To download the applications, visit: <http://cgspouses-sect.org/memberinfo.html>



## *Tastefully Simple Fundraiser for Esra Edwards*

There will be a Tastefully Simple fundraiser for Esra Edwards' trust fund on **Wednesday, March 3, from 4-8PM at Joellen Podoll's house** – 8 Broadview Ct, Quaker Hill. Esra is the 3 year old daughter of Peggy (a CGSA member) and Sam Edwards who was born with Spina Bifida and a number of other medical issues. Esra is in desperate need of a special wheelchair to help make her life easier.

Please stop by any time between 4PM and 8PM for product sampling, specials (free Nana's Apple Cake with \$50 order), raffles, door prizes, and more! You are highly encouraged to bring friends, family, or anyone you see on the street! 25% of all sales and all raffle proceeds will go to Esra to help fund the wheelchair she desperately needs and Tricare will not cover. You may also place an order online at [www.tastefullysimple.com/jtryban](http://www.tastefullysimple.com/jtryban), just indicate Esra Edwards as the party hostess.

To learn more about Esra and her needs please read the insert in this newsletter or visit <http://esrastrust.blogspot.com/>. If you would like to donate a raffle item contact Joellen Podoll at (231) 818-0769 or [jat\\_22@hotmail.com](mailto:jat_22@hotmail.com).

# Activities & Events

## Family Bowling Party

Bring your families and join us for bowling in the Leamy Hall Bowling Alley at the CGA on Sunday, March 14, from 3- 6PM! Cost is \$5 per person age 4 and older; cost includes shoes, bowling, pizza, and soda. You are more than welcome to bring extra snack and beverages. Pizza will be delivered around 4:30PM. Come, enjoy a fun, inexpensive afternoon with your two families (personal and Coast Guard!). Please RSVP by Friday, March 12, to Joellen Podoll at (231) 818-0769 or [jat\\_22@hotmail.com](mailto:jat_22@hotmail.com).

## March General Membership Meeting

Our March meeting will be held a week late due to Spring Break at the Academy. Please join us on Tuesday, March 16, in the Munro Hall Living Room. Come at 6:30PM to chat. The meeting begins at 7PM. Have some books you're finished with and would like to pass along? Bring them with you to swap. Please RSVP on Facebook or to Christy Newell at [christy.j.newell@gmail.com](mailto:christy.j.newell@gmail.com) or (860) 287-2282.

## CGSA Tea at Café Dolce

Please join the CGSA at Cafe Dolce (formerly Somerset Tea House), in Pawcatuck, CT, for a morning of tea and delicious baked goods on Saturday, **March 20**, at 11AM. This tea house is quaint and delightful, sweetly decorated and sure to help you slow down and enjoy this special treat. Cost is around \$10 per person and includes a pot of your own tea, as well as baked goods and other delicious items from the menu. While the shop is open to the public, we will reserve a table just for us. To make sure we have enough room, please RSVP by March 15 to Melissa Brown at (517) 974-4417 or [jmbrown0806@hotmail.com](mailto:jmbrown0806@hotmail.com).

## Lunch Bunch at the S&P Oyster Company

This month let's eat lunch at S & P Oyster Company restaurant in Mystic. The restaurant is located at 1 Holmes Street. We will meet at 11:30AM on March 24. Please RSVP Sharnel Duarte (860) 326-5405 or email [sharchar5@yahoo.com](mailto:sharchar5@yahoo.com).

## Happy Hour at Lee Rail

Let's try this again! You can't beat free appetizers and cheap drinks while winding down from a busy week. Join us at Lee Rail (inside the Officers'/All Hand's Club) on Friday, March 26 at 5PM. Come alone or bring your spouse or friends.

## Secret Pal Reveal Party

All participants in Secret Pals: mark your calendars for Sunday, March 28, at 1:00PM to finally discover your Secret Pal! We will reveal ourselves to our special friends we have been surprising this past year. It will also be a great opportunity to learn more about the other participants. The association will provide a deli platter and each participant is asked to bring a dish to share. Ideas are: fruit salad, crudités platter, your favorite appetizer or a dessert. Just let Melissa know what you will be bringing, so she can fill in the gaps. Please officially RSVP by March 17 to Melissa Brown at (517) 974-4417 or [jmbrown0806@hotmail.com](mailto:jmbrown0806@hotmail.com).

## Pottery and Pizza

There's a new pottery place in town. Let's check it out! The Clayroom in Groton offers a special on Thursday and Friday evenings. For each group of 4 painters, they throw in a free pizza. Bring your own beverage and meet us on Thursday, April 1, at 7PM to give it a try. The cost is \$8/person plus the cost of whatever you choose to paint. Clayroom is located at 1064 Poquonnock Road in the same small plaza as Dunkin' Donuts. Their website is [www.clayroomgroton.com](http://www.clayroomgroton.com), and they offer a 10% military discount. Please RSVP on Facebook or to Christy Newell at [christy.j.newell@gmail.com](mailto:christy.j.newell@gmail.com) or (860) 287-2282 by March 30.

## Club Notes

### Family Support Service

Is your spouse currently doing a tour as a geobachelor or otherwise deployed? If so, the cadets have created a fantastic new program to help you! The Family Support Service program can help you with anything you need while your spouse is unavailable, from yard work household duties while a child is sick. They also plan to organize social events for other families in the same situation. For more information or to request cadet assistance, contact 2/c Bobby Carsey at (810) 730-0475 or [Robert.D.Carsey@uscga.edu](mailto:Robert.D.Carsey@uscga.edu).

### Bread Making Class

The Domestic Arts & Crafts Committee will be holding a class on "The Art of Whole Grain Bread and Crackers" on Wednesday, March 24, from 10AM-Noon. This class will be held at Peggy Edwards' home at 34 Cavalla Court, US Submarine Base, Groton. Please RSVP by the March 22 by calling (860) 941-7653 or emailing [peggy6e@gmail.com](mailto:peggy6e@gmail.com). If you do not have base access, please include your vehicle make/model and license plate number with your RSVP.

Excited to learn more about the Domestic Arts & Crafts Committee? There will be a preview of the spring classes just before the March General Membership Meeting at 6:30PM.

## Luxury Items is the Name of the Game

### for March's Care Package!

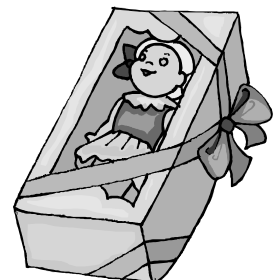


We have recently received feedback about the care packages we have been sending to the CG Cutter ADAK in Bahrain. The crew is really appreciative, and especially enjoys receiving **coffee, snacks, books and movies**. These are luxury items that can cost up to four times as much in Bahrain. If you would like to contribute please bring these "luxury items" to the General Membership Meeting on March 16. If you don't have time to go shopping, you can also contribute by clipping coupons for coffee, and/or seeking contributions at your local coffee shop.

Please note that pork or pork by-products are prohibited in care packages going to the Middle East. Also, no chocolate or items that will melt are allowed. The sponsors for this month's package are Sarah Zaglifa and Meredith Novak. Please contact Melissa Brown at [jmbrown0806@hotmail.com](mailto:jmbrown0806@hotmail.com) if you have any questions.

## Hug-A-Hero

Daddy Dolls, aka Hug-A-Hero dolls, are the perfect way to keep any distant loved one close to the heart. They help to ease the stresses of separation due to deployments, business trips, hospital stays, or living far away from loved ones. This Christmas Joellen Podoll's sister gave her a 'Nate' doll to cuddle with since he will be underway a lot during their next tour. These dolls are made in Joellen's hometown of Cheboygan, MI and are so fun. Please visit their website at [www.hugahero.com](http://www.hugahero.com) for more information!



# Club Notes

## Coast Guard Spouses' Association of Southeastern Connecticut General Membership Meeting • February 9, 2010 • CG Academy, Munro Hall

**Present:** Christy Newell, Joellen Podoll, Alexis Plank, Peggy Edwards, Melissa Brown, Tiffani Kaminski, Patricia Pruett, Allison McSorley, Laura Egan

**Call to Order:** Christy Newell called the meeting to order at 1850.

**Report of the Recording Secretary:** Laura Egan passed out copies of the minutes for January's meeting. Joellen Podoll accepted the published minutes and Allison McSorley seconded the motion.

**Report of the Treasurer:** Jill Billau was unable to attend. Joellen requested approximately \$50.00 for a hospitality event and was approved by Jill.

**Report of the Corresponding Secretary:** Melissa Brown reported that we received a thank you for Jill from the Edwards family.

**Report of the Vice President:** Christina Allen was unable to attend. Christy reviewed the upcoming activities.

**February 13:** Family Game Night, Leamy Hall ballroom, RSVP to Joellen

**February 17:** Breakfast & Aquarium Playdate, 9am, RSVP to Christy and let her know if you will need a high chair

**February 24:** Lunch Bunch at the Hideaway, RSVP to Sharnel Duarte

**February 26:** Happy Hour at Lee Rail, 5pm

**February 27-28:** Cadet Musical Bake Sale

**March 16:** General Membership Meeting, Munro Hall

**March 20:** High Tea, 11am, RSVP to Melissa

**March 27:** Secret Pal Reveal Party, hosted by Melissa and will be rescheduled for the evening

### Report of Standing Committees:

**Awards & Scholarships:** Jill left a message for Gail. The application for the scholarship is to be in the March or April newsletter.

Volunteers will be needed to help decide on the winner.

**Cadet Cakes:** Allison McSorley reported that 24 cakes were baked in January, which brought in \$408.00 and \$74.00 in donations.

**Historian:** Nothing to report.

**Hospitality/Luncheons & Socials:** Joellen would like to plan a Family Bowling night for March 14 from 3-6pm at the Academy bowling alley. It will be \$5.00 per person and will include bowling shoes and pizza. She will post the event on Facebook to see if any families are interested in participating.

**Membership:** Kim Davis was unable to attend. Nothing to report.

**Newsletter:** Tiffani Kaminski has scheduled the deadline for the March newsletter as February 19.

**Sunshine:** Allison did not have anything to report. She will be contacting a retiree member who is recovering from surgery to see if she would like meals delivered to her home.

**Ways & Means:** Marion Gesele & Pat Simpson were unable to attend. They did not have anything to report. Patricia Pruett has volunteered to take over Marion's position in the committee since she will be stepping down.

### Special Committees:

**Audit Committee:** The audit was not completed since Christina and Jill were not in attendance.

**Babysitting:** A volunteer is still needed for this committee.

**Care Packages:** Christina and Patricia are gathering items for this month's care package which will include birthday and Valentine's Day items. March's care package will be put together by Meredith Novak and Sarah Zaglifa.

**Crafts:** Peggy Edwards suggested doing domestic arts lessons such as: bread making, cheese making, decorating, sewing, etc. She is willing to help get the lessons started. It was suggested to contact Megan Bennett about leading a cheese-making class.

**Family Support Fund:** Christy reported on Jill's behalf. The donation for the C-130 crash has been sent. CGSA members agreed to sending \$100.00 from this fund for CG members stationed in Haiti.

**Lunch Bunch:** Sharnel was not in attendance. Christy will touch base with Sharnel. Suggestions for future lunch bunch events included chain restaurants and locations closer to Mystic.

**MWR Representative:** Pat was unable to attend. MWR does have a block of tickets to Taylor Swift for \$75.00 each for a show in Rhode Island. Christy also mentioned that if you are on Facebook to become a fan of the Groton Sub Base MWR page for more MWR opportunities.

**Nominating Committee:** Christy reported that Christina may be contacting members in order to fill open vacancies for Vice President and Corresponding Secretary. Ballots for voting will be in the April newsletter.

**OCS Representative:** Nothing to report.

**Retiree Representative:** Nothing to report. Joellen has been in contact with several retiree members. She will get their input on the retiree luncheon date and location.

**Secret Pals:** Melissa has nothing new to report. She did note the change in time for the reveal party.

**Website:** Laura will be taking over the website from Jill.

**International Dinner Club:** Christy will check with Jill on the Couples Night Out event due to a possible scheduling conflict.

### Old Business:

**Musical Bake Sale organization:** Christy passed around a sign up sheet for volunteers to work the bake sale. Any suggestions on how to run the bake sale should be emailed to Christina.

### New Business:

**Esra's Trust Fund:** Peggy requested \$1000.00 from the CGSA to help fund the power chair needed for her daughter who has special needs. The request will be reviewed by the Family Support Fund committee. Other club members have offered to do parties with their home business and donate all proceeds to Esra's trust fund.

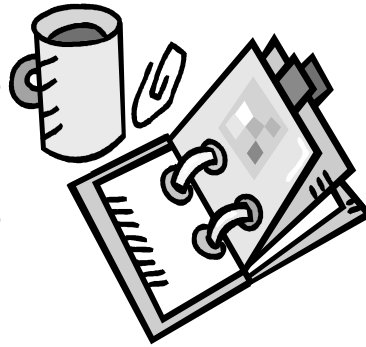
**End of Year dinner:** Alternate locations for the end of year dinner were discussed.

**Adjournment:** Christy adjourned the meeting at 2022.

*Respectfully Submitted, February 10, 2010  
Laura Egan, Recording Secretary*

# President's Corner

Spring is just around the corner; not only will the animals be emerging from hibernation, but we can, too! This winter seems to have been especially cold, and I think we're all ready to get out and about again. Many of our members got a jumpstart and attended February's General Membership Meeting. We saw several faces that haven't been able to attend in awhile, along with some brand-new ones! It is fantastic to get fresh ideas and input, and as a result we have some things coming up that you won't want to miss! Now's the perfect time to get involved...there's bound to be something going on that fits your interests, and you can get to know your fellow Coast Guard spouses better at the same time. Even if all that fits into your schedule is the monthly meeting, we have built in a little social time beforehand so you have



time to decompress from your busy day and chat with friends.

Joellen's first family event, Game Night, was a huge hit. Look for more family fun soon! We are also taking suggestions for locales for the End of Year Dinner. Ideally we'll find a restaurant that will still allow us to get dolled up and celebrate our successes but at the same time go easy on our budget so we can continue to fund more family events in the future. Have an idea? Please pass it on to me before the March meeting so I can come armed with info to help us make a decision.

I'd like to wish a very happy March birthday to the following ladies: Meredith Novak, Jill Billiau, Sarah Ferguson, Christina Allen, and Dee Paulsen. Hope to see you soon!

*Christy Newell*, President

## 2008-2009 Leadership Roster

**Honorary President**

Betsy Burhoe

Sunshine  
Ways & Means

Allison McSorley	848-3798
Pat Simpson	739-4033
Marion Gesele	444-8620

**Executive Board**

President	Christy Newell	287-2282
Vice President	Christina Allen	245-5150
Treasurer	Jill Billiau	391-5601
Recording Secretary	Laura Egan	405-8114
Corresponding Secretary	Melissa Brown	(517) 974-4417

Babysitting  
Bowling  
Care Packages

**Special Committees**

**Volunteer Needed**

Janice Norton	437-3671
Melissa Brown	(517) 974-4417
Christy Newell	287-2282
Kim Davis	434-7047
Jill Billiau	391-5601
Christina Allen	245-5150
Sharnel Duarte	326-5405
Pat Simpson	739-4033
Christine O'Connor	(401) 823-8707
Sue Branagan	691-1285
Melissa Brown	(517) 974-4417
Jill Billiau	391-5601

**Standing Committees**

Awards & Scholarships	Jill Billiau	391-5601
Cadet Cakes	Allison McSorley	848-3798
	Megan Bennett	447-3345
Luncheons/Socials/ Hospitality	Joellen Podoll	(231) 818-0769
Membership	Kim Davis	434-7047
News & Views	Tiffani Kaminski	(401) 348-8789
Parliamentarian	Kim Davis	434-7047

Crafts  
Family Support Fund  
Historian/Publicity  
Lunch Bunch  
MWR Representative  
OCS Representative  
Retiree Rep.  
Secret Pals  
Website

**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](mailto: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!

**Tastefully Simple Fundraiser ♥ March 3**  
**Family Bowling ♥ March 14**  
**General Membership Meeting ♥ March 16**  
**CGSA Tea ♥ March 20**  
**Lunch Bunch ♥ March 24**  
**Bread Making Class ♥ March 24**  
**Happy Hour Lee Rail ♥ March 26**  
**Secret Pal Reveal Party ♥ March 28**  
**Pottery & Pizza ♥ April 1**



Having trouble keeping up with all of our events? Want to hear about last-minute additions or changes to our schedule, or give your input on our event planning? **Become a Fan of CSGSA on Facebook!** Just sign in to Facebook (or visit [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and create a free account) and search "Coast Guard Spouses' Association of Southeastern Connecticut."