



**NETWORK OF  
EXECUTIVE  
WOMEN INC.**

**Contact**

*Women Helping Women Succeed*

November 2002

## From the President~

Dear Ladies:

I am very happy and thrilled to tell all of you that Glamourfest was a huge success. The official numbers are not in as of yet, but it would be safe to assume that at least \$1000.00 was raised for our scholarship fund. The food was absolutely delicious and the attendees enjoyed all the services that the vendors provided. As a matter of fact, one attendee was still in her Reiki session at 9:30 when the clean up committee was about to go home. To quote, Carole Jacoby, "the room was filled with energy". I don't believe that this energy was being created just from the services provided, or the delectable truffles and sweets, but from the networking that was taking place and the enthusiasm of the event. For those who were unable to attend, hopefully you will save the date (to be announced shortly) for our wine and beer tasting "Kick off the New Year" event in January.

A TREMENDOUS thank you goes to the following:

- Chris Gonillo- for planning the event, securing the vendors and obtaining Eastern Rehabilitation to host the event.
- Deb Collins- for her diligent publicity efforts. (NEW appeared in the New Haven Register, Milford Weekly, and Milford Mirror within the same week) Deb's publicity articles focused not only on the Glamourfest event, but how NEW has helped the scholarship recipients, especially Elaine Groth.
- Terry Geibel- for securing the caterer that produced the gourmet delights.
- Carol Raffone- for selling raffle tickets and giving encouragement
- Sharon Jones and Karen White for selling raffle tickets

And a BIG thank you goes to all the NEW members who either participated as vendors or attendees.

At the last Executive Board Meeting, the Board made the decision to not have a Holiday Event to raise money for our Scholarship Fund, since it would be too soon after our Glamourfest, but to hold the event in January. However, we will be having a holiday luncheon in December and the theme of that luncheon will be "Ms. Santas for Ms. Seniors." With that in mind, we are asking that you bring a gift that is wrapped and suitable to give to a woman in a nursing home (Women helping Women).

## Luncheon Meeting

**November 5, 2002**

**Aldario's • 12:15 PM**

**Guest speaker:**

**Carole Jacoby**

**How to cope with the holidays  
and keep our stress level down!**



\$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](http://www.networkofexecutivewomen.org)

Or call Bonnie Clark at 203-878-2479

I would like to thank all of you who made that extra special effort last month to attend our luncheon and helped put a smile on Sante's face so that we may continue to have our great buffet at Aldarios. It seems that resuming the telephone committee has helped and I hope all of you will make the same effort to attend this month's luncheon, which will feature Carole Jacoby. Carole promises to give us some helpful suggestions on how to cope with the holidays and keep our stress level down.

Speaking of holidays, it seems like yesterday, I was basking on the beach in the sun, and Thanksgiving is almost upon us. I would like all of you to know that I am blessed with good health, a loving family, wonderful friends, and a successful business. I am truly thankful for all these wonderful gifts. My Thanksgiving wish for all of you, is to be blessed the same and be thankful always for these blessings. I guess that is why, I don't mind to truly give of myself to others and to the Network of Executive Women.

To all of you and your loved ones, Happy Thanksgiving!

*Harriet*

Visit us on the web ~ [www.networkofexecutivewomen.org](http://www.networkofexecutivewomen.org)

# HELPING WOMEN HELP THEMSELVES

Written by: Deb Collins – debcollinsmail@yahoo.com

For Elaine Groth, a Milford woman, the road to self-sufficiency seemed hopeless. An abusive marriage almost extinguished her self worth, leaving her with 3 children to care for and a truckload of debt. But a non-profit group, the Milford Network of Executive Women, proved to Elaine that with the right education and support she could get her life back on track.

“I have thought a lot about where my life would be right now if it had not been for the Network of Executive Women,” said Elaine. “This group of women saw potential in me before I realized that I had any.”

For more than ten years, the Network of Executive Women has been raising money to provide educational assistance for women in need. Recently, The Network has directed some of its scholarship funding towards participants in the Milford Housing Authority’s Family Self-Sufficiency program.

Karen DeVito, a Network member, who retired recently as the coordinator of the Milford Housing Authority’s Section 8 subsidized housing program, has worked with many women in the Self Sufficiency program and was responsible for putting Elaine forward for a Network scholarship.

“Elaine always appeared to have a great deal to offer but never knew quite how to achieve it,” said Karen. “All of us make choices that lead us down different paths and whilst Elaine always accepted the results of her choices, she needed someone to nurture her and tell her that she really could reach her goals.”

“The first year I was nominated for a scholarship, I didn’t think much of myself,” said Elaine. “I couldn’t look my interviewers in the eye when we spoke at the application meeting. When I was awarded the scholarship, I was floored. No one had ever just given me something for nothing.” However, Elaine couldn’t imagine doing anything worthwhile with her scholarship and so didn’t use it. But Karen and the Network didn’t give up.

“It took a long time before Elaine realized that we weren’t just blowing smoke, a great deal of prodding, talking and continual contact,” said Karen.

The following year Elaine was awarded a second scholarship. This time Elaine seized the opportunity and enrolled at Gateway Community College in a certificate for Legal Office Assistants. Elaine is now an “A” student on the Gateway Dean’s List with a fulltime legal assistant position at Klaskin Law Offices in East Haven. The Network continues to contribute towards Elaine’s education.

“What makes Elaine’s success even more rewarding,” said Karen. “Is that Elaine now talks about using her education and experience to help other women in her situation.”

Elaine gave an emotional speech at a recent Network of Executive Women luncheon.

“A lot of organizations award scholarships to deserving graduates from high school. The Network saw the need for mature women to continue their education to better their situation. I thank you from the bottom of my and my children’s hearts.”

## NETWORK SURVEY

Please mail to P.O Box 3171  
or bring to luncheon on 11/5.

**Has NEW helped you and your business?**

**If yes, how.**

**If no, what can NEW do to help you and your business?**

## Quote of the Day:

“One thing I believe to the fullest is that if you think and achieve as a team, the individual accolades will take care of themselves. Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence wins championships”

*Michael Jordan*

## For Display ~

There is a table just past check-in for you to display your literature or product samples. Please bring items for this table.

*Save the Date...*



**Next Meeting  
December 3**



**“Ms. Santas  
for Ms. Seniors”**

**Please bring a wrapped gift  
suitable for a  
woman at a nursing home.**

## About our members

### New members:

- Mary Whatley  
Web Site Express  
674 Booth Hill Road  
Trumbull, CT 06611  
203-377-7229  
E-mail: websiteexpress@hotmail.com  
Web Site: Websiteexpress.bigstep.com  
Web Site Design

*Please add this name to your Membership Directory.*

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## A VERY VERY BIG THANK YOU GOES TO HELEN MOSER

Helen, our webmaster, has diligently been trying to transfer our web site into our own domain. She has spent several hours, days and weeks trying to accomplish this. Although it has not been resolved as yet, that is certainly not due to her efforts.

The good news is that Helen has gotten our membership up to date on our web site. Network wants Helen to know that we do appreciate all her efforts and say thank you to her.



*Women Helping Women Succeed*

PO Box 3171  
Milford, CT 06460-0971

## Spotlight on

### Paula Murphy-

#### *Independent Senior Director/Mary Kay Inc.*

I find it difficult, as most people probably do, to write about myself. It's uncomfortable. But because I was fortunate enough to have this opportunity, I am going to write about the things I want to accomplish soon. Before I get into that, I will share a bit of history with you. I have been with the company for 18 years (the longest lasting commitment to anything to date). Became a Director the first time in 1989 and pursued this as a career full-time. I had twin sons in 1990; (I'm still in shock). Moved back into Director position. I was divorced in 1999. I was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma cancer in October, 2001. I have been cleared of that (Yeah!). And now having had that "second chance", my new passion is to spread Mary Kay and all the wonderful opportunities it has to offer into Manhattan as well as re-build my local Unit. I have been going into the city once a week, pounding the pavement so to speak, with the determination to build a powerful area there. I also have an offspring Director in the Boston area.

I can't say my road has been all that easy. But isn't it the journey, not the destination that makes us who we are? I really feel that women need to stick together, no matter what we look like, who we are or what we have. As the legendary Mary Kay used to say, "We all put our panty hose on one leg at a time." I personally feel that once again, I am starting over. My life, my career, my family; everything has changed. During my illness, my whole life came to a screeching halt! I am just starting to feel close to my old self again. I am rebuilding everything, one day at a time. That's why I think it is so crucial that we all reach out to one another and offer all we can to lift each other any chance we get. We don't always know the history or what that woman goes home to.

Eighteen years ago, a woman in her forties recruited me into Mary Kay and said "You will love working with women. It is such a rewarding and meaningful career." I looked at her like she was crazy... I understand exactly what she meant.



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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.

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