

# News & Views

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

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OCTOBER 2009

TIFFANI KAMINSKI, EDITOR

## Cider and Donuts—Enjoy the Taste of Fall

Come one, come all, for delicious donuts and cider to celebrate the fall! Join us for a visit to B.F. Clyde's Cider Mill, the oldest steam powered cider mill in the United States, located in Mystic. Clyde's has been around since 1881 and they hold daily demonstrations of their cider-making process. We are planning on meeting at Clyde's at 10:30 AM on Saturday, October 3. The demo will start at 11. Their shop is stocked with apple cider, apple wines, hard ciders, breads, donuts, syrups, butters and much more. All are invited for lunch at Mystic Pizza following the demonstration.

Please RSVP to Christina Allen by October 1 at [hanker00@hotmail.com](mailto:hanker00@hotmail.com) or (860) 245-5150. Directions and additional information on Clyde's Cider Mill can be found at [www.bfclydescidermill.com](http://www.bfclydescidermill.com).



## **Visit the Bronx Zoo and Hang with the Monkeys!**

Join us on Saturday, October 17, as we take a day trip to the Bronx Zoo! We will meet at the zoo in time for their 10AM opening. We will be at the zoo during the special Halloween event, "Boo at the Zoo!". It includes a Haunted Safari Adventure, hayrides, magic shows, pumpkin carving demonstrations, and musical performances.

Discount tickets can be obtained beforehand by visiting [www.tickets.wcs.org](http://www.tickets.wcs.org) and entering code USONYC. More information regarding where to meet will be given at the October General Membership Meeting or when you RSVP. To learn all about the zoo, visit [www.bronxzoo.com](http://www.bronxzoo.com). RSVP to Christy Newell at [cnewell925@comcast.net](mailto:cnewell925@comcast.net) or (860) 287-2282.

## Activities & Events

### Sneaky Surprises Starting Soon!

Secret Pal forms were due the first of the month, and it looks like we will have a great year! There are many new participants, along with members that have participated for many years. Look for your pal's information sheet coming in the mail to you in the next few weeks. Remember, it is the thought that counts, and each participant will love getting a special surprise each month. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Melissa Brown at [jmbrown0806@hotmail.com](mailto:jmbrown0806@hotmail.com) or (517) 974-4417.



### Bowling League is Forming Now

Bowling will start on Thursday, October 8, at 9:30AM at Leamy Hall. We hope to see everyone who is interested join us. Please contact Janice Norton at (860) 437-3671 or [jmnor@yahoo.com](mailto:jmnor@yahoo.com) if interested.

### General Membership Meeting

Our next monthly meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 13, at 7 PM**. This month's meeting will be held in the Munro Hall living room at the CGA. Our meetings are open to all current members as well as those who may be interested in joining the CGSA. If you have a friend who may be interested in what we do, please bring them along!

We will be there at 6:30PM for socializing and coupon swapping. The business portion of the meeting will begin at 7PM. Please bring any unwanted coupons to exchange with other members. You may also bring books to exchange. Please RSVP to Christina Allen at (860) 245-5150 or [hanker00@hotmail.com](mailto:hanker00@hotmail.com).

### Olio's—A Perfect Place for Lunch Bunch

Join us at Olio's in Groton for a delicious Italian meal Thursday, October 22, at 11:30AM. Their website is <http://www.bravobravoct.com/olio/index.shtml>. Please RSVP by October 15 to Sharnel Duarte, (860) 326-5405 or [sharchar5@yahoo.com](mailto:sharchar5@yahoo.com), and please let her know if you need a high chair for lunch.

### October Playdate—Playing in the Perfect Fall Weather

Join us for a fall playdate on Friday, October 23, at Holmberg Orchards in Gales Ferry. We will be able to wander the pumpkin patch, pick apples, and enjoy the crisp fall weather. Meet us at the pumpkin patch at 10AM. For more information, visit [www.holmbergorchards.com](http://www.holmbergorchards.com). RSVP to Christy Newell at [cnewell925@comcast.net](mailto:cnewell925@comcast.net) or (860) 287-2282.



## Club Notes

### Volunteers Needed for our Fund Raising Tables

Every year the CGSA hosts a table at the Coast Guard Academy during Homecoming Weekend to raise funds for our many valuable programs and activities. We need your participation for Cadet Cakes and Ways & Means fundraisers to keep our mission going! Also, it's a great chance to meet parents, CG families and other CGSA members. Many hands make our job easier, so please consider donating some time - it will be greatly appreciated. Homecoming weekend is October 9-10; Friday 8AM-4PM /Saturday 8AM-2PM.

Please contact Marion Gesele at (860) 444-8620 or [smjkgesele@gmail.com](mailto:smjkgesele@gmail.com) or Pat Simpson at (860)739-4033 to sign up for a block of time. Thank you in advance for your support and participation!

### Free Museum Weekends

Are you a Bank of America customer? If so, you're in luck! The first full weekend of each month, they offer free admission to hundreds of museums, zoos, and aquariums to cardholders. Here are just a few eligible places in our area:

- ◆ Providence Children's Museum
- ◆ RISD Museum
- ◆ Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
- ◆ Harvard Museum of Natural History
- ◆ Mashantucket Pequot Museum
- ◆ Stepping Stones Museum for Children
- ◆ Bronx Zoo
- ◆ Metropolitan Museum of Art
- ◆ New York Aquarium

For more information and a full listing of free spots, visit <http://museums.bankofamerica.com/>

### Home for the Holidays Care Package

The theme for October's care package, being sent to the CG Cutter ADAK in Bahrain, is Home for the Holidays. Snacks, non-perishable microwavable foods, Thanksgiving and Christmas related items will be sent to boost morale of the Coasties on board the cutter.

If you would like to donate items for this care package, some ideas are: individual packets of stuffing, cans of cranberries, instant pudding, fall and winter decorations, etc. Please bring them to the General Membership meeting on Tuesday, October 13, at 7PM.

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 Raena Kempe and Joellen Podoll. Please contact Raena at [r.bugbee@gmail.com](mailto:r.bugbee@gmail.com) or (860) 227-5216 if you have any questions or suggestions.

### *Wine & Cheese Reception*

*Thank you, Mrs. Burhoe, for hosting the Annual Wine & Cheese Reception on September 17<sup>th</sup>. This event was a great opportunity for many new members to learn about what the CGSA has to offer and for all members to get to know each other a little better. Congratulations to Megan Bennett for winning the door prize basket of wine and party accessories!*

*Looking forward to our next social!*  
*Joellen Podoll*

# Club Notes

## Coast Guard Spouses' Association of Southeastern Connecticut General Membership Meeting • August 11, 2009 • Quarters One

**Present:** Christy Newell, Joellen Podoll, Pat Simpson, Sharnel Duarte, Megan Bennett, Marion Gisele, Laura Egan, Stephanie Brown, Betsy Burhoe, Jennifer Calhoun, Melissa Brown, Andrea Crowtler, Patricia Pruet, Raena Kempe, Carol Morris, Kim Davis, Jill Billau, Sarah Ferguson, Allison McSorley, Meredith Novak, Debbie Novak, Sarah Zaglif, Christina Allen, Nova Seals

**Call to Order:** Christy Newell called the meeting to order at 1945.

**Report of the Recording Secretary:** Laura Egan passed out copies out of the August minutes. Kim Davis accepted the published minutes.

**Report of the Treasurer:** Jill supplied copies of the current CGSA Treasurer's Report. The club has received \$168.10 for cake donations, \$973.00 for cake fees and \$882.06 for Ways & Means. See Jill if you need to be reimbursed.

**Report of the Corresponding Secretary:** Melissa Brown reported that we have received several charity requests for donations. The CGSA also received a thank you from the CGC BARANOF for the 'Easter candy' care package.

**Report of the Vice President:** Christina Allen reviewed the upcoming activities.

**September 23: Lunch Bunch,** 2 Wives Pizza, 11:30am, RSVP to Sharnel Duarte

**September 25-26: Parents' Weekend**

**October 3: Clyde's Cider Mill,** 10:30am, RSVPs will receive an email with directions

**October 9-10: Homecoming**

**October 13: General Membership Meeting,** 7pm

**October 17: Bronx Zoo Trip,** RSVP to Christy Newell, discount code for tickets available through USO.

**October 21: Fall Playdate,** Holmberg Orchards, RSVP to Christy Newell

### Report of Standing Committees:

**Awards & Scholarships:** Jill has ordered the 'Most Improved' plaques for Parents' Weekend.

**Cadet Cakes:** Megan Bennett reported that they are averaging around 25 cakes per month. She passed out sign up sheets for general help and for volunteers to work the table on Parents' Weekend. Allison McSorley has the freezer for those who want to bake a cake and freeze it.

**Hospitality/Luncheons & Socials:** Joellen Podoll would like to add a game night for early December and a clue hunt. Contact Joellen for those interested in participating.

**Membership:** Kim Davis stated that the deadline for membership forms is October 1. The CGSA directory should be out late November or early December.

**Newsletter:** Tiffani Kaminski was unable to attend. Christy reported that the deadline for the October newsletter is September 21. Members are doing a good job with contributing articles.

**Sunshine:** Allison McSorley needs volunteers to make and freeze dinners.

**Ways & Means:** Pat Simpson requested volunteers to assist with Parents' Weekend and Homecoming. Raena Kempe with get together with Pat to go over Paypal credit card options.

### Special Committees:

**Audit Committee:** Christina reported that there haven't been any discrepancies in the financial transactions.

**Babysitting:** A volunteer is still needed for this committee, see Christy if interested.

**Care Packages:** Melissa stated the current budget per box is \$75.00. She passed a sign up sheet for those who want to create a care package for the CGC ADAK. Jill is in charge of September's care package which is sports-themed and includes Nerf footballs and also game day foods, such as chips and salsa.

**Crafts:** This committee is on hold. See Christy if you are interested in being the chair.

**Family Support Fund:** Jill explained that this fund is for Coast Guard families who have extraordinary needs and is a means to help offset some costs. The scope of the fund needs to be reviewed. The by-laws for this committee are separate from the CGSA's by-laws. Nova Seals suggested putting the money from this fund into a money market account.

**Historian:** Christina volunteered to take over the Historian position.

**Lunch Bunch:** Sharnel Duarte stated that lunch this month is at 2 Wives Pizza in New London on September 23 at 11:30. October's lunch bunch location is to be determined.

**MWR Representative:** Pat Simpson reported that discounted tickets for the Big E are available. Also, Coast Guard Day will be held at Lake Compounce again next year. 1100 CG members and their families attended CG Day this year.

**OCS Representative:** OCS recently had a change of command. A committee chair is still to be determined.

**Retiree Representative:** Sue Branagan was unable to attend. There is nothing new to report.

**Secret Pals:** Melissa stated that the secret pal forms are due October 1. Suggested gifts for a secret pal are to be \$10 or less per month. She discussed possibly setting up a special email account to email secret pals anonymously.

**Website:** Jill reported that the website has been updated.

**International Dinner Club:** Jill went over how the international dinner club works and is looking for couples who would like to participate.

### New/Upcoming Business:

**Gardening for Michelle Beale:** Christy asked for volunteers who would be interested in doing some light gardening for Michelle Beale who is currently undergoing treatment for a brain tumor. She suggested possibly meeting before Lunch Bunch on September 23 and to talk to her if willing to help.

**Big E:** Military and dependents can receive free admission on Friday, September 18.

**Announcement:** Congratulations to Sharnel Duarte and Laura Egan on the new additions to their families.

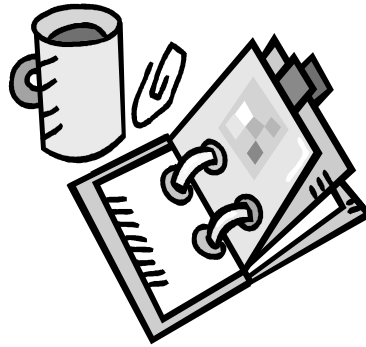
**Adjournment:** Christy adjourned the meeting at 2100.

*Respectfully Submitted September 21, 2009  
Laura Egan, Recording Secretary*

# President's Corner

Ahhh, fall! It is definitely my favorite time of year in New England. There are so many things in the area to enjoy, from corn mazes and apple picking to leaf peeping and pumpkin patches. One of the best events of the season is our official kickoff, the Wine and Cheese Reception at Quarters One. What a wonderful turnout we had this year! It was great to catch up with those we haven't seen all summer, and welcome several ladies who are new to the area. Joellen did a fantastic job arranging all the details, and a great time was had by all.

Thank you in advance to all of you who have volunteered to help out with our fund-raising endeavors via selling Ways & Means items and making or selling our Cadet Cakes. These two projects are vital to our existence, and it takes everyone to keep them up and running. If you haven't signed up to work or bake, it's not too late! Help is always needed, especially during busy Academy events like Homecoming weekend.



I'm looking forward to all of the new events we have coming up this month. Our monthly playdates have been a hit; last month ten of our kids got dirty on the farm feeding the pigs, goats, chicken, and donkeys. We will continue to plan these fun times for our preschoolers on a monthly basis, with seasonally appropriate themes. Instead of apple picking this year, we're trying out a visit to Clyde's Cider Mill, the oldest steam-powered cider mill in the U.S. I hope to see many of you at our road trip to the Bronx Zoo as well...the cool weather should be perfect for a day with the animals.

Keep all of your great ideas coming! Its fun to see such great participation in our events lately, and it's because you, our members, are giving such valuable input on what you'd like to get involved with. See you at our next event!

Sincerely,  
*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!

Clyde's Cider Mill October 3  
Bowling League October 8  
Homecoming Weekend October 9-10  
GMM October 13

Bronx Zoo Trip October 17  
Lunch Bunch October 22  
Kids' Playdate October 23



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."