

NORWICH WOMEN'S CLUB

Community Service Since 1907

APRIL 2011

SPRING/SUMMER NEARLY NEW SALE

.....just a month away

Elaine Waterman, Chair

The pre-consignment window closes in just three weeks! Price and tag up to 100 items of men's, women's and children's clothing (in *nearly new condition*) in the convenience your home. Secure a packet from Priscilla (649-1807), Mindy (649-2169), Connie (649-3621), or Karin (785-2543) before April 22nd.

Please reply to the e-mail from NearlyNewSale@NorwichWomensClub.org, sent by Sophia Crawford, our volunteer coordinator. If you didn't receive our e-mail recruitment notice or you have a new e-mail address, please do e-mail Sophia at the above address ***even if you can't volunteer for this sale.*** This will help us and save you a phone call or two or three.

Thanks to those of you who already have signed up to work at the sale. This much anticipated community event could not take place without your volunteer support. In addition to connecting with old friends and meeting new people during your shift, you get to shop the sale on April 29th from 4 - 6 pm before the Grand Opening at 7 pm.

BAGS NEEDED

**Large shopping bags and large plastic bags
as well as *clean COOP* bags requested.**

Bring prior to the sale or during your shift.



NWC Calendar

Nearly New Spring Sale 4/29-
5/1
Tracy Hall

NWC Board Meetings: Mondays
Norwich Public Library at
6:30pm
4/11/11
5/9/11
6/13/11

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Ladies, you will soon be receiving your annual renewal form in the mail. Please reply promptly - follow-ups cost the Club both time and money. We would rather use our resources to support the community. Look forward to a busy and productive year! Invite a friend to become a new member.

Thank you from the Membership
Committee

Karen Woodward
Nancy Golder

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ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL FLORIBUNDA

Thanks to all of you, and a fabulous committee, Floribunda Marketplace was a financial success. That's what hard work does! Thought all of you in the club might be interested in a breakdown of sorts, so here are some interesting facts and numbers. Draw any conclusions you like. We on the board will be doing the same.

- Gate was almost the same as last year, up slightly – 932 this year, 907 last year. But we had the gala, which accounts for a larger gate. I'd call attendance static.
- 86 people attended FloriGala; 86 people seemed to **have a lot of fun.**
- Expenses from FloriGala ate up a lot of profit – only about \$1500, after a huge volunteer effort, especially from Rita Lajoie's committee, who prepared luxury appetizers for weeks.
- Vendors did well at the Marketplace. All want to come back.
- The Silent Auction gave us maximum profits at low volunteer and actual cost – about \$7300 in profit to less than \$100 in costs.
- Some attendees still wanted to know where the flowers were, even though many said they had read it was not a flower show. Turning Floribunda back into a flower show seems impossible at this point. Growers are not interested.
- The café made fabulous food – again with Norwich gals who know how to cook! – But only made a small profit after huge effort.

Floribunda and its morphed friend, Floribunda Marketplace, are being evaluated to see how the club can maximize profits, entertain the community, suit area tastes, and utilize our resources well.

Bottom line – more than \$16,000 in net income! That's a lot of community projects that will get done because an incredible group of women – Nancy Snyder, Joanne Kent, Karen Ward, Rita Lajoie, Carol Loveland, Deb Kaplan, Linda Hazard, Edye Scheier, Jaye Johnson, Mindy Penny, Deb Hall, Jill Lavin, Lisa Cadow and Susie McCarthy – knocked themselves out serving on the committee. This does not even mention the legions of folks who cooked, sold tickets,

served food, greeted our guests and hung coats! What a group of outstanding women we have in our club.

Isabel McCarthy and Sue Pitiger,
Floribunda Co-Chairs



**Sign up now for the Spring
Trip to the Clark Museum in
Williamstown,
Massachusetts!**

Sunday, May 15

7:30 am - 5:30 pm

Bus will leave from and return to
Huntley Meadow

Trip includes transportation, muffins
on the way down, museum admission
and tour, lunch at the Williams Inn,
wine and cheese on the way home -
and wonderful, friendly, fun company!

All for \$65! (\$70 for nonmembers -
family and friends are invited to join
us)

Call or email Debbie Carter

649-1216

debbiecarter22@gmail.com

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Here are some thoughts from member Ree Webster on the controversial book

"Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother"

I was hopeful that this would be a story of redemption when I read the jacket and it said that the author had been humbled by a thirteen-year-old. I do think that Amy Chua does believe that statement, but I saw no evidence of that. Perhaps she was humbled and I missed it, as I was so tired of reading about the forced music lessons, and the battles that ensued, that I started to skim through the pages. I don't think I missed much; as far as writing goes, it is a pretty lightweight book.

I took an immediate dislike to Amy Chua in the first few chapters as she describes the piano teachers that did not work out for her daughter, Sophia. One particularly disturbing description is of a teacher named, MJ: *We couldn't tell if MJ was male or female, but it always wore a suit and bow tie, and I liked its matter-of-fact style.* You might be able to describe her tiger mom traits as a cultural thing, but mean, is just mean.

If I hadn't been turned off by the time she describes the ridiculous lengths she went to procure pianos for her daughter while traveling, (they were never allowed a day off), my breaking point was when she felt nauseated, when she learned that her dog, a Samoyed had ranked #33 out of 79 in terms of intelligence. Amy Chua micro-managed everything in her children's lives, (attending every rehearsal) and still found time to be brilliant in her own career, travel, throw parties, and train the dog. There wasn't much mention of her husband or their marriage, but I'm sure that was perfect, too.

Chua does acknowledge that she was harsh in some things, but sticks to her guns that all her criticism was out of love. The climax, or turning point is when her daughter, Lulu, rebels against all of the violin lessons. She goes on to do very well in tennis. Ho-hum! There is mention of a sick sister along the way, and interestingly enough, Amy Chua has a disabled sibling.

I've always thought that to be a good writer, you have to have empathy, and in order for a book to be good, the reader has to relate to it in some way. I just couldn't warm up to this woman, cultural differences or not. My final thought when I finished the book? I'd rather be dumb!

Community Grants

Thanks to the success of Floribunda, the donations from our members, and the sale of the Town Directory, the Norwich Women's Club has available Community Projects Grant monies. If you know of a civic organization that directly benefits the Norwich Community they may apply for a Grant. Check our website:

www.norwichwomensclub.org
<<http://www.norwichwomensclub.org>> for the application or call me directly 649-1549. Grant requests need to be submitted to PO Box 191, Norwich, VT 05055 by May 1 and awards will be made after July 1. Thank you to everyone who has made this possible.

Carol Loveland
Finance Chair

Wise 40th year Celebration

The opening program will take place on Friday April 29th. The event will be held at the Kelton Library in West Lebanon.

The Norwich Women's Club triangle garden will be one of many gardens taking part in the celebration. More information will be e-mailed to the membership in the next week.

Mary Ann Holbrook