



HAMDEN WOMAN'S CLUB., GFWC

"The Helping Hands Herald"



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4 | APRIL 2023

Co-President's Message

Annette LaVelle & Zunny Martinez



A warm welcome to the women who have joined our club and a sincere thank you to those who have invited prospective members to visit with us.

We had a fabulous time last month with a fun bingo game and delicious food! We must thank Zunny Martinez, Linda Melillo, hospitality and our generous member Antoinette Antonucci (also a talented cook!) for the amazing surprise of 5 amazing pizzas! Don't expect pizza every month ladies, but, as you know Hospitality will do a great job! So please come to our April 5th meeting to see what we have cooked up for you.

The club has a new Sunshine chairman. Barbara Faulkner has kindly agreed to keep those cards and smiles coming. We ask our new members to please make sure that your name is included in our current list to receive a birthday acknowledgement.

Our Co-chairpersons Kiera Keene and Melinda Saller and their committee are making plans for an exciting event, our annual fundraiser.

Because we were unable to hold a major fund raiser last year, we will have less money to disperse to charities and other deserving groups. We would like your input and suggestions before we make donations. Please submit your ideas at the April meeting.

Cochairmen Carol Passarelli, Linda Bishop and their group of "busy bees" continue to make us proud! The book marks they have created for the library are beautiful and much admired.

We are looking forward to District Day and are grateful to the members who are able to attend.

Please remember that the club appreciates every single one of you and every thing that you do. We are humbled by your generosity and kindness and your participation in the work we do for our neighbors.

"To make a difference in someone's life, you don't have to be brilliant, rich, beautiful or perfect. You just have to care." Mandy Hale

Calendar of Events

April 5th – General Meeting

Miller Senior Center

Hamden 6:30pm

Guest Speaker: House of Hero's

April 11th – Book Club

April 19 – Board Meeting

Miller Senior Center

Hamden 6:30pm

April 20th – International Luncheon

China Pavilion Restaurant

Orange, CT 12:30pm

SUNSHINE

Barbara Faulkner

April Birthday's

Ellie Gaetano – April 6th

Carmela Stora- April 7th

Peggy Schoen – April 24

Hospitality for April 2023

April's Hostess are:

Wanda Ortiz, Carole Passarelli, Carmela Stora, Pat Trenchard, Elsa Pepe, Kiera Keene, Justine Bittle-Ford, Meg Boice, Christy Palumbo, Sharon Nolan, and Candace Gray.

Members' duties as hostesses include furnishing refreshments during the month they are assigned.

Please see Article VII section 6 for additional info

April's Member Spotlight



Antoinette Antonucci

Antoinette Antonucci has been a member of the Hamden Woman's Club since 1993. For more than 30 years, she has served on every Executive Board Committee, except for treasurer, in our Club. She currently is the 2nd Vice President of the Club. Antoinette can do it all. She cooks, bakes, sews, knits, and still has time for her family, volunteer, and community involvement. During the pandemic, Antoinette, along with her daughter and another Club woman, sewed more than 360 reading bags for 1st graders in Hamden. She was presented with a "Hamden Hero Award" for serving her Hamden community. Her service goes beyond the U.S. Antoinette has sewed more than 50 "pillowcase dresses" that were sent to Jamaica for local schoolgirls. Annette is a devoted mother, wife, and grandmother. We are privileged to acknowledge the work and impressive service of Antoinette Antonucci.



April News Flash

Linda Melillo, 1st Vice President

Spring has sprung...the grass is rize, I wonder where the birdies is...well, the bird is on the wing! Ain't that absurd...I always thought the wing was on the bird!

That's what we will learn about at our April 5th general meeting.....Bird Brains Trivia Night. This program will be presented by the chairman of Lights Out Connecticut. This group is trying to create awareness on the impact light pollution has on our migrating birds. So come enjoy a fun trivia night and learn something new. I may have a little something else up my sleeve to surprise you with so don't miss this meeting!

Don't forget Daylight Savings Time ladies! I love the extra time of light. As I write this it is still March so in celebrating Women's History Month, I'd like to share a business that is owned and operated by single women....Books and Company and Legal Grounds Coffee Shop who share the same building on Whitney Avenue in Hamden. The coffee and homemade goodies (also baked by another Hamden woman) are delicious and the Book Shop offers not only wonderful reading at reasonable prices, but also beautiful handmade jewelry (created by Hamden residents), greeting cards, and beautiful gift items. Let's celebrate these women by stopping in and enjoying their wares! Let's also enjoy St Patrick's Day 3/17, St Joseph's Day, 3/19, Ramaden, 3/22. Lots more celebrations coming in April: April Fools Day, Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Easter, Passover, and Earth Day.

VOLUNTEERISM

Rosalie Loewenbaum

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Please hand in your volunteer hours to Rosalie Loewenbaum.

These are for hours that you have done on your own not on a Hamden Woman's Club committee.

ARTS & CRAFTS



Linda Canales



Some very talented members submitted a variety of items for review and judging. The winners were announced at the General Meeting in March. The first-place winners were Judy Feather for Creative Material with her Love Your Dog bone wreath, Elsa Pepe for her kitten cap, Antoinette Antonucci for her hand made adult and baby sweaters and a pillow, Zunny Martinez for Photography (she won in every category) and Ellen Young for her beautiful Caribbean Sunset Quilt. All these items will be submitted to the SE District Day to be judged against items the other clubs in the district submit. There will be an update on how we did on District Day on April 5th at the General Meeting. Hope to see everyone then!

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



Marjorie Giunti

The International lunch group met on March 16th at the Playwright Irish Pub in Hamden and had a great time celebrating St. Patrick's Day. Nine members attended. The next meeting will be on April 20th and we plan to go to the China Pavilion Restaurant in Orange. Please let me know if you want to be included in the reservations. Meet at 12:00 p.m. at the library if you are car pooling; otherwise meet at the restaurant at 12:30 p.m.

BY LAWS PROCEDURE



By Laws Procedure Committee which has been meeting weekly to update the clubs by laws and procedures. Included in the picture from left to right are four members of the committee Wanda Ortiz, Carole Passarelli, Annette LaVelle and Sue Yates. Several members of the committee were not able to attend the meeting that day.



1st row seated from left to right is Carole Passarelli, Wanda Ortiz and Linda Bishop. 2nd row left to right Marcy Goldman, Manger Children's Services, Melissa Canham-Clyne, Library Director Hamden Public Libraries and Pamela Della Rocca, Homebound Services.

On March 15th, the bookmarks the committee members created during two workshops were delivered to the Miller Memorial Library. Three hundred and thirty for the adult Homebound Services Program, and two hundred and thirty-six to the Children's Services section of the library. Carole and I would like to thank our committee members who created these beautiful bookmarks that the librarians were thrilled to receive.

The making of 566
bookmarks!

HOME LIFE COMMITTEE/PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Carole Passarelli/Linda Bishop

Public Affairs Committee regarding Hamden veteran issues. Linda and I met with the Hamden Veterans Committee and learned they now have a small office in the Hamden Government Center, Recreation Office, main floor, across from the elevator. It is open on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 - 7:00pm and staffed with a committee member. Phone number is: (203) 672-2077 with an answering machine ; if a message is left any other time the call will be returned. Please pass on this info to neighbors, friends, relatives in Hamden who may need any info regarding veteran issues.

Also, the Committee plants flags for veterans at 9 Hamden cemeteries on Memorial Day weekend. They have some volunteers including Boy Scouts to help. The Committee asked if we would like to also assist. More specific info will be provided as we get closer to the time. Consider helping this initiative for veterans.



WAYS & MEANS

Sharon Welch

Hi ladies!

If you've started Spring cleaning and need to purge any household items..... Please give me a call and I will be happy to pickup at your house or you can bring to the monthly meeting.

BARN SALE Acceptable items: small furniture, china, jewelry, bric-a-brac pictures, household items, gloves, scarves, antiques, vintage items, dinner sets, rugs, exceptional collectible linens, lamps, working electrical items, small appliance, CDs, DVDs. hardcover books, craft books and crafting items.

Contact: Ways & Means (Sharon Welch) 203-444-2084

I sent in the Rada Cutlery order and will call you when it arrives.

Thank you to those members who placed an order!

BOOK CLUB

Sue Centone

A Poem

"Barely the day started and it's already six in the evening.

Barely arrived on Monday and it's already Friday.

.. and the month is already over.

.. and the year is almost over.

.. and already 40, 50 or 60 years of our lives have passed.

.. and we realize that we lost our parents, friends.

.. and we realize it's too late to go back.

So.. Let's try, despite everything, to enjoy the remaining time.

Let's keep looking for activities that we like.

Let's put some color in our grey.

Let's smile at the little things in life that put balm in our hearts.

And despite everything, we must continue to enjoy with serenity this time we have left.

Let's try to eliminate the afters..

I'm doing it after.

I'll say after.

I'll think about it after.

We leave everything for later like " after " is ours.

Because what we don't understand is that: Afterwards, the coffee gets cold. afterwards, priorities change.

Afterwards, the charm is broken.

Afterwards, health passes.

Afterwards, the kids grow up.

Afterwards parents get old.

Afterwards, promises are forgotten.

Afterwards, the day becomes the night.

Afterwards, life ends.

And then it's often too late. So.. Let's leave nothing for later.

Because still waiting to see later, we can lose the best moments, the best experiences, best friends, the best family.

The day is today. The moment is now.

We are no longer at the age where we can afford to postpone what needs to be done right away." ~

~By Caitriona Loughrey

HWC MEMBERSHIP



Carolyn DellPietra, Shirley Cavanagh & Carol Noble

WELCOME, WELCOME, WELCOME.

HWC DOORS ARE OPEN AS WELL AS OUR HEARTS, YES, WE CONTINUE TO ADD NEW MEMBERS TO OUR CLUB.

The Membership Committee is hosting another luncheon gathering with NEW MEMBERS. This is for those unable to attend the last luncheon, plus our renewing members.

Please let Shirley, Carol Noble or Carolyn DP know any new members attending the next orientation, which will be held in April- DBA. It's important for new members to come to an orientation so we get to know you on a personal level and for you to understand current procedures, policies and information regarding HWC, and GFWC/CT.

We look forward to all members participating in the varied committees and projects are club engages in.

According to the BY-LAWS all members are to participate in at least one committee.

DATES to keep in mind:
May: Installation Banquet
June Strawberry Festival

We are delighted HWC will be honoring Antoinette Antonucci as our woman making a difference!

Each of the 6 District Clubs will be choosing their own "Woman: Making A Difference".

Let's continue to enjoy all that we do and create lasting friendships.

Membership info: Shirley Cavanagh 203-248-9726
Carol Noble -203-288-6986/Carolyn DP - 203-675-8444/ Sharon Nolan

NEW MEMBERS OF HWC

Ashley Voos
Candace Gray
Christy Palumbo
Elena Rodriguez

Justine Bittle-Ford
Kiera Keene
Meg Boice
Melinda Saller

Nancy Pettinicchi
Peggy Schoen
Sharon Nolan
Sharon Young

Welcome!!!

SE DISTRICT DAY MARCH 25TH....

What a time we had!!

What an amazing event it was with 50+ attendees. We had an amazing guest speaker, Congresswoman Rosa Delauro for this beautiful event.

The Arts & Crafts presented and the raffle prizes by each club displayed an array of talent throughout. All I can say is "What a time we had".

Check out some great photos captured by some of the attending members.....



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

Should you have any questions or concerns about this newsletter please contact Kiera Keene via: email- wchnewsletter@gmail.com or mobile - 203-543-9200

Special note: The preferred method of newsletter submissions is email. Please email your submissions to me by the 3rd Friday of each month.

Recipe Corner.....

SPICED BREAD AND BUTTER PUDDING WITH SAFFRON AND DATES RECIPE BY BENJAMINA EBUEH

The warming saffron custard that seeps into the bellies of the croissants is earthy and grassy, infused with ginger and cardamom to brighten it up. You could let the milk steep overnight if you'd prefer a stronger saffron flavour, and swap the croissants for brioche or thick, white bread instead.

Serves 4-6
milk 240ml
double cream 300ml
saffron 8-10 strands
fresh root ginger 30g, grated
cardamom pods 6, lightly crushed
eggs 2, plus 1 egg yolk
caster sugar 70g
croissants 4 large, slightly stale
dates 50g, roughly chopped
demerara sugar 1 tbs



Pour the milk, cream, saffron, ginger and cardamom into a medium saucepan and heat gently until just before boiling. Remove from the heat, cover and let the milk steep and cool for at least 30 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 170C fan/gas mark 5. Get out a baking dish about 26cm x 21cm in size.

In a separate bowl, whisk the eggs, egg yolk and caster sugar together briefly until well mixed and smooth. Set aside. Use a sieve to strain the milk and pour it back into the saucepan. You can add a few strands of saffron back into the milk if you want a stronger flavour. Gently heat the milk and bring to a simmer, then remove from the heat and pour it into the egg mixture in three additions, whisking as you pour until all the milk is incorporated.

Slice the croissants in half horizontally and layer half of them in your baking dish. Scatter half of the dates on top. Pour just over half of the custard on top of the croissants and let it soak in for a few minutes before layering up with the remaining croissants and dates. Pour on the rest of the custard and sprinkle the demerara sugar on top.

Cover the dish with foil and bake for 20 minutes, then remove the foil and bake for a further 15-20 minutes until the top is crisp and the pudding has just a little wobble. Let it cool and settle for 10 minutes before serving.

FRESH FRUIT SMOOTHY

A FRESH AND TASTY EASY FRUIT SMOOTHIE THAT TAKES MINUTES TO MAKE. IT IS FILLED WITH KIWI, BANANA, BLUEBERRIES, STRAWBERRIES AND MORE MAKING IT DELICIOUS AND HEALTHY INGREDIENTS

1 KIWI PEELED AND SLICED
1 BANANA PEELED AND SLICED
1 CUP HULLED STRAWBERRIES
½ CUP BLUEBERRIES
1 CUP PLAIN OR VANILLA GREEK YOGURT
1 CUP ICE CUBES PLUS MORE AS NEEDED
½ CUP PINEAPPLE JUICE



INSTRUCTIONS

COMBINE KIWI, BANANA, STRAWBERRIES, BLUEBERRIES, YOGURT, ICE AND PINEAPPLE JUICE IN A BLENDER. BLEND UNTIL SMOOTH.

ADD MORE ICE AND BLEND FOR A THICKER SMOOTHIE. SERVE IMMEDIATELY.

Minutes
Hamden Woman's Club
3/1/2023

Meeting called to order 6:38 p.m.

- ~Recording Secretary – Minutes were read to the members which were approved as read.
- ~Treasurer – Barbara Aurora reported that there was \$5,592.86 in the checking account and \$4,442.38 in the savings account. The treasurer's report was accepted and filed for audit.
- ~Membership – 27 Members and 8 guests were present at the meeting. A second welcome luncheon will be held for new members.
- ~Corresponding Secretary – Received a thank you note from Deb Boyaji and a thank you note was sent to Shelley Imler.
- ~1st VP – Absent
- ~2nd VP – Antoinette has copies of additional member contact pages for the yearbook.
- ~Publicity – Absent
- ~Newsletter – Entries for the newsletter will be due the Friday after the Board Meeting. She is looking for recipes to add to the letter and/or any suggestions for other improvements/additions. Discussion regarding a spirituality section was had. Sue Yates has been ill but will likely be able to continue submitting articles for the spirituality section shortly. Members indicated that some did not receive the newsletter by mail. It was decided that copies would be brought to the meeting for the members who receive by mail. If they are not picked up at the meeting, they will be mailed.
- ~Ways & Means – There will be a 50/50 raffle tonight. Rada Cutlery sale will end on March 8th. Collection of items for the Barn Sale continues.
- ~Home Life – A bookmark workshop (for the Children's Library) will be held on March 2nd from 9 to 12 at the Senior Center.
- ~Public Affairs – Linda and Carol will be attending a veterans' meeting to find out what is needed that the Club may be able to provide.
- ~International Affairs – Next luncheon will be at the Playwright in Hamden on March 16th at 2 p.m.
- ~Sunshine – A chairperson is needed for this committee.
- ~Hospitality – Thank you to this month's hostesses as well as to Antoinette Antonucci who brought in homemade pizza for tonight's meeting even though she is not on the list.
- ~Book Club – The next meeting will be March 14th at 12:30 p.m. at the Towne House Diner.

~Conservation – Tabs will continue to be collected tabs. The Town of Hamden has a new clothing recycling option available. Information can be found on the website – simplerecycling.com.

~Volunteer Hours – No report.

~Arts & Crafts – Awards were handed out to the winners of the February Arts & Crafts event.

~Fundraiser – Kiera will now co-chair. A meeting is scheduled for March 2nd at 6 p.m. at the Senior Center to continue planning for the event.

Old Business:

~Shirley announced that District Day will be held on March 25th at LaLuna in Branford, CT from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Antoinette Antonucci will be honored by our club at the event as our "Woman Who Makes A Difference." All members are invited to attend.

New Business:

None

Meeting adjourned 7:20 p.m.

Minutes submitted by
Ellen Young, Recording Secretary

Hamden Woman's Club

Outside Volunteer Hours

This form is for the hours that you have volunteered in the community.

DO NOT use this for any activities related to your work for the Hamden Woman's Club. For example, you can submit your hours if you volunteer in a hospital, school, senior center, etc.

Submit this form to Rosalie ~~Loewenbaum~~.

OUTSIDE VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

NAME:

Volunteer Date:

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS:

DOLLARS DONATED:

HWC

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Suggestions, Idea, Comments

How can we help?

Members Name: _____

Phone: _____ **Cell:** _____

Email: _____

Comments: _____

Should you feel uncomfortable putting your name just leave blank!