

# Southeastern Connecticut WOMEN'S NETWORK NEWS



Volume 29, Number 5, March 2016



## Save the Date

*"Through the Years"*

**40th Anniversary Celebration**

**September 30, 2016**

**Friday, 6-10 pm**

**at Langley's**

*at Great Neck Country Club*

**Tickets are available to purchase at  
the monthly luncheons.**

**\$40 per person**

**Cash or check only**

**Please see Deb McGrath**

**To purchase Sponsorships or Ads  
for this event, please see the  
Schedule Form on the fourth page.**

## Upcoming Programs

### April 20

#### **Tourism and Marketing**

Join network members from the travel, tourism, lodging, dining, marketing and sales categories for a panel presentation during our April 20th luncheon. You'll learn about the importance of tourism in our region and the specialties of some of our members in these fields. You'll also receive take-away lit-

## **March Luncheon**

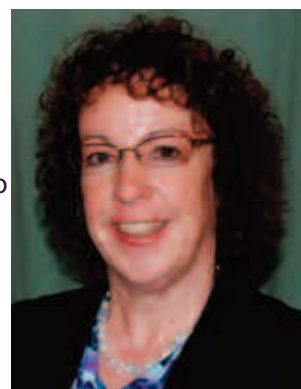
# Information: What is it Good For?

**Join us** Wednesday, **March 16** at 11:30 am at Langley's Restaurant at Great Neck Country Club for our monthly luncheon meeting.

Karen Martin is a multifaceted business and technology professional with broad experience in finance, accounting, and information systems. She has worked in for-profits and not-for-profits and, in both public-sector and private-sector organizations. She is a versatile strategist with a business focus first, using technology, process and systems perspective to enable efficient and effective business. Karen holds a BA in Economics, a Master of Science in Computer Information Systems and a Masters in Business Administration with a management concentration. As the Business Whisperer for Martin Business Advisors, LLC, she seeks to bring that experience, expertise and perspective to small businesses needing assistance with process, strategy, planning, perspective, and business systems.

Member Karen Martin, also known as "The Business Whisperer," will be explaining ways to approach information and communication that may assist the way we work, and making use of differ-

ent lenses and perspectives to view and present information to assist and enhance business processes, objectives and goals.



Network members and guests are encouraged to arrive at **Langley's Restaurant** in Waterford at 11:30 am for registration and networking, lunch at 12 noon. The public is welcome. **Reservations are required. Please make your reservations** or cancellations for the Wednesday, **March 16** luncheon online 24/7 at [www.sectwomensnetwork.org](http://www.sectwomensnetwork.org) by **10 am, Monday, March 14.**

Cash or checks for **\$22** made out to the Women's Network will be collected at the door. **Reservations after 10 am on Monday will pay \$27. Reservation no-shows and late cancellations will be billed.**

erature and the chance to win some great prizes from panel members.

### May 18, 2016

#### **Smart Money for Today and Tomorrow**

The Program Committee is requesting members in the Financial Planning and

Insurance field to fill out an application on our website to participate in the May 18th luncheon as a vendor (vendors will share a table) and/or a member of a three person panel. The three panelists will be selected by the committee to cover one area of our members' financial life. The three

*continued on page 2*

**Smart Money...***from page 1*

areas are: ages 20-35; ages 35-50; and ages 50 and up. Which area in 7-8 minutes, can you give practical, useful information to help that age group? [Click here for application.](#) Applications must be in by 3/22/16. The Program Committee will make decisions at their March 23rd meeting. ■

## Network Woman of the Year – A Call for Nominations

The Woman of the Year Award is an annual award. It will be presented this year at the June Luncheon to a member of the Network who meets the following criteria:

1. Candidates must be active members of the Southeastern Connecticut Women's Network, attending luncheons and participating in other functions.
2. Candidates may be former, but not current members of the Board of Directors or its Executive Board.
3. Candidates must be active in their community and within other professional organizations.
4. Candidates must express an interest in helping others achieve professional status and public exposure through networking in the community.

Please submit nominations by April 30, 2016 to:  
Louisa Ketron  
c/o SECT Women's Network  
PO Box 1448, New London, CT 06320  
for more information 860-395-7967,  
[LouisaKet@comcast.net](mailto:LouisaKet@comcast.net)

### Testimonials in Honor of Our 40th Anniversary

Being selected as a scholarship recipient by the SECT Women's Network was a wonderful surprise and the scholarship allowed me to complete my classes on time and within budget.

*Continued on page 6*

*President's Message*

## Plans for Our 40th Anniversary Celebration

I can hardly believe that we are turning the calendar page to March 2016 but we are, and I have to report that the many projects your Board of Directors is working on are coming along very nicely. As we undertook celebrating 40 years of this great organization, we also cast a vision for the future of the SECT Women's Network.

We have a number of younger women adding their gifts and talents to our group, so we thought it important to analyze the ways we did things and how we can make them more user friendly to those who are joining us. We want a vibrant, relevant organization for the next 40! Stay tuned!

Speaking about the 40th celebration, thank you Denise Howard for taking us down memory lane at each luncheon, the music, the movies, the history, all of it helped to shape who we are. The 40th Committee headed up by Deb McGrath and Millie Divine has asked us to save a handful of dates: March 18, June 13 and September 30,

as we commemorate this milestone.

The next one is very special! Our own Emma Palzere-Rae is performing a one woman show, *Aunt Hattie's House* featuring the one and only Harriet Beecher Stowe at Filomena's in Waterford on Friday, March 18th. There will be a networking happy hour from 6-7ish with the show beginning at about 7:30. The donation asked is just \$10 which will be split between Safe Futures and our scholarship fund. We can order drinks and food off the menu. The location is beautiful, the food is really good and some of the best women in Southeastern Connecticut will be together! RSVP [here](#) as soon as possible since Filomena's has reserved space for us on one of their busiest nights. Please invite your friends!

Thank you for being a part of the SECT Women's Network and for joining us in celebrating the last 40 years as we prepare to leap into the next 40!

*Phyllis Nelson*  
President

### Special 40th Anniversary Event

**Aunt Hattie's House, March 18 – Emma Palzere-Rae,**

*Playwright and Actor*

Emma will be doing a fundraiser for our 40th Anniversary. The setting will be: 1864, Oakholm, Harriet Beecher Stowe's new home in Hartford, Connecticut. Harriet has returned to the land of her childhood an international celebrity, looking for quieter times. The audience is invited to assume the role of a biographer, just one of the curious who still seek her out.

Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811-1896) is best known for her influential novel



*Uncle Tom's Cabin*, despite penning over 30 other novels. As the primary breadwinner in her family, she was truly one of the first "working moms."

Emma Palzere-Rae has appeared in regional, stock and off-Broadway theater, as well as in film, television and radio. She has been portraying Harriet Beecher Stowe since 2000, when "Aunt Hattie's House" premiered at the Heartland Chautauqua, touring throughout Missouri. She founded Be Well Productions in 1989, touring several critically acclaimed one-woman plays on characters as diverse as Emily Dickinson and Gilda Radner. In 1990, she banded together with other female solo artists to create New York City's *Womenkind Festival*. A graduate of Emerson College, Ms.

*Continued on page 6*

Southeastern CT Women's NETWORK



*is pleased to present*

# *Aunt Hattie's House*

Written and Performed by Emma Palzere-Rae

*Friday, March 18th*

*7:00 p.m.*

Networking begins at 6:00 pm.  
Limited menu and cash bar available.

Travel back to 1865 and find out what compelled **Harriet Beecher Stowe** to pen *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, the novel that changed our nation's history.



**Filomena's**  
**262 Boston Post Road**  
**Waterford**

*Suggested Donation ~ \$10.00*

Proceeds to benefit the Network's Scholarship program & The Pathway to a Safe Future campaign.

*The Public Welcome*

For information / RSVP required:

[www.SECTWomensNetwork.org/calendar.php](http://www.SECTWomensNetwork.org/calendar.php) or <http://bit.ly/AuntHattiesHouse>

## **SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S NETWORK MEMBER SPONSORSHIP & AD SCHEDULE 40TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR-LONG CELEBRATION**

### **\$1,000 Sponsorship Benefits:**

- Priority reserved table for 10 people at Gala with business name on table
- Company logo displayed on PowerPoint presentations during events
- Priority recognition with logo in publications and marketing materials
- Company logo on event program
- Full page ad in event program (5" W x 8" H)

### **ADS:**

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| • Full page (5" W x 8" H) Camera ready     | \$80.00 |
| • One-half page (5" W x 4" H) Camera ready | \$40.00 |
| • Business Card size Camera ready          | \$25.00 |

**Business Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Person:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Business phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: All ads and sponsorships DEADLINE: September 9, 2016**

**Checks Payable to: SECT Women's Network**



**Send to: Mildred E. Devine**  
**Box 42**  
**Quaker Hill, CT 06375-0042**  
**Email: [mildred.devine@snet.net](mailto:mildred.devine@snet.net)**  
**Telephone: 860-442-2030**

## A Look Back at the Year 1981



In our journey through the years, we now jump to the year 1981. The SECT Women’s Network has now been an official organization with a board of directors for three years, and continues to grow.

### In the United States...

- Ronald Reagan took the oath as 40th President of the United States, with Vice President George H.W. Bush.
- John Hinckley Jr. attempted to assassinate President Reagan, wounding him, along with press secretary James Brady and two law enforcement officers.
- Later that year, President Reagan nominated Judge Sandra Day O'Connor, 51, of Arizona, as the first woman on US Supreme Court.
- In a bold move, air traffic controllers went on strike, disrupting thousands of flights. The government dismissed the strikers for their actions.
- At the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Kansas City, the aerial walkways in the lobby of the hotel collapsed, resulting in 114 dead and 216 injured.

### In World News...

- The US-Iran agreement freed 52 hostages who had been held in Tehran since 1979.
- Pope John Paul II was shot and wounded in Saint Peter’s Square in Vatican City.
- Israel annexed the disputed Golan Heights territory.
- Egyptian president Anwar El Sadat was assassinated by Islamic extremists during a military parade in Cairo.

### In Sports...

Oakland beat Philadelphia, 27-10 in the Super Bowl and the LA Dodgers beat the NY Yankees, 4-2, in the World Series.

### In Entertainment...

- MTV went on the air running around the clock music videos, debuting with "Video Killed the Radio Star."
- The Supreme Court ruled to allow television cameras in the courtroom.
- The video game Pac-Man was a big craze as Pac-Man-mania swept the country.
- Popular movies that year were Raiders of the Lost Ark, Chariots of Fire, On Golden Pond, Reds, and Atlantic City. The movie "Ordinary People" took the Oscar for Best Picture.
- At the Grammys, Christopher Cross swept the awards for Record of the Year and Song of the Year "Sailing", as well as Album of The Year, "Christopher Cross".

### And, finally, in Science...

- The auto-immune disease AIDS was first identified.
- IBM introduced its first personal computer, running the Microsoft Disk Operating System (MS-DOS).
- Europe's first high-speed passenger train, the 236-M.P.H. TGV, began operating out of Lyons, France.
- The FDA approved the use of the artificial sweetener aspartame (NutraSweet). At the time, this was considered the new safe alternative to "Sweet & Low".

**These were just a few of the significant events in 1981. More to follow next month as we journey "Through the Years"... ■**

**Aunt Hattie's House**...from pg.2

Palzere-Rae is an active member of Actor's Equity, SAG-AFTRA and the Dramatists Guild. Currently, she serves as the Director of Development and Communications for Safe Futures (the former Women's Center of Southeastern CT). She is the former Executive Director of the Chorus of Westerly, and former Artistic Director for New York City's touring company PlaysforLiving.

Networking begins at 6:00 PM. Suggested donation: \$10.00. Reservations are required and may be made online at <http://sectwomensnetwork.org/reservations-aunt-hattie.php>. Proceeds benefit the Network's Scholarship program & The Pathway to a Safe Future campaign. The public is welcome.

Please see the flyer on page 3 for more information. ■



### 40th Celebration Tickets

Tickets are available to purchase at the monthly luncheons.

**\$40 per person, cash or check only**

Please see Deb McGrath

**Featured Business at Cameo Table**

Callie Manwaring will be showcasing her business at the March 16, 2016 luncheon. Please stop by the table to learn more about Cumulus, and visit [www.cumulus.com](http://www.cumulus.com)

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**Testimonials**...from page 2

I was able to fulfill my goal of graduating after many years of study while raising a family and working full time. As an adult student I was able to apply my learnings from work to my studies and vice versa. In addition, I met three other women at UCONN that have become lifelong friends. Thanks to SECT Women's Network for assisting me in my goals!

– Sharon Weiss

Receiving a scholarship from the Women's Network was a great financial help during a time of personal upheaval for me. In some ways though, what was even more important was the affirmation that the scholarship represented. It reinforced my emerging belief in myself to have a group of women of diverse backgrounds, occupations, and talents support my efforts. I cannot overstate what an, "Attagirl! You can do this!", meant to me as an older student. Thank you, and congratulations to the Women's Network! This group is a great asset to Southeastern Connecticut!

– Georgiana McKinney

**Please remember to post your events on the Network Facebook page, then email information to Judy to be included in the newsletter, [jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net).**



[Like us on Facebook](#)

**Posting to the SECT Women's Network Facebook Page**

One fairly untapped member benefit is the Network Facebook page. We want to hear from you. We encourage you to share your business and personal news on the Network page. Members must post their event or information on the Network Facebook page themselves, then their news will be shared and will reach our 800+ friends. If you have questions about how to post, contact Denise Howard, our Publicity Chair [bestwellness4you@gmail.com](mailto:bestwellness4you@gmail.com).

**NETWORK News Display Ads**

Advertising in the SECT Women's NETWORK News is an economical way to reach a select group of professional business people.

Rates: NETWORK members: \$15/month; \$40 for 3 months. Nonmembers: \$25/month; \$70 for 3 months. Ad size: 2" h x 3.5" w. Double-size ads 4" w x 3.5" h, double the price. Visit [www.sectwomensnetwork.org](http://www.sectwomensnetwork.org) for more information on advertising opportunities with the Network.

Contact Judy Ricketts-White for more information, [jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwhite5506@sbcglobal.net) 860-439-1854.

## New Members

**Heather Cini Roberts**, Norcom Mortgage – The Diamond Team, 157 West Main Street, Niantic, CT 06357, Phone: 850-625-5117, Email: [heather.roberts@norcom-usa.com](mailto:heather.roberts@norcom-usa.com) Website: [www.norcom-usa.com](http://www.norcom-usa.com)

A graduate of Providence College, Heather has worked in the mortgage banking field for 15 years. She is currently employed by the Diamond Team of Prospect Mortgage, and has previously worked for major banks and mortgage companies. Heather has a strong sense of community spirit and commitment to excellent customer service.

**Andrea Willets**, The Revelation Project, 25 Main Street, North Stomington, CT 06359, Phone: 850-460-9924, Email: [awillets3@gmail.com](mailto:awillets3@gmail.com) Website: [www.therevelationproject.me](http://www.therevelationproject.me)

*Second Business:* Andrea Willets Productions, same contacts Website: <https://about.me/awillets3>

Andrea is a certified Professional Co-Active Coach, Founder of Andrea Willets Productions and Co-Founder of The Revelation Project (TRP). She helps individuals and teams, non-profits reveal their best working relationships – women to reveal their greatest selves. Between her coaching practice and TRP she performs a one woman show, “Sorry, NO MORE!” inspiring women of all ages to stop apologizing for their lives!



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## February Drawings

Judith Gruber's name was drawn for the Ha Ha Lunch – and Ha Ha, she wasn't there! Kathy Greene won the cash and donated it back to the Network. Heather Roberts won the *Spotlight* article and Susan Shepherd won the *Resident* article. Callie Manwaring won the Cameo Table to showcase her business at the March 2016 luncheon.

## Members on the Move

**Ann Irr Dagle** announces that The Brian T. Dagle Memorial Foundation is offering a new support group. This group is for parents who have experienced the devastating loss of a child. It has been said that the loss of a child is a loss like no other. We are here to tell you that you are not alone. Our group offers a private, supportive environment where we will all work to navigate this journey of hope and healing. Monthly meetings are in East Lyme from 6:30-8:00pm. For more information or to register, call Ann at 860-625-5280 or email [ann@brianshealinghearts.org](mailto:ann@brianshealinghearts.org).

## Remember to Check Out Luncheon Photos on Facebook

See photos of your friends having fun at the luncheons on our Facebook page and also on our website.

Many thanks to Photographer Sheree Sirpenksi for taking these memorable photos.



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Do these challenges sound familiar?  
Decreasing sales and eroding profits...  
Disorganized or nonexistent systems...  
Underperforming team...  
No strategic plan...  
Not enough time...

Find out how coaching can help with your business challenges.  
Call for your complimentary coaching session today!

**Advertising Deadline** is the 20th of the month to appear in the next month's issue. The SECT Women's Network reserves the right to edit copy submitted for inclusion in the newsletter.

## Network Board Meeting Friday, March 11

The next Network Board Meeting is Friday, March 11, 8 am, at the Hampton Inn, 300 Long Hill Road, Groton, Connecticut. All members are welcome to attend.

**Make reservations online for the Wednesday, March 16 luncheon at Langley's Restaurant, Great Neck Country Club in Waterford, CT at [www.sectwomensnetwork.org](http://www.sectwomensnetwork.org) no later than 10 am, Monday, March 14 Reservations are required.**

**Reservation no-shows and late cancellations will be billed.**