

November 2009

## President's Message

Fall has arrived once again and the foliage outside is absolutely beautiful this time of year. Some children's sports take a brief hiatus during this time of year, which allows a lot of parents to sleep in again on the weekends. I don't know about you, but sleeping in on the weekends (when possible in my busy household!) is a personal favorite of mine. And I always look forward to "falling back" when the time change gives me an extra hour of sleep!

The month of October went by very quickly with a lot of planning and preparation for all upcoming events. Everyone has been busy with getting sign-ups completed, chairs filled, coordinating volunteers, planning meetings and successful events. This could not have easily happened without our monthly general meetings, to which we appreciate our membership's attendance.

Both the September Supper and the October General Meeting were very informative and agenda packed meetings. They give our membership an opportunity to participate in things that are of interest to them personally, while at the same time helping us achieve our goals and mission; helping others who are in need.

The Directory (membership name & address sections) is finished and on the web, [www.westonwomensleague.org](http://www.westonwomensleague.org). You can locate it under the "Member's Only" section that requires your login. **WWL2009**, password is **women**.

**Don't forget to bring in your canned goods to the November 10th General Meeting.** These items will be used for the Thanksgiving Baskets that are prepared for those in town who otherwise wouldn't be able to afford a nice Thanksgiving. Our efforts are coordinated with other town organizations to provide 100 in total to Social Services this year. So your efforts are appreciated

Thank you again, to the Farmer's Market ladies who worked hard all summer long, bringing wonderful vendors, wonderful entertainment, and memorable experiences to everyone who attended. Thank you to **Cindy Sherlock, Heather Pemberton Levy, Leslie O'Carmony, Lisa Zhang, and Anne Hunt.**

Sadly, I wasn't able to attend the Ragamuffin Fair and Parade this year due to illnesses in our household. But I heard that despite the rain (deciding to grace us with its presence after everything was already set up!), it was as successful as it could have been and the families who attended and helped were real troopers! Thank you so much to the wonderful team of **Heather Pemberton Levy and Jennifer Bennhoff**, who were led by the talented, extremely organized, and newest member to the League, **Kim Forte**. You all did such a wonderful job this year! Interested for next year???

UNICEF is still underway and the boxes are still being collected. If you have any questions, please contact **Sheila Chaglasian**.

Don't forget to **SAVE THE DATE** for **Kidstock** this year, which will be held on **January 31<sup>st</sup>**. The talent has already been booked and we are once again looking forward to another successful event that not only raises money for children-based charities/programs, but it also provides a wonderful afternoon for the little ones in Weston, as well as in neighboring towns.

As we come out of October and enter November, Thanksgiving is right around the corner. Soon all of our tables will be filled with family and friends, enjoying the Holiday, and being thankful for all that we have around us; especially with today's economy. I hope that you enjoy Weston and the season as much as our family does. Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

Warmly,

Tammy Roberts

President

*What you are will show in what you do!—Thomas Edison*

## Children's Holiday Breakfast

Preparations are underway, and many, many WWL members are hard at work, to help create the 26th Annual Children's Holiday Breakfast! Crafts will be chaired by Amy Lin Meyerson, who has great ideas to keep the children happy; Decorations is chaired by Stacey Tucker, who will ensure that the cafeteria is transformed into a winter wonderland; Grace Brennan has volunteered to handle both Dismantle and Transport, as well as poinsettia sales (get them while you can!); new member Kim Forte, straight from chairing the Ragamuffin Parade, is overseeing the Holiday Gift Boutique, which will offer a handpicked variety of fun and affordable gifts for kids and their parents; Lisa Bigelow and Julie Baisley have taken on the job of running the entire kitchen, and insuring that all are fat and happy by the time they get their pictures taken with Santa or Frosty; and Pam Cannon stepped up to chair Photography, tell your friends, no need to leave Weston--digital photography and fun frames are available right here! Publicity is in good hands with Aline Weiller, with many years experience, so look for lots of write-ups in the Weston Forum. Bernie Park, always there to help, is again chairing rentals, thank you Bernie! Sponsorship... and Mercedes Velgot and Cheryl Bryant are on the job; check out the WWL website and tell anyone you do business with, friends with businesses, the guy at the wine store...download the brochure and support the CHB (lots of advertising included). Staffing, so important to the success of the event, is chaired by Kathleen O'Connell...call or email her with your availability, it will make her job easier, and you'll get first pick of openings! Last chair (alphabetically), but certainly not least, is Kerry Scaramuzza, who also is a repeat performer in chairing tickets, which you should all have received by now...if not, please call her ASAP.

Which brings us to what the **entire membership** can do to best support the CHB--**please try to sell your tickets**, as many as you can! Talk to friends at pre-school, Hurlbutt, WIS, out-of-towners...everyone, and we mean everyone, has a wonderful time at the CHB, and this year our beneficiaries are close to home: Kids in Crisis, Alcohol and Drug Awareness Program (ADAP), and Weston Education Foundation. Ticket sales and sponsorship are critical to the success of this time-honored community-wide event, so do not underestimate how much you all can help!

Thanks so much, look forward to seeing you in December!

Stephanie Young, Courtney Zabicki, Melissa Walker

It may seem a little early. However, we need everyone's help in order to make the Spring Fundraiser a success. The Great Gatsby Gala is on Saturday, April 10th. We are looking for volunteers. We are in need of help with staffing, auction, program, & sponsorship. If you're ready to sign on, please contact Nanette Giordano at [nanette@giordanoct.com](mailto:nanette@giordanoct.com) or 227-7627 or Kit Woolverton at [kitwool@yahoo.com](mailto:kitwool@yahoo.com) or 227-7879.

Thank you in advance.  
Your Co-Chairs,  
Nanette & Kit

## Norwalk Hospital Pediatric Library Book Drive

Do you have gently used or new children's books available to donate to a new pediatric library at Norwalk Hospital? This is a great way to make a hospital stay more comfortable for sick children. The drive is sponsored by Brady's Smile (see below).

The WWL is assisting this organization by collecting books from members this November and December.

Please **drop off books at the home of Heather Pemberton Levy (174 Davis Hill Road, box on FRONT PORCH) or bring them to the November or December meeting.**

This is also an opportunity to have your child help you pick out and purchase his or her favorite book for a "child in the hospital" and give back during the season of giving.

### About the Book Drive and Brady's Smile

from Anne Hinton, co-founder, Brady's Smile...

A few weeks ago I met with Dr. Vicki Smetak at Norwalk Hospital. I am the Co-Founder and President of Brady's Smile, a 501(c)(3) children's charity based in Fairfield. My husband and I created Brady's Smile after our son, Brady, passed away at 2 years old after spending over a year of his life in newborn and pediatric intensive care units. Our mission is to help make life in the ICU easier for children and their families and we have 4 programs established at 9 children's hospitals across 5 states to do just this.

The reason I am approaching you is that we are looking to build a children's library at Norwalk Hospital's pediatric floor. After my meeting with Dr. Smetak, it was clear that their hospital could use a library that would benefit all of the families and children who are patients there. Our goal is to hold several children's book drives over November and December, and ultimately build and open the library in January. Norwalk Hospital already has established the space for the library, we just need to fill it with books!