

SUCCESS CONNECTIONS

A publication of the Women's Success Network

September 2006

WSN:
Women Helping Women
- Both Professionally
and Personally

Plan to arrive at 6:00 since the meal will start promptly (no pre-dinner networking at this meeting) because this is an all networking meeting.

Menu on page four



Women's Success Network
P.O. Box 372
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For on-line information about Women's Success Network, check our website:
www.wsninc.org

It's back!

8-Minute Networking Returns to WSN

One of WSN's most popular programs in 2005 is back. WSN will launch it's fall program year with the return of 8-Minute Networking!

On September 6, instead of the usual sit down dinner followed by a speaker, the meeting will feature rotating networking tables. Dinner will be served buffet style, then attendees will move from table to table so that they are able to network with everyone at the meeting. Board members will be assigned to each table to keep the flow – and conversation – moving.

Last year's event - with 12 rotations in one evening, was exhausting. This year - we'll have six rotations, but will have another 8-Minute Networking program in January.

This exceptional networking opportunity will allow you to meet many more WSN members! All attendees will have one minute per table to talk about themselves. You'll do your introduction multiple times as you move from table to table.

You'll need to practice for this meeting so that you can include the important information about your business and yourself in the 60-second time allotment. The concept is for people to learn just enough about each other so they can decide if they want to get to know a particular



member through a separate one-on-one meeting or catch up with that member at a future WSN meeting.

The meeting will be held at the Highland Country Club. The dinner will be served between 6:00 and 7:00. Business will be conducted as people eat (including the raffle). The networking table rotation will be held from 7:00 until 8:45.

Although you may want to bring extra business cards, we'll also have a master list of everyone who attends the meeting.

Remember: The goal of this meeting is for you to meet everyone – and for everyone to meet you!

Display Tables

If you would like a display table at a monthly meeting, contact Betty Kushner or Bonnie Barnett at displaytables@wsninc.org. If you are signed up for a table - and can't make it, please let Betty or Bonnie know; they sometimes have a waiting list.



WSN begins new program year

Welcome back to WSN. I hope you've all had a restful and enjoyable summer.

Your WSN board is ready to launch an exceptional new year with outstanding speakers and networking opportunities. We're going to start the year off with a bang with 8-Minute Networking. Without a doubt, that was one of the most popular programs we had last year - so we're going to do it twice this year, starting in September. See the article on page one for details on how this fun event works.

All of you should have received an invoice in August. WSN is going to an annual dues payment system. For this first year, it's bit more complicated because everyone needs to be prorated. Please bear with us for this first year, there may be a few kinks that need to be worked out as we switch over.

New this year - we have an ad hoc social committee. Our extra-curricular trips to Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun were such a success, we want to plan more outings for this program year. The team will be coming up with some ideas - and also welcomes your suggestions. Contact Joyce Parlapiano or Susan Dunbar if you have some fun ideas.

It's the fall- and with that comes the Connection, our annual directory of members. Remember that advertising in the Connection is a great way to promote your business. The ads are inexpensive - and far reaching. Watch for details on ad rates and don't miss this opportunity.

Finally, a note about networking: that's what WSN is all about. Every monthly WSN meeting is an opportunity for you to get to know - and network - with a dynamic group of women. Take advantage of the pre-dinner networking time - and network at your table. You'll make business contacts- and new friends.

Candace Sallale
WSN Chair

Raffle thanks

Thanks to the following members who donated to the May raffle. We brought in \$542. Joyce Parlapiano, Joan Gagnon, Roxanne Richard, Patricia Glennon, Martha Whyte, Judy Ross, Colette Stukas, Donna Goulart, Dionne Katinas, Beverly Rollins, and Barbara Cappadona.

Don't forget to bring raffle donations. It helps the scholarship fund and is a great way to promote your business.

Board of Directors Contact Information

Chair: Candace Sallale
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Secretary: Liz Scully
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Display Tables:
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Bonnie Barnett, 508-520-4043
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Webmaster: Jan Turner
508-528-2876
webmaster@wsninc.org

Reservations Updates

• **No cancellations:** The WSN Board has established a no cancellation dinner policy. If you have signed up for a meeting and cannot attend, you forfeit the meal price (unless you find a replacement). Last year, Registration maintained a waiting list for the meetings but that method proved to be a logistical nightmare. From now on - if you can't make the meeting, you're out the meal price.

• **Reservations deadline:** The deadline for meeting reservations will be 12 days before the meeting (postmarked on Friday), to help ensure that reservations are on time. The deadline for on-line reservations remains unchanged at midnight on Tuesday the week prior to the meeting. Absolutely no late reservations will be accepted.

• **About the food service:** Any member who has an issue or complaint about a restaurant should bring it to the attention of the Reservations Co-Chairs, who will follow up with the appropriate action or complaint to the management. Members should not take it upon themselves to complain directly to wait staff.

This situation in the past has given WSN somewhat of a "reputation" and has made us unwelcome at certain venues. Please remember to let our Reservations people do their jobs! Also, don't hesitate to give your feedback to the Board via the surveys available through the WSN website (www.wsninc.org). We look forward to receiving feedback from our members so that we can pass this information on to our restaurants and make decisions about the venues we use.

• **How to register:** There are two ways to register for a WSN dinner meeting: use the registration form included with the monthly mailing or via the webpage using PayPal.

If you register on line, you must use PayPal. Attendees can no longer fill out the web registration form with a "the check is in the mail" promise.

If you have mislaid your paper registration form, you will find the form on line, can print it out and mail it in with a check.

Paying for your reservation by Pay Pal? Note - your payment has not gone through until you receive a confirmation. Remember that you have until midnight Tuesday the week before the dinner to make your on-line reservation.

Annual renewals mailed

During the month of August, every WSN member received a membership renewal invoice for the 2006/2007 year. Membership renewal dates will now be standardized in order make all renewals effective September 1, versus the anniversary month in which a member joined.

Dues are \$75 a year. For this year only, dues are at a prorated amount.

New members joining after

the September launch of this program will be prorated for the program year in which they are joining.

Existing members who are late renewing are expected to pay the full annual rate.

Also keep in mind that any member who lapses in their membership has to pay the full \$75 to renew. They do not get a prorated amount according to the month they re-join.

2007 Connection will begin shortly

Work is about to start on the 2007 edition of *The Connection*, WSN's annual membership directory. WSN's roster provides members with free alphabetical and business listings as well as the opportunity to purchase display ad space to highlight their businesses and services.

Your October newsletter will contain details on updating your directory information - and the 2007 advertising rates. Stay tuned!

WSN scholarships awarded to five

Five women received the Elizabeth Fordham Wajer Scholarship at WSN's June 7 annual meeting and dinner. A total of \$5,500 was presented to Emily Cuddy, Kiley Dobson, Cyndee Marcoux, Judy Ross, and Debbie Silve.

The annual scholarships support working women looking to continue their education. Thanks to all those who donated raffle items this past year. Your support makes this scholarship program possible.

Ambassador reminder

When visitors come to a WSN meeting for the first time, a warm greeting can make a big difference.

Our Ambassador Chair, Michelle Raymond needs volunteers to help out at each meeting to meet and greet our visitors. Contact Michelle at ambassadors@wsninc.org.

New members

Melissa Airey
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Interested in joining WSN? There's
an application on the website at
www.wsninc.org or contact
membership@wsninc.org

About Us

• From **Martha Whyte**:
– Thank you to **Candace Sallale** for buying a gift album for her mother-in-law from the Whyte Knight – Thank you to **Ellen Albanese, Carla Cataldo, Barbara Owen, Noelle Bonczek, Dionne Katinas, Betty Kushner,** and **Deet Turnage**, for making use of Whyte & Son Plumbing.

• **Liz Scully** wants to give a large thank you to **Joan Gagnon** for hosting two Weekenders presentations at her lovely home in Mansfield.

• From **Cheryl Reed**:
I would like to thank my Hostesses for their support, **Candace Sallale, Beverly Carbone,** and **Susanne Ferrantino** and all who have purchased Silpada jewelry throughout the past year.

• From **Michelle Raymond**:
Thank you to everyone who helped us welcome our second son, Curtis Alexander Raymond born June 2nd weighing 7 lbs. 10 oz. We have been very blessed with a happy calm baby and an older brother who loves him dearly (sometimes a little too

Highland Country Club
Attleboro, MA

Buffet dinner
with a variety of
salads, pasta & seafood
and
mini Italian pastries
for
dessert

much). Curtis has doubled in weight already and is almost identical in appearance to his older brother. After spending the summer with two kids, I am looking forward to getting back to work in September.

• **Bonnie Barnett** says:
Thank you to the WSN Board and **Jan Turner** for their kind expressions of sympathy on the death of my mother. It was a very difficult time and your thoughts are appreciated.

• Programs Co-Chair **Carla C. Cataldo** has had a busy year obtaining grant funds for her clients, including WSN member **Arlene Lowney** and her Massachusetts Compassionate Care Coalition. She also helped the Towns of Franklin and Medway obtain grant funds for a shared nurse to work out of their respective senior centers, and \$20,000 to help survivors of domestic violence move toward self-sufficiency for Web of Benefit, Inc.

This November, Carla will offer a proposal-writing workshop at the Massachusetts Human Service Provider Council's Annual Convention and Expo in Boston.