

# News & Views

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

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SEPTEMBER 2009

TIFFANI KAMINSKI, EDITOR



## Please Join Us for Our Annual Social Wine & Cheese Event

You are formally invited to the **CGSA Annual Wine & Cheese Reception on Thursday, September 17, at 7PM**, graciously hosted by Mrs. Burhoe at Quarters One (One Seneca Drive, Coast Guard Academy). Please join us for an evening of wine (and nonalcoholic beverages), cheese, crackers, fellowship, door prizes, and more!

*This is a great opportunity to bring a prospective member who wants more information about being a part of the CGSA!* This will also be the September membership meeting, therefore we will be discussing our plans for the year and it will give new folks an opportunity to learn more about the CGSA and what we offer to members, sign up for activities, and have a relaxing evening getting to know your fellow Coast Guard spouses.

Please RSVP by September 11 by contacting Joellen Podoll at (231) 818-0769 or [jat\\_22@hotmail.com](mailto:jat_22@hotmail.com). Look forward to seeing you there!!

## Secret Pals Brings Not So Secret Joy!

Participating in Secret Pals is a great way to get to know another member of our organization, and it is a great excuse to go shopping (or get crafting)! In May we get together to reveal ourselves to our pals and eat some yummy treats. You will also learn more about the other participating members.

What more could you want - friends, monthly presents, a reason to shop (or craft), and food!! You will have fun anticipating your own gifts each month and thinking of how to secretly deliver your gifts. The more participants, the more mysterious and fun Secret Pals is!

Please fill out the enclosed form and return it to Melissa Brown by **October 1** at address on form or [jmbrown0806@hotmail.com](mailto:jmbrown0806@hotmail.com).



## Activities & Events

### September Play Date

Join us on September 16 at Terra Firma Farm in Stonington for a little fun with the animals. We will meet promptly at 10AM for a guided tour of this wonderful facility. To learn more about it, visit [www.terrafirmafarm.org](http://www.terrafirmafarm.org). RSVP to Christy Newell by September 12 at [cnewell925@comcast.net](mailto:cnewell925@comcast.net) or (860) 287-2282. The tour cost is \$5/child and it will last about an hour. Then we are free to wander around. They have a 10 child/\$50 minimum, so please be sure to RSVP. Bring a picnic lunch if you'd like!

### By-Laws Revision Meeting

We will be holding a meeting to revise our by-laws on Tuesday, September 22, at 7PM in the Munro Hall living room. Please take a minute to review our current by-laws at <http://www.cgspouses-sect.org/bylaws.html>. If you have any suggestions for additions or changes, please submit them to Christina Allen no later than Sunday, September 20. If you will be attending the meeting, please RSVP to [hanker00@hotmail.com](mailto:hanker00@hotmail.com) or (860) 245-5150.

### Lunch Bunch at 2Wives Pizza



Join us for lunch bunch on Wednesday, September 23 at 11:30AM. We will be trying out 2Wives Pizza at 45 Huntington St. in New London. Their menu can be viewed online at <http://www.2wivespizza.com/menus.html>. RSVP to Sharnel Duarte at 860-326-4505 or [sharchar5@yahoo.com](mailto:sharchar5@yahoo.com).

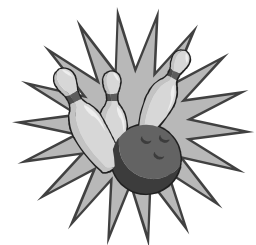
### A Visit to Clyde's Cider Mill

Let's start a new fall tradition! Clyde's Cider Mill in Old Mystic has been around since 1881 and is the oldest steam-powered cider mill in the United States. We will meet there at 10:30AM on Saturday, October 3, to browse the shop stocked with apples, ciders, pies, breads, syrups, and wines. At 11AM there will be a cider-making demonstration. We can head to Mystic Pizza afterward for lunch.

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

### Bowlers wanted

Anyone interested in bowling at Leamy on Thursday mornings please get in touch with Janice Norton at (860) 437-3671 or [jnorton@yahoo.com](mailto:jnorton@yahoo.com). We will be starting the end of Sept. at 9:30AM. More info to follow.



## Club Notes

### Volunteers Needed for our Fund Raising Tables

Every year the CGSA hosts a table at the Coast Guard Academy during Parents' weekend and 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.

Parents' Weekend is September 25-26; Friday 7AM-4PM /Saturday 7AM-1PM. 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!

The Spouse's Association is looking for people to volunteer their time at the Cadet Cake table during Parents' Weekend, September 25-26. The Cadet Cake program is the association's largest fundraiser and we are always in search of spouses who are willing to pitch in and help make the program successful by donating their time and talent.

We are seeking volunteers who are able to sign up to work the table between the hours of 7AM and 4PM on Friday, September 25; and 7AM to 1PM on Saturday, September 26.

Please call Allison McSorley at (860) 885-9640 or email at [mcsorley@ct.metrocast.net](mailto:mcsorley@ct.metrocast.net) to sign up for a block of time. Thank you in advance for your support and participation!

### Sports Theme for Care Package



The theme for September's care package, being sent to the CG Cutter ADAK in Bahrain, is **sports fan!** We'll send a package that will help them feel like they're closer to home at the beginning of football season to help boost their morale.

If you would like to donate to this care package, some ideas are: footballs, softballs, Nerf toys, snacks popular during sporting events (pretzels, popcorn, peanuts, chips and salsa [in plastic only please] and more! Please bring your contributions to the **Wine & Cheese event on Thursday, September 17, 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 sponsor for this month's package is Jill Billiau. Please contact her with any questions or suggestions at [jill@billiau.com](mailto:jill@billiau.com) or (860) 391-5601.

*Thank you to everyone who helped to make the Annual Welcome Aboard Picnic a great success. We had a remarkable turnout, over 50 people!! The weather was beautiful, the food was fabulous, and the children seemed to really enjoy Mr. Magic and the moon bounce. Hats off to **James & Laura Egan** who were our grill masters for the day. It was very hot manning the grill, but they stuck with it until every hamburger and hot dog was cooked.*

*Looking forward to our next social!  
Joellen Podoll*

And the Winner is.....

Congratulations to Lynn Ruenzel for winning our Early Bird Membership Drawing. She has won a \$25.00 gift card to the store of her choice! Thanks to everyone who turned in their forms so far. The official deadline is October 1 so keep those forms coming! Forms are available for download on our website or I can send one to you via mail if necessary. Thanks! Kim Davis

# Club Notes

## Coast Guard Spouses' Association of Southeastern Connecticut General Membership Meeting • August 11, 2009 • Munro Hall, USCG Academy

**Present:** Christy Newell, Sharnel Duarte, Laura Egan, Pat Simpson, Tiffani Kaminski, Allison McSorley, Christina Allen, Sara Karpinski, Joellen Podoll, Raena Kempe, Tiah Smedley, Kim Davis, Jill Billau, Jamie Luzader

**Call to Order:** Christy Newell called the meeting to order at 1910.

**Report of the Recording Secretary:** Laura Egan provided copies of the June minutes taken by Melissa Brown. Tiffani accepted the published minutes and Christina seconded the motion.

**Report of the Treasurer:** Jill Billau supplied copies of the current CGSA Treasurer's Report for August. The earnings from Reporting In Day are listed as \$1973.16.

**Report of the Corresponding Secretary:** Melissa was unable to attend. A letter from the CGC BARANOF was received thanking the club for the 'Easter candy' care package.

**Report of the Vice President:** Christina Allen reported on the upcoming activities. She has also received a scrapbook album from Erika Lund that belongs to the club. Christina suggested having club members scrapbook events for the album.

**August 15: Welcome Aboard Picnic,** RSVP to Christy or Joellen

**August 18: Summer Playdate,** North Lake, RSVP to Christy

**August 26: Lunch Bunch,** Costello's Clam Shack, RSVP to Sharnel

**September 17: Wine & Cheese/General Membership Meeting,** RSVP to Joellen

### Report of Standing Committees:

**Awards and Scholarships:** Jill reported that plaques for "Most Improved" will be given to cadets during Parents Weekend. The plaques need to be ordered. She is also waiting to hear back from Gail Boehm to transfer all the information on the committee.

**Cadet Cakes:** Allison McSorley stated that 21 cakes are to be baked for August and she is looking for 3 more volunteers.

**Hospitality/Luncheons & Socials:** Joellen Podoll reported on the Welcome Aboard Picnic. She requested help with grilling and for extra coolers. RSVPs for the picnic are for 20 adults and 11 children. Joellen also passed out save the date cards for the Wine & Cheese Reception for September 17.

**Membership:** Kim Davis announced the winner for the early bird contest as Lynn Runsel and will put a notice of the winner in the newsletter. The deadline for the membership forms is October 1. Kim will also contact Sue Branagan to get addresses for previous retiree members to see if they would like to join the club.

**Newsletter:** Tiffani Kaminski reported that the deadline for September's newsletter is August 21. Each committee that is having an event should send her an article. Also, any other non-CGSA activities can be sent to Tiffani to include in the newsletter.

**Sunshine:** Allison has been in contact with Peggy Edwards. Fundraising efforts for the Edwards family have been put on hold since they are in the process of moving.

**Ways & Means:** Pat Simpson stated that we had a successful Reporting In Day. They will need volunteers to help during Parents Weekend and Homecoming. Credit card payment for Ways & Means items was discussed. Jill is waiting to hear back from merchant services. Raena Kempe suggested PayPal since their fee is approximately 1.9% for each transaction and no virtual terminal is needed.

### Special Committees:

**Audit Committee:** Christina reviewed financial transactions of the CGSA.

**Babysitting:** Christy reported that funds are budgeted for this committee as needed.

**Care Packages:** Laura Egan shared the items for August's care package for the CGC ADAK. They will be receiving comfort food items. Jill will be in charge of September's care package.

**Crafts:** This committee may be suspended due to lack of interest. Joellen did offer assistance in planning events, if someone were to volunteer as the committee chair.

**Family Support Fund:** Jill reported the fund has \$3370.00. The bylaws for this committee need to be reviewed regarding donations. She will request the information on the fund from Erika Lund.

**Historian:** Christy will supply the photo book from last year at the Welcome Aboard Picnic and Wine & Cheese Reception.

**Lunch Bunch:** Sharnel Duarte provided details for lunch at Costello's Clam Shack on August 26.

**MWR Representative:** Pat reported that Coast Guard Day at Lake Compounce was well attended. Jill gave information on a military discount on Wednesdays for Block Island. Christy shared that the sub base is having a free concert on August 15 with the Doobie Brothers.

**OCS Representative:** The secretary for OCS needs to be contacted to determine who is the new person in charge of OCS.

**Retiree Representative:** Sue Branagan was unable to attend. There is no news to report.

**Secret Pal:** Melissa was unable to attend but the secret pal form is available on the website.

**Website:** Jill is looking for a new provider. Joellen has a family member who works with websites and will get more information for Jill.

### Old Business:

**Bylaws Committee meeting:** This meeting is scheduled for September 23 at 7pm for the executive board.

### New/Upcoming Business:

**CGSA information distribution:** The CGSA provides club information through the website, newsletter and Facebook page.

**LI Wineries Tour and other fall events:** Christy looked into the Long Island wineries tour and it runs approx \$80-100/person. Other events suggest included, Clyde's Cider Mill on October 3 and the Bronx Zoo on October 17 with a discount through the USO. Mystic Aquarium has Cocktails with the Whales on August 20 from 6-8pm. A monthly playdate was suggested. Jill brought up the International Dinner Club and started a signup sheet for couples. Joellen suggested a game night or scavenger hunt. Raena mentioned that the Essex Steam Train does a Murder Mystery show.

### Announcements:

**Upcoming CGSA meetings:** Christy asked for opinions on Tuesdays versus Thursday evenings for meetings. She would like to have meeting start at 1900 and suggested coming a half an hour earlier for socializing.

**Adjournment:** Christy adjourned the meeting at 2045.

Respectfully Submitted August 20, 2009  
Laura Egan, Recording Secretary

## USCG Spouses' Association of Southeastern Connecticut Membership Form 2009-2010

*CGSA Goal: To provide a friendly atmosphere that promotes the morale and welfare of our Coast Guard personnel and their families.*

Please complete both sides of this form and return it with your annual dues by **October 1, 2009**. The membership fee covers your dues for the club year, August 2009-June 2010. Make checks payable to **CGSA of SE CT**. Please **mail** the membership form and payment to:

**Kim Davis • CGSA Membership Chair**  
**One Dogwood Avenue • Old Lyme, CT 06371**

**Membership Type** (check one):

- Regular \$25** [All spouses of CG Members & Public Health Service Workers (active, reserve, retired, deceased); CG Members (active, reserve, retired); Spouses of personnel of other services on active duty with the Coast Guard and any other person interested in the purpose of the club, including CGA faculty]
- Personal Business advertisement in directory and on website \$10** [In addition to Regular, Associate, or Honorary Membership, include business card for ad]
- Honorary Free** [Spouses of former Admirals and Superintendents of CGA residing in CT; Current area cutter Ombudsmen]

**Please print the following information:**

Please check here if you would NOT like your name to appear in the Directory

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday (month/day) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

How would you prefer to receive the association's monthly newsletter? (Check one)

Mail     Email *(For email, please be sure to include it in the space indicated above)*

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone Number (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's name \_\_\_\_\_ Rank/Rate (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Duty station \_\_\_\_\_ What year is current tour to be completed? \_\_\_\_\_

List child(ren). If child is interested in providing babysitting, they can be added to our Babysitter list.

Name(s) _____	Year of birth _____	Babysitter Y / N
_____	Year of birth _____	Babysitter Y / N
_____	Year of birth _____	Babysitter Y / N
_____	Year of birth _____	Babysitter Y / N

Help us meet your needs by answering the following questions, in a scale where 1 is your best selection:

- Are you more likely to attend events that include: \_\_ Members Only, \_\_ Spouses, or \_\_ the Entire Family?
- Do you prefer to attend club meetings at the \_\_ Coast Guard Academy, \_\_ Local Eateries, or \_\_ Members' Homes?
- Monthly General Membership Meetings: Do you prefer Tuesday \_\_ AM or \_\_ PM, or Thursday \_\_ AM or \_\_ PM?
- What are you hoping to get out of being a part of the CGSA: \_\_ Socializing with and meeting fellow CG spouses, \_\_ Volunteer service in the community, \_\_ Learning about the area, or \_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please complete activities and interests on back of the form [OVER]

## USCG Spouses' Association of Southeastern CT Membership Application 2009-2010

In order to plan the 2009-2010 membership year, we have developed a list of activities with a focus on four categories. Please indicate which activities in which you would be **most** interested participating.

### FAMILY

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pumpkin Patch, Hay Ride, Apple Picking | <input type="checkbox"/> Essex Steam Train                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Rink                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Roller Rink                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ski Trip                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Caroling, Hot Cider, Cookie Exchange |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                           |   |

### COUPLES

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dinner & Show            | <input type="checkbox"/> Vineyard, Wine Tasting  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boat Ride to Ledge Light | <input type="checkbox"/> CT River Dinner Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scavenger Hunt           | <input type="checkbox"/> Goodspeed Opera House   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lasertag                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sweetheart Luncheon     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____             |  |

### MEMBERS ONLY

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tour of CG Research & Development Center and/or International Ice Patrol | <input type="checkbox"/> Museums - Slater, Lyman Allyn, Shaw Mansion, Florence Griswold, Stonington Lighthouse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boat Ride to Ledge Light   | <input type="checkbox"/> Shopping Trip - Outlets   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New York City or Boston Day Trip   | <input type="checkbox"/> Spa Day   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Girls Night Out  | <input type="checkbox"/> Tour of the EAGLE and/or CG Museum  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High Tea Outing  | <input type="checkbox"/> Tour of Avery Point Lighthouse  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____   |  |

### CRAFTS / CLASSES / MISCELLANEOUS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Floral Design        | <input type="checkbox"/> Rubber Stamping   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scrapbooking         | <input type="checkbox"/> Woodworking   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guided Bird Watching | <input type="checkbox"/> Get Fired Up - paint your own pottery   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Planning   | <input type="checkbox"/> Guest Speakers – Personal Organizer, Interior Decorating, Local History, Work/Life Rep. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Safety      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____         |  |

Please check any of the committees or groups below that you would be interested in participating:

- |  |                            |                    |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|
| _____ Cadet Cakes Bake/Frost               | _____ Secret Pals          | _____ Ways & Means |
| _____ Crafts                               | _____ Sunshine Meals       | _____ Bowling      |
| _____ Hospitality, Luncheons, Socials      | _____ International Dinner | _____ Lunch Bunch  |
| _____ Care Packages to CG Cutters overseas |                            |                    |

Cadet Cakes is a major fundraising activity for the CGSA and we hope everyone might volunteer to bake/frost cakes. Please indicate month(s) you would be willing to bake/frost cakes: \_\_\_\_\_

The CGSA also welcomes your suggestions for club activities, meeting speakers and meeting topics. Please let us know if you are interested in heading up an activity or event. We will do our best to accommodate your suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

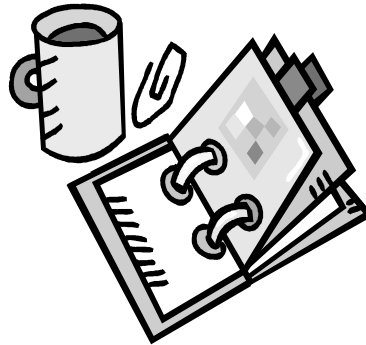
Please list something you've seen a club (ours or another) do that you think would be fun to try: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any ways you can think of which might increase meeting and activity participation: \_\_\_\_\_

# President's Corner

Our 2009-2010 year has certainly started off on the right foot! A special HUGE thanks goes out to Joellen Podoll for organizing a very successful Welcome Aboard Picnic. There were twice as many new families as current members in attendance, with nearly 60 people in all! Everyone had a great time getting to know each other and enjoying food cooked by Grillmaster James Egan and our current and prospective members alike.

It is exciting to see so much involvement from our newbies, and as a result we have several activities already lined up for the upcoming months. Our annual Wine & Cheese Reception will be held on September 17, followed by a trip to Clyde's Cider Mill on October 3 and a road trip to the Bronx Zoo on October 17.



We are planning monthly "play dates" for our members with young children to get out and see what our area has to offer, and there has been mention of monthly game nights as well.

We will have a list of local places recommended by our members available at the Wine & Cheese for those looking for a good restaurant to try or something to do on a rainy day.

As always, if you have any suggestions for activities that you'd like to see the CGSA organize, please let us know.

This club is all about supporting each other, and participation of our members is vital to our success. Looking forward to seeing you all at Quarters One!

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
Christy Newell	287-2282
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!

Play date **September 16**

Wine & Cheese Social **September 17**

By-Laws Revision Meeting **September 22**

Lunch Bunch **September 23**

Parents' Weekend **September 25-26**

Secret Pals Deadline **October 1**

Membership Form Deadline **October 1**

Clyde's Cider Mill **October 3**

Homecoming Weekend **October 9-10**

**SAVE THE DATE**

Bronx Zoo Trip **October 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? **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."