

# Southeastern Connecticut WOMEN'S NETWORK NEWS



Volume 31, Number 9, July 2018

## Upcoming Programs

### August 15

#### *Thinking Outside the Box - Gregg Barratt*

Gregg T. Barratt is an experienced Human Resources leader and a nationally recognized professional in the training and organizational development field. He is certified in the use of the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, The Career Architect, Situational Leadership, Thomas Kilman Conflict, and in the Rummier-Brache Process Mapping Method, as well as in an extensive range of professional and personal development programs. He is also certified as an alternative dispute mediator.

Gregg is highly proficient in developing and implementing innovative recruitment and retention strategies. ■

### September 19

#### *Back to Business: Networking Event*

### October 17

#### *Ground Breaking Ladies - Julia Chase*

### **Membership Renewal Time 2018-2019! (for most members)**

**Renew Now!** The renewal date for most members is July 1st. Please click, login and renew today. [www.sectwomensnetwork.org](http://www.sectwomensnetwork.org)

## **July 2018 Luncheon**

### **First Annual SECT Women's Network Picnic**

**Join us** Wednesday, July 18, 11:30 am at Langley's Restaurant at Great Neck Country Club for our monthly luncheon meeting.

Food, fun, prizes and networking! A summer picnic is being planned including a cookout and special activities. Grilled chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers and a salad bar. Bring a friend to be entered into a special drawing! Join us for this *first ever event!*

Photographer **Sheree Wujtecwicz** will be taking professional heads shots at this luncheon. A perfect time to update your business image. Photo is \$26.59, tax included. Credit cards accepted.

Network attendees should arrive at **Langley's Restaurant** in Water-

ford at 11:30 am for registration and networking, lunch at 12 noon. The public is welcome. **Reservations are required.**



**All attendees: please make your reservations** or cancellations for the Wednesday, **July 18** luncheon online 24/7 **by 12 midnight, Sunday, July 15.** [www.sectwomensnetwork.org/events](http://www.sectwomensnetwork.org/events)

Cash or checks for **\$25** made out to the Women's Network will be collected at the door. **Reservations after 12 midnight on Sunday will pay \$30. Reservation no-shows and late cancellations will be billed.**

## **Network Woman of the Year 2018**

Susan Dombrowski introduced Emma Palzere-Rae as the SECT Women's Network Woman of the Year at the June 20th luncheon.

"Good afternoon, I am Susan Dombrowski, the 2017 Network Woman of the Year. As such, it was my pleasure to lead this year's selection committee, which is made up of prior recipients of this award (no good deed goes unpunished!). At this time, would



the past Women of the Years please stand and be recognized? You're all amazing, and we have all learned so much by watching you. The committee has selected as the 2018 Woman of the Year...Emma Palzere-Rae. "Emma is a dramatic artist; she is an actress, a creative director, and an educator. Emma is an activist; the original social justice warrior - for women, for the arts, for history, for all of us. And Emma is a commu-

*Continued on page 2*

**Woman of the Year...***from page 1*

nity builder; through effective networking she links the Eastern Connecticut business community with the non-profit sector, and brings an appreciation and understanding of how arts, music and drama can improve the well being of employees and make a positive impact to the bottom line.

"In 1989, Emma founded Be Well Productions, producing, performing, and touring several critically acclaimed one-woman plays as diverse as Emily Dickinson, Gilda Radner and a largely unknown presidential contender. In the pieces that Emma researches, writes, and performs, she portrays women in history, bringing history alive. Since 2000, she has toured her play "Aunt Hattie's House" about the life of Harriet Beecher Stowe, one of our country's foremost women writers who lived in a time when that was practically unheard of. In a recent work, she is author and actress of "The Woodhull Project" where she depicts another hugely important person, Victoria Woodhull, who pioneered being a leader by being the first woman to run for President in 1872, 50 years before women had the right to vote! Emma has appeared in regional, stock and off-Broadway theater, as well as in film, television and radio.

"Many of us know her through her current work with Ignite Thames River and previously with Safe Futures, but her community involvement and ongoing mentoring of others is much more expansive than that. Emma also uses her creativity in acting and playwriting, as well as her skills in public relations, communications, and development in community outreach. For decades, she has blended her passion for artistic creation and social justice in raising community awareness and donor funds.

"Emma currently serves as Adjunct Professor at UCONN's Department of Dramatic Arts teaching arts administration classes. She also serves as Co-Director of Mystic Seaport's Lantern Light Tours. Prior to these positions, Emma served as Director of Development and Communications for Safe Futures in New London, where she worked tirelessly to create awareness around issues of domestic violence and sexual assault, and to help solidify the organi-

*President's Message***Looking Ahead!**

I am very excited to begin my term as President of the Southeastern Connecticut Women's Network!

I would like to begin by expressing gratitude on behalf of myself and the members of last year's board to Patti Rodgers-Longo, our outgoing Network president. Last year Patti carried the board through the final stages of a two year upgrade to the Network's online and digital systems. This was no easy task! I would also like to thank Kathy Greene, our immediate past president, for her continued dedication and support over the previous year. It has been an honor and a wonderful experience working with these two lovely women.

This year, along with our Vice President, Angela McGuirk, I hope to bring renewed energy to our mission of promoting and encouraging women both professionally and personally. We will continue to build

upon and expand the Network's strong foundation, as we strive to help women make an impact in their homes, workplaces and local communities.

I encourage all members to reach out to me, or any of our board members, with recommendations and ideas for how the Board of Directors of the Network can better serve your needs. We want to hear from you! I also invite you to become involved with the Network's committees. There is truly no better way to make the most out of your membership than by joining in. You won't find a better group of folks to work with! Our email address is [SECTWNBIZ@gmail.com](mailto:SECTWNBIZ@gmail.com). Please, don't be a stranger!

Have a beautiful day!

Sincerely,  
President

Kate Bellandese

zation's existence in serving the residents of Southeast Connecticut.

"Emma's community outreach and impact is not only in the arts. For ex-

ample, she also devotes time and resources to her church, the Regional Multicultural Magnet schools, Soropti-

*continued on page 3*

**Save the Date**

**First Annual SECT Women's Network Picnic**

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## Woman of the Year...from page 2

mists International and numerous professional organizations, such as Dramatists Guild, Actors Equity Association and SAG-AFTRA.

"As we learned when she served as a Network board member and Public Relations chair...Emma is a woman you can always count on when you are in a pinch. She was instrumental in helping us to organize and fundraise for the 2104 Safe Futures brick drive and permanent endowment fund, a totally unplanned but strong grassroots Network member effort that grew to a fund of over \$50,000. She always brings a special point of view to any situation or cause. Emma's caring, kind, supportive, creative energies have touched the lives of so many professional men and women seeking to further their careers, whether in the arts or in our business community, that it would be impossible

to count them all. Her stated purpose and mission in life is to do work for social change – especially for women, however, she provides guidance, creative energy and tireless support for anyone who is in need of help. She is a network unto herself because she truly cares about others.

"Ladies and gentlemen, the 2018 Southeastern CT Women's Network Woman of the Year is Emma Palzere-Rae!" ■

## Network Mastermind Groups

The concept of the Mastermind Group originated in the early 1900's in Napoleon Hill's book "Think and Grow Rich." He defined the Mastermind principle as: "coordination of knowledge and effort by two or more people, who work toward a definite purpose in the spirit of harmony."

There is synergy of energy, commitment and excitement that participants bring to Mastermind, by supporting each other to achieve professional objectives, brainstorm ideas, and support each other with

## Renew or Purchase Ads Now 2018-2019!

### Renew or Purchase Ads Now!

The renewal date for most ads is July 1st. Please click, login and renew or purchase new ads today! There are a variety of website and newsletter ads to choose from. Click and login [www.sectwomensnetwork.org/events](http://www.sectwomensnetwork.org/events)

total honesty, respect and compassion. Mastermind participants act as catalysts for professional growth.

Participation in the Network Mastermind program is voluntary and free as part of your Network membership. It is a growing, evolving program intended to give members an opportunity to connect and support each other even more intimately in achieving personal and professional objectives.

Mastermind groups meet once a month. Pavé Group meets the second Monday of the month from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. in Waterford. A second Mastermind group has formed and meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 a.m. in Gales Ferry.

*continued on page 4*

## Grow Your Business with Network Advertising

**New advertising opportunities** have opened up with the creation of our new website system!

Now members can take advantage of the **new economical rates** to help **"Grow Your Business!"**

**Rates have been cut in half** for newsletter ads and website ads. All ad rates listed are for one year.

**Newsletter advertising:** \$100 small ad and \$200 large ad.

**Website advertising:** \$275 small side ad or a bottom banner; \$550 for a large side ad.

**Package deals** will still be offered when purchasing multi media ads (i.e. newsletter & website) = 20% off.

All single ads and package deals must be prepaid.

**Members can login to view and/or purchase ads:** [www.sectwomensnetwork.org/events](http://www.sectwomensnetwork.org/events)


Ads will be published after they are purchased.

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## WE NEED YOU

### We need you!

Join the Public Relations Committee! Calling all Social Media gurus! Do you have a strength in Instagram,

Facebook, Twitter or LinkedIn? We need your help on the Public Relations Committee. We also need help with Press Releases, Chamber Updates, and interaction with other media outlets. Pick one and volunteer your assistance! Contact: Denise Howard [bestwellness4you@gmail.com](mailto:bestwellness4you@gmail.com).

# Member Benefits

The SECT Women's Network provides great value to its members!

## As a Network member you may:

- **Attend and enjoy** a deliciously prepared lunch at monthly meetings in an uplifting atmosphere for a very reasonable luncheon fee.
- **Take advantage** of the dynamic speaker program at the monthly luncheons that provides valuable information, networking and entertainment.
- **Choose** to attend Network Mastermind Group meetings – be mentored and mentor others.
- **Display** marketing materials on the member marketing table at the monthly luncheons.
- **Enter** our monthly luncheon drawings to win free advertising.
- **Receive** our monthly newsletter.
- **Be listed** in the Network Directory and gain "Featured Member" exposure.
- **Increase** business with affordable advertising and marketing opportunities.
- **Connect** with others on a personal and business level and form mentoring relationships.
- **Gain** professional skills and leader-

ship experience.

- **Give back** to the community through supporting Safe Futures with donations of food and gifts for use by residents of both the Genesis House Women's Shelter and Phoenix House transitional housing.
- **Support** our student scholarship program. The Network awards annual scholarships to students needing financial assistance to continue their education and has helped students from each of the three local public colleges/universities: The University of Connecticut at Avery Point, Three Rivers Community College, and Eastern Connecticut State University.
- **Get involved** by volunteering on a committee and help to create the Network of the future. The Network needs your talents.
- **Enjoy a Lifetime of Fantastic Friends, Fun and Fulfillment!** ■

## Mastermind Groups

...from page 2

Those interested in Mastermind are encouraged to visit a group meeting, an RSVP is required.

For more information or to visit the Monday evening Mastermind group, please contact Judy Ricketts-White [jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net).

For information or to visit the Wednesday morning group, contact Angela McGuirk [angela\\_mcguirk@navyfederal.org](mailto:angela_mcguirk@navyfederal.org).

## June Drawings

Claire Silva's name was drawn for the Ha Ha Lunch – and Guess What? She was there! Lisa Giordano won the cash and donated it back to the Network. Michelle Dempsey won the *Spotlight* article and Brittni Oxendine won the *Resident* article. Julie Brousseau won the Cameo Table to showcase *Hourglass Insurance Services* at the July 18th luncheon.

## Budget Approved for 2018-2019 Includes Dues Increase

The newly approved budget for 2018-2019 includes a dues increase. Membership dues will be \$95 per year as of July 1, 2018. The increase will allow the Network to continue providing quality programs and lunch for our members and guests.

## Thank Our Advertisers

by patronizing their businesses.

## \*Members Enter to Win Free Advertising

The drawing basket for free advertising will be placed at the registration table. Members only may place their business card in the basket for a chance to win free advertising. Attend a luncheon and enter to win!  
*Must be present to win.*

## Tech Tips

When you register and pay online for a luncheon and the WA system is telling you that you owe for more than that luncheon fee.

1. Click "cancel" (out of the payment screen);
2. On the next screen, click "pay

invoice online", the button on the right, then the system will allow you to pay only that luncheon invoice; or

3. You can go to your profile by clicking on your name in the upper right corner. Click the far right tab "payments/invoices", scroll down and click on the invoice you want to pay.





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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

## Featured Business at Cameo Table

Julie Brousseau will be showcasing *Hourglass Insurance Services* at the July 18, 2018 luncheon. Please stop by the table to meet Julie and learn more about the products and services she offers, [www.HIS-biz.com](http://www.HIS-biz.com).



[Like us on Facebook](#)

## Join and Post to the Network's New Facebook Group Page

One fairly untapped member benefit is the Network Facebook Group page. We encourage you to share your business and personal news on the Network Group page. Members must post their event or information on the Network Facebook Group page themselves. If you have questions about how to post, contact Denise Howard, Publicity Chair [bestwellness4you@gmail.com](mailto:bestwellness4you@gmail.com).

*Email information to Judy to be included in the upcoming newsletter, [jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net).*

## Network Board Meeting Friday, July 13

The next Network Board Meeting is Friday, July 13, 8 am, at Groton Inn & Suites, 99 Gold Star Highway, Groton, Connecticut. Attendees must be prompt for admittance, door is kept locked. All members are welcome to attend.

**Copy Deadline** is the 20th of the month to appear in the next month's issue. Email copy to Editor Judy Ricketts-White at [jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net). The SECT Women's Network reserves the right to edit copy submitted for inclusion in the newsletter.

*For more Network information and articles see our website: [www.sectwomensnetwork.org](http://www.sectwomensnetwork.org)*

**All Attendees:** make reservations online for the Wednesday, July 18, 2018 luncheon at Langley's Restaurant, Great Neck Country Club in Waterford, CT at [www.sectwomensnetwork.org/events](http://www.sectwomensnetwork.org/events) no later than 12 midnight, Sunday, July 15, Reservations are required.

Reservation no-shows and late cancellations will be billed.



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