

News & Views

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

VOLUME 36, ISSUE 9

MAY 2010

TIFFANI KAMINSKI, EDITOR

Congratulations, Ladies!

Our New Executive Board consists of:

President: Patricia Pruett

Vice President: Alexis Plank

Recording Secretary: Laura Egan

Corresponding Secretary: Jennifer Calhoun

Treasurer: Christy Newell



Committee Chair Openings for 2010-2011 Year

We have several openings for committee chairs beginning this summer. Do you have a couple hours per month to spare? That's all most of our positions take! Remember that by committing to be a committee chair you are NOT solely responsible for the job! You are encouraged to gather a committee of members to help you. We have already had two members graciously volunteer; Meredith Novak will be running our care package project, and Secret Pals will be headed up by Nova Seals. Below is a brief description of our other upcoming openings:

Hospitality, Luncheons & Socials: This is a very important position to fill ASAP, as this person heads up planning of our Welcome Aboard Picnic in August (with help from the board and other volunteers). This person is also the primary organizer of the Wine & Cheese and the Future Spouses' Tea (both very easy events!) as well as any other social event she would like to plan for the club.

Ways & Means (co-chair position with Pat Simpson): Helps organize volunteers to sell our items at various CGA activities. This is one of our largest fundraisers!

Membership: Accept membership applications, have the yearly membership directory printed

Historian: Take photos at club events and publish a yearbook (on a site like Snapfish)

OCS Representative: Pass information between the OCS secretary and the club. This is a good job for someone whose husband works in OCS or went through OCS.

For more detailed information, see our by-laws at
<http://www.cgspouses-sect.org/bylaws.html#IX>.

Please contact Christy Newell if you are interested in volunteering for a position!

Activities & Events

May General Membership Meeting

Please note that there will be no formal meeting in May. We will cover any business at our End of Year Dinner. Hope to see you there!

OCS Tea

The next tea to welcome the spouses of graduating Officer Candidate School class members will be held on May 4 at 9:30AM at Quarters One. Everyone is welcome to attend! This is a great time to chat with spouses who are completely new to the Coast Guard lifestyle or just new to the officer side of things. They greatly appreciate our advice and support. Please RSVP by April 26 to Christy Newell at (860) 287-2282 or christy.j.newell@gmail.com.



Volunteers needed for Ways & Means Table

OCS graduation is coming up. Please consider to help sell our Ways & Means items at Leamy Hall on May 5 from 8:30 - 11:30AM. If you are able to volunteer for any time frame please contact Marion Gesele at smjkgesele@gmail.com or (860) 444-8620. You are welcome to bring your little ones. Thank you in advance for your help with this fundraiser opportunity for CGSA.

Lunch Bunch at Margaritas

Let's celebrate Cinco De Mayo at Margaritas in Mystic on Wednesday, May 5, at 11:30AM! The restaurant is located at 12 Water St. in Mystic. Please RSVP to Sharnel Duarte (860) 326-5405 or email sharchar5@yahoo.com.

Future Spouses' Tea

Help us welcome the civilian fiancées of graduating Coast Guard Academy cadets to life in the Coast Guard at the Future Spouses' Tea on Monday, May 17, from 9:30-11AM at Quarters One. They are completely new to the military lifestyle and always appreciate the advice our members can give on everything from moving tips to favorite duty stations. Please RSVP by May 10 to Christy Newell at (860) 287-2282 or christy.j.newell@gmail.com.



Club Notes

End of Year Dinner

Join us as we celebrate our year's accomplishments and thank everyone who has made them possible! We will be holding our annual dinner at Dev's on Bank in New London on Wednesday, May 12, at 7PM. Spouses are welcome! The cost is \$15 per person and will include a house salad, entrée, and churros with hot chocolate dipping sauce for dessert. One drink will be included; a cash bar will be available. Entrée choices will include Seafood Italiano, Hen Hau Chicken, Flank Steak Argentina, and Spanish Paella.

Please RSVP with your payment no later than Monday, May 10, to Christy Newell at (860) 287-2282 or christy.j.newell@gmail.com.

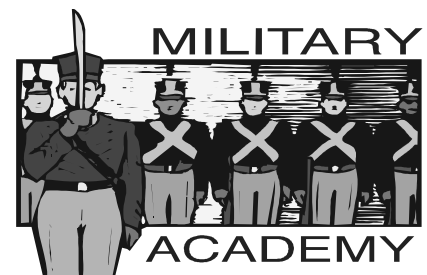
The Coast Guard Academy is looking for Sponsor Families for the Class of 2014 cadets!

During the cadets' first year at the Academy, they will experience a drastic transition from a civilian to a military way of life. Some cadets adjust well, while others have a more difficult time. The Sponsor Program provides cadets with families who can help provide some relief, advice, and guidance. It is also an important means of support, friendship, and learning beyond the Academy environment, and helps to make the cadets' integration into the military community easier and more effective.

To be eligible for the Sponsor Program, applicants, both military and civilian, must be at least 28 years old and live within 25 miles of the Coast Guard Academy (exceptions will be considered on a case by case basis). Active duty military must have a rank/rate of E-7 or O-3 and above to be considered. All potential sponsors will undergo a background security check and provide two references with their application.

If you are interested in becoming a Sponsor family or have any questions about the program, go online to our website at www.cga.edu, (click on Cadet Life, then click on Cadet Resources and the Sponsor Program link is in the sidebar at the right) Or, go directly to www.uscga.edu/display.aspx?id=465 You can print off an application and send it in via mail or email.

If you have additional questions, contact the Sponsor Program Coordinator at 860/701-6119 or e-mail: Erika.L.Lund@uscga.edu.



Club Notes

Coast Guard Spouses' Association of Southeastern Connecticut General Membership Meeting • April 13, 2010 • CG Academy, Munro Hall

Present: Christy Newell, Jill Billau, Melissa Brown, Patricia Pruett, Alexis Plank, Laura Egan

Call to Order: Christy Newell called the meeting to order at 1845.

Report of the Recording Secretary: Laura Egan passed out copies of the minutes for March's meeting. Jill Billau accepted the published minutes and Patricia Pruett seconded the motion.

Report of the Treasurer: Jill provided copies of the Treasurer's Report. The reimbursements and deposits were up to date as of the meeting date. A deadline of May 15 has been set to receive all receipts for reimbursements from the CGSA members for the current fiscal year. Jill requested that all checks are to be cashed by June 1. A budget meeting will be held at the board member dinner on May 26.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary: A thank you note from a cadet and also for the donation for the musical were received by Christy. Melissa Brown reviewed the welcome aboard packet brochure. Jill will provide an updated membership form to accompany the welcome aboard packet info and will also reformat the brochure. It was decided that it is best to have the brochure and membership information delivered to the local CG units by mid-May.

Report of the Vice President: Christina Allen was unable to attend.

Report of Standing Committees:

Hospitality, Luncheons & Socials

Sunshine: Allison McSorley reported that no meals are needed. There are a few babies due in June and members will be contacted if they would like meals.

Lunch Bunch: Nothing to report

Secret Pals: Melissa has left over prizes that she will donate for upcoming events. Nova Seals will be taking over this committee.

International Dinner Club: Nothing to report.

Teas and Events: Christy reported that there are two upcoming events. The OCS Spouses' Tea is on May 4 and the Future Spouses Tea is on May 17.

Crafts: The next event Peggy Edwards is hosting is a day at the NEST and Mystic Market. RSVPs for this event are needed and it was requested to post why you are not able to attend. Megan Bennett will instruct the upcoming cheesemaking class.

Ways & Means

Merchandise: Marion Gesele reported that inventory was completed. A replacement is needed to take over Marion's position

Cadet Cakes: Megan Bennett will providing the CGSA with the amount received for donations. It was also suggested that for future cakes that an instruction sheet needs to be provided for those new to baking cadet cakes.

Club Operations

Membership: Nothing to report. Kim Davis will not continue as the membership chair for next year and a new chairperson is needed.

Historian: If anyone has taken pictures at a CGSA event, please post pictures on the Kodak website.

Audit Committee: Christina was unable to attend. Laura completed the audit and found no discrepancies.

MWR: The navy base will be hosting Comics on Duty this month.

Retirees: Nothing to report

OCS: Christy reminded us of the upcoming OCS Tea. The CGSA needs to determine who the next OCS liaison will be.

Newsletter: Tiffani Kaminski reported that the newsletter is within budget for this year. The deadline for the May newsletter is April 22.

Website: Jill will be providing Laura with the information to take over the website.

Philanthropy

Awards & Scholarships: Jill met with Gail regarding the scholarships. The book awards are coming up and she will follow-up with the guidance counselors. Jill is also in the process of choosing a book for the award. Volunteers are needed to deliver the books.

Care Packages: Melissa reported that Meredith Novak may take over as the committee chair. Megan and Christy will present their care package at the second half of the meeting for all members.

Family Support Fund: Jill has received Peggy's request for \$1000. Guidelines for this money are needed since the funds are limited and not replenished.

New Business:

Upcoming Activities:

April 16: Lunch Bunch, Olive Garden 11:30am

April 17: Family Bowling, CGA, 3-6pm

April 22: May Deadline for Newsletter Articles

April 24: NEST outing, 11am

April 30: Retiree Luncheon, Main Street Grill, 12pm

May 1: Scholarship deadline

May 4: OCS Tea, Quarters One, 9:30am

May 5: OCS Graduation

May 8: Military Spouse Appreciation Day

May 13: End of Year Dinner, Dev's on Bank, 7pm — the date for this dinner may be changed to May 12.

May 17: Future Spouses' Tea, Quarters One, 9:30am

General Membership meeting: There will be no meeting for May. A debrief meeting for ideas and wrap-up may be held in June.

Survey: Christy would like to create a survey for opinions on how to improve the CGSA. Please send any suggestions for questions to her.

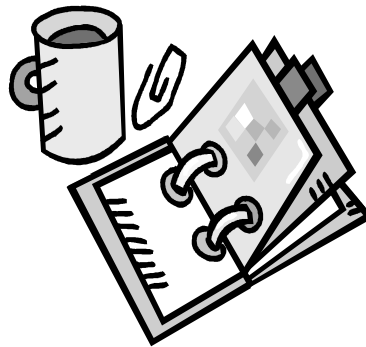
Adjournment: Christy adjourned the meeting at 1930.

Respectfully Submitted, April 22, 2010
Laura Egan, Recording Secretary

President's Corner

How is it possible that our year is winding down and transfer season is upon us? We will be losing many wonderful CGSA members this summer due to the needs of the Coast Guard! They have all been fantastic additions to our club and will be greatly missed!

The Edwards family will be heading to Scottsdale, Arizona. Christina Allen's husband has left for a tour on the CGC BARANOF in Bahrain, and she will be spending time with her parents in New York while she sells their home in Ledyard. Carol Morris has already made her way to Washington, D.C. Melissa Brown will be leaving the area shortly to spend the summer with her family in MI while her husband attends training, and then they will be going to MSU Morgan City in Louisiana. Joellen Podoll's husband will be stationed on the CGC MUNRO in Kodiak, AK. They will begin the long journey there around May 1. Stephanie Brown and her family are excited to head to Honolulu, where her husband will be the Response Chief. We have also already lost Sarah Ferguson to the wishes of her new



tenants, who wanted to move in early (and who can turn that request down?!). She is spending time with family in Kentucky and then will be off to Fort Dix, NJ where Joel will be on the Atlantic Strike Team.

If any moving members need assistance with their children, pets, etc. while the packers and movers are at your home, please let us know!

With all these friends headed on new adventures, I am getting the moving bug! We are due to transfer next summer...and in just a few months we'll be starting our dream sheet! Yikes! Connecticut has been a fabulous place to be stationed, and the CGSA is one of the reasons why. This group provides instant friendship to new families transferring in, and

we all have a wealth of information to share, both about Southeastern Connecticut and places we have been previously stationed. I encourage you to share information about us with any new Coast Guard families you come across this summer, and pass their contact information on to us so we can make sure they are invited to the Welcome Aboard Picnic in August.

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 to your email address book to ensure that all CGSA emails and newsletters always go straight to your inbox.

Mark Your Calendar!

OCS Spouses' Tea ✦ May 4
Ways and Means Table ✦ May 5
Lunch Bunch ✦ May 5
End of the Year Dinner ✦ May 12
Future Spouses' Tea ✦ May 17



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? Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CGSAofSECT!