



**NETWORK OF
EXECUTIVE
WOMEN INC.**

Contact

Women Helping Women Succeed

August 2002

From the President~

We are now in mid stream of the hot summer weather and at the last Executive Board meeting, the members were hot, hot, HOT with all kinds of creative ideas for this year's activities and meeting programs. While most of us are sweltering in the heat, the Board is cooling off with thoughts of what to do for the winter holiday party. In the works, right now, is a tremendous fall event for the month of October – A GLAMOURFEST. This event will combine our usual Fashion Show with many other features, such as makeup makeovers, new hair designs, manicures and pedicures, hand and body massages and of course, jewelry and accessories. The evening promises not only to be filled with glamour but many delectable gourmet delights. Stay tuned for more details as to the date and place.

Also in the works, is securing Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro as a guest speaker for the Glamourfest. As we all know, Rosa is all for women business owners and providing affordable education for women so that they can obtain good employment and provide a high quality of life for themselves and their families – everything that Network strongly supports.

To cool off, think of winter. The Executive Board did when considering a Wine Seminar for the holiday party. But if that thought sends chills down your spine, don't worry, because there was even an idea presented for our Spring Symposium.

So, even though, it might be hot and humid outside, inside the conference room at Laurel Gardens where the Executive Board meets, there is a breath of fresh air from all the exciting ideas and events that are being planned for this year. I am truly blessed as your President to have such a wonderful and dynamic Executive Board.

And now I am asking all of you, to do your part and truly support your organization by attending the events and luncheons. Also to support each other, not just by using each other's services, but by referring business to the members. Remember our motto: "WOMEN HELPING WOMEN TO SUCCEED."

That now brings me to my last thought. Attached to this Contact, is an article that was reprinted from the New Haven Register Section–Milford Sunday. I was truly moved and inspired when I read this article about our own member, Pat McCarthy. It is not only admirable of her, but my heart went out to Lubov, thinking of her returning to spend the rest of her life in Siberia.

Therefore, I am personally, and in behalf of Network, asking all of you to reach in your hearts and make a donation to help keep Lubov with our Network member, Pat McCarthy, as an example of how Network does help each other. Also, please bring to the August meeting or send to Pat, any basic supplies such as shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, band aids and toilet paper. I would like to thank all of you, in advance, for

Luncheon Meeting

August 6, 2002

Aldario's • 12:15 PM

Networking Workshop

**Learn how to give your 60 second
elevator commercial.**

Conducted by:

**Kim Kasparian, owner of Imagine...
and business coach**

Active audience participation

New luncheon format introduced

**\$15.00 per person advanced reservations
\$20.00 per person non-reserved luncheon seat**

*(Please have check written out before coming
to meeting. If you are paying cash, please have the
exact amount. Thank you.)*

**Members with email: Please RSVP to our website:
www.networkofexecutivewomen.org
Or call Bonnie Clark at 203-878-2479**

your support and generosity.

I hope to see all of you at the August luncheon. Consider this meeting as our summer training session to get us ready for doing business in the fall. Kim Kasparian promises to deliver some great ideas so that even the shyest of us, will be excited to give her 60 second commercial. Also, this will be the first luncheon that we try out our new format of "POT LUCK" seating and we need all of you there for feedback.

As a final reminder, we have reached the deadline for membership renewals. Anyone who would like to be included in the 2002-2003 Directory, please bring your renewal application and check to the luncheon. The Directory will be going to print, and no renewal applications will be included in the Directory after the August luncheon.

May the rest of your summer be filled with days of sunshine and hearts filled with warmth. And if you are walking on the beach, and see a starfish, please throw it back into the sea.

Harriet C. Haggerty

Reprinted with permission from the Milford Sunday Section of the New Haven Register, July 14, 2002.

Russian Orphan Staying with Milford Family

by Terri yannetti, Milford Sunday Editor

Although Patricia and Eric McCarthy have only known 9 year old Lubov for two weeks, they have already lost their hearts to the petite Russian orphan, who crossed 12 time zones to reach Milford from Eastern Siberia.

"Lubov means 'love' in Russian," explained Patricia. "We couldn't help but want to adopt her, to invite love into our home."

Lubov was one of 17 Russian orphans to arrive in Connecticut June 27 through a program called Bridge of Hope.

The 10 boys and seven girls, ranging in age from 4 to 14, will stay in this country for five weeks, living with families interested in adoption and attending area day camps.

"The hope is that a bond will form with the children," said Eric. "But they'll return to their Russian orphanages July 31," he said.

To adopt Lubov, the McCarthys will have to travel to Krasnoyarsk to seek approval from both American and Russian authorities. The cost will be close to \$20,000, Eric said.

"We want the adoption process to go through as quickly as possible," said Patricia. "We want Lubov back with us before Christmas, because in that part of Siberia, it gets so cold in November that hair breaks off and eye glasses crack. If we don't finalize things by November, we won't be able to continue the process until the spring, because the orphanage closes for a time."

Lubov doesn't speak English, but Patricia described her as bright, affectionate and outgoing. "We have a picture book of Russian to English and English to Russian words, so we do a lot of pointing to understand each other."

During the day, Lubov attends a camp run by the Milford Recreation Department with Cassie, the McCarthy's 10 year old daughter. But evenings and weekends, the family enjoy trips to places such as the Beardseely Park Zoo in Bridgeport, Mystic Aquarium, and area beaches.

"At the zoo, we point to the animals and say their names in English and Lubov repeats the word. Then she says it in Russian, so we all learn something," said Patricia.

The blue-eyed, brunette with a pixie hair cut is extremely underweight, said Eric. "She's 46 inches tall and 46 pounds, so we're doing our best to feed her."

The McCarthys were amazed at her appetite the first time they had breakfast together. "After a 17 hour flight, she slept for nine hours," recalled Patricia.

"At breakfast, she had three eggs, two pieces of toast, an apple, a handful of grapes, orange juice and Cheerios!" laughed Eric.

She arrived with only the clothes she was wearing, so the first order of business was to find suitable clothing. "The shoes she had on were awful," said Patricia. "They were so tight, there were pressure marks on the sides of her feet."

"Once we figured out what size she was in, we held up two pairs of the same clothes in different colors, because we weren't sure what colors she liked," said Patricia. "Whatever we would hold up, Lubov would say, 'da,' which is Russian for yes, or 'nyet,' which means no."

The family soon learned that Lubov is a size seven, favors blue and likes butterflies, bees and dragonflies. She's also fond of dolphins.

In Russia, the orphans bathe once a week in cold water in a bathhouse, said Patricia, who consequently had to coax Lubov into her first shower.

"She was really tentative, shaking her head. But I said, 'just give it try.' When she felt that it was warm, she just closed her eyes and sighed, 'da, da'."

When the McCarthys travel to Russia to adopt Lubov, they plan to bring duffel bags of basic supplies for those living in the orphanage. "Things we take for granted, like toilet paper, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, Neosporin

Continue on insert

Welcome to our new members

- Suzanne Jarvis
Esocen
PO Box 418, Easton, CT 06612
203-459-4862 FAX 203-459-1684
Email: sjarvis@esocen.com
- Helen Moser
Owner/Master CIW Designer
Certified Internet Webmaster
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203-377-3036 FAX 203-377-3406
Email: Hbmoser@snet.net
Website: WebmasterWebsites.com

We Get Letters

Dear Ms. Allen & Clark,

First of all, it was a pleasure to meet the both of you and secondly, I am thanking you for honoring me for my educational accomplishments with a scholarship.

I am sorry that the both of you were not at the luncheon to enjoy this fine occasion, but with Ms. Gonillo's expertise, an excellent guest speaker, Dean Montgomery from Housatonic Community College, honorees, guests, my sister-in-law and her camera, everything went off without a hitch.

Again, I'm thanking you very much.

Respectfully yours,
Mary-Vanessa Fernandes

Save the Date...

**Next Meeting
September 10**

Newsletter designed and edited by Judith Gould & Associates. Please send all Network newsletter information two weeks prior to the next meeting, to Judith Gould at (fax) 878-9613 or email - judygould@aol.com.

Cont'd from back page of Contact

and band aids, they just don't have," said Eric.

There are 60 children in Lubov's orphanage and none have their own clothing. Clothes are considered communal property, said Patricia. They also don't have toys, she added.

Area companies or residents interested in donating such items, or socks, underwear or clothing, may call Patricia at 877-6271.

The McCarthys first heard of Bridge of Hope through a letter sent to their church, where Patricia serves on the missions committee. "In Russia, kids as young as 14 are turned out in the streets to fend for themselves," said Patricia. "The idea of adopting an older child, so they wouldn't end up homeless and alone became my mission."

Lubov already seems to feel at home with the McCarthys and their Golden Retriever, Napoleon. She calls them "mama" and "papa," happily clasps Patricia's hand, and "can't get enough hugs and kisses all day long," said Eric.

Patricia mentioned a story that captures how she feels about adopting. "A child is walking on a beach that is strewn with starfish. She's walking along the shore, throwing the starfish back into the sea and a person comes up and says 'you know, you're never going to be able to save all these starfish.' And the child says, 'I know, but to this one, I can make all the difference'."

"That's how I feel," said Patricia. "I can't save all the children who are orphaned, but if I can save just one, who knows the difference it will make?"

The Legend of the Starfish

A vacationing businessman was walking along a beach when he saw a young boy. Along the shore were many starfish that had been washed up by the tide and were sure to die before the tide returned. The boy was walked slowly along the shore and occasionally reached down and tossed the beached starfish back into the ocean. The businessman, hoping to teach the boy a little lesson in common sense, walked up to the boy and said, "I have been watching what you are doing, son. You have a good heart, and I know you mean well, but do you realize how many beaches there are around here and how many starfish are dying on every beach every day. Surely such an industrious and kind hearted boy such as yourself could find something better to do with your time. Do you really think that what you are doing is going to make a difference?" The boy looked up at the man, and then he looked down at a starfish by his feet. He picked up the starfish, and as he gently tossed it back into the ocean, he said, "It makes a difference to that one."

Along the sandy shore went walking
Where the tide let starfish lie.
There could have been a hundred or more
To match the stars up in the sky.

A child reached down among them
gentle hearted gave a sigh
With determined effort once again
He said I just can't let them die.

Saving starfish one by one
A stranger begged & questioned why?
It makes no sense, You can't save them all!
To this one it makes all the difference,
And with that he gave another try.

Pat McCarthy



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**PO Box 3171
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**Last Chance to renew
and get into Directory**