

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I can hear those back to school bugs!!! It is August already. This month is turning out to be a busy month for WESC. I am really looking forward to our Membership Drive on Aug 12th. I highly encourage members to bring in some new faces. If you live on base, knock on a few doors and hand them an invitation. Yes, you will get “the look” when they hear “Spouses Club”. Take a moment to tell them what WESC means to you. I want WESC to be a place we can celebrate our journey together as Air Force Spouses while we are at Whiteman AFB. We have an amazing group of caring spouses, let’s celebrate that!!

—Holly Cousino

A **HUGE THANK YOU** to the City of Sedalia for the hospitality shown to WESC at the July Membership Meeting! Thank you to Mayor Horn for welcoming us to your community and to all those who planned, set up and cooked for the event. Everyone who attended had a wonderful time and enjoyed seeing what Sedalia has to offer. We truly appreciate the city’s support for the Whiteman community.



## MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!

On **August 12th from 6:30 to 10:00 PM**, WESC will be hosting an exciting Game Night at **Mission’s End** for current and potential members! Bring along friends and neighbors to see what WESC is all about.

The member who brings the most guests will receive a great gift! Members will also

have the chance to win a gift for each guest they bring.

We will be diving into Jeopardy, Are You Smarter Than A 5th Grader?, Minute To Win It & The Price Is Right.

The evening will also include prizes and give aways throughout, as well as some

good food and desserts to munch on. Contact Sarah Christy, Membership Chair, for more information.

Hope to see you there!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Aug 12th: Membership Drive at Missions End, 6:30 – 10 pm.** Come on out for Game Night!

**Aug 16th: Cupcake Wars and WESC Open House** during the August General Membership Meeting at **Mission's End, 6:30 pm.** If you'd like to participate in the Cupcake Wars Competition, email [wescactivities@gmail.com](mailto:wescactivities@gmail.com) by August 6th to sign up. No RSVP is necessary to attend the meeting. Do

**Aug 26th: Atomic Luau, 1100 - 1600**

**Sept 4th: Jerry Lewis Telethon, 2-5 pm AmeriStar in KC**

**Sept. 20th: September Social at MO Paint and Pottery in Warrensburg.** Appetizers and drinks provided, cost of pottery and studio fees covered by the member. Stay tuned for more details!

Starting in September, the **Thrift Store** will be open the 1st Saturday of every month from 9-2 in addition to Tuesdays from 10-2 and Fridays from 10-2. Come on in and get your shopping done!

WESC's monthly **Board Meetings** day will change to the 1st Tuesday of the Month starting in August. All WESC members are welcome to attend these meetings.

### WESC Board 2011-2012

Holly Cousino- President

Gena Wynn- Vice President

Paula Greene-General Treasurer

Stephanie Dillon- Charitable Treasurer

Sarah Barnett- Secretary

Advisors- Barbara Barr, Michelle Thorsteinson

Honorary Advisors- Joanna Vander Hamm, Carol Milligan



## THE IMPORTANCE OF OPSEC

(“OPSEC” stands for Operational Security and deals with keeping our troops safe by not revealing knowledge of deployment locations, length, date of arrival or departure from a deployment, etc.)

By “Dr. Seuss”

I am Sam.  
Sam I am.  
Do you like OPSEC and ham?  
I do not get it, Sam I am.  
I do not get OPSEC and ham.  
We must use it here and there.  
We must use it everywhere.  
You CAN share it in a car.  
But you CANNOT in a bar.  
You CANNOT share it in a text.  
You CANNOT share it at the BX.

You CAN say it in your house.  
But should NOT tell a random spouse.  
You CAN say it in the shower.  
But do NOT go sharing at happy hour.  
DON'T make the Ombudsman sweat.  
DON'T post it on the internet.  
You CANNOT share it in a tweet.  
That would not be very sweet.  
Beware of Facebook and Myspace too.  
It's tempting to let your feelings through.  
You Cannot tell it to a friend.  
NOT even at the very end.  
It is a privilege to know a date.  
DON'T tell ANYONE or they may be late!  
Oh, I get it, Sam I am.  
Now I get OPSEC and ham!  
I will not tell anyone. I will keep hushed until they're done!

I will not tell him or her. I will not tell my dog with fur.  
I will not tell my child's teacher. I will not tell any creature.  
Thank you, THANK YOU, Sam I am.  
Thank you for clearing up OPSEC and Ham!!!

—Carol Milligan

## SUB CLUBS ANNOUNCED!

WESC will be offering several sub-clubs for our members to enjoy beginning in August. There is a list below of the sub-clubs we decided to have this year. Some are new and some are so great we couldn't get rid of them! We are still needing someone to head up Book Club. The POC for sub-clubs are required to organize the events, contact members interested and make sure everyone has a great time!

Sub-clubs meeting monthly will be: **Play Group, Bunco and Secret Pal**. The following sub-clubs will meet in the months indicated next to them:

**Coupon Club** - September, January and March on a Saturday morning. POC is Sarah Christy.

**Book Club** - September, November, January, and March in the evening.

**Dinner Divas** - August, October, February, and April in the evening. This is a group that will meet to have a girls' night out dinner together. Next meeting will be at Fitter's in Warrensburg on Aug 18th at 7 pm. POC is Meagan Hager .

**Play Group**—Next meetings will be on Aug 10th at the WAFB bowling alley at 10 am & Aug 24th at the Warrensburg Community Center Pool at 11 am. POC is Kimberly Davis .

**Bunco**—Next meeting at Sarah Christy's house on August 26th at 6:30 PM. POC

Angelica Franjul .

**Secret Pal**—Currently ongoing. POC is Cassie Belton.

If you are interested in being the POC for Book Club, please contact Gena at [wescvpres@gmail.com](mailto:wescvpres@gmail.com).

—Gena Wynn

Meeting dates are subject to change as the clubs evolve and grow! Check out WESC on Facebook to stay up to date.

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU: KRISTEN VAN HAREN, PUBLICITY CHAIR



My name is Kristen Van Haren. I'm the proud wife of SSgt. Travis Van Haren and mother to Katy Taylor, the girliest little 3 year old hunter you'll ever meet. I was born into an agriculture family in Arizona. I was raised on a farm in Red Rock, AZ until I was 10 years old. We moved to Willcox, AZ right before 5<sup>th</sup> grade so my dad could be closer to our other family farm in Bowie, AZ. I am very proud of my agriculture roots and spend time volunteering in the agriculture community. My husband is also from Arizona and was raised on a ranch outside Globe, AZ. We met through his brother, who is a friend from the University of Arizona. We will have been married for 5 years in November.

We were stationed at Luke Air Force Base up until February 2011. This is only our 2<sup>nd</sup> duty station in my husband's 9 years with the Air Force. It was definitely a change for us as we come from the Valley of the Sun. We arrived to Whiteman right in between the two biggest winter storms and let me tell you...this Arizona girl was not prepared for this much snow. Don't get me wrong, I love to play in the snow but have never lived with in it. My husband is part of the 509<sup>th</sup> MUNS, which I'm still not sure what his job entails. Since we both are familiar with living in rural communities, we are happy to be at Whiteman as it allows for a much more relaxed pace of life compared to Phoenix.

I am a former Agriscience Education teacher and FFA advisor, which was definitely an awesome experience. I'm currently finishing my Agriscience Education degree from the University of Arizona. I only have one class left. Yay!!! I took time off to spend time with my daughter and explore another career, skin therapy. I'm licensed in Arizona as an Aesthetician and am working on getting my Missouri license. I'm not exactly sure what I want to be when I grow up but know that I have lots of avenues to explore. I love spending time with my family and friends, quilting, snowboarding, yoga, reading, drinking wine, and watching One Tree Hill and Grey's Anatomy. I love going to the beach and lake. I am excited to be a part of WESC as the publicity chair. This position not only allows me to be involved within the Whiteman community and meet new friends but gives me the chance to use my experience in communications and public relations again. Both Agriscience programs that I taught at were Agriculture Business programs, which focused on the business side of agriculture including communications, public relations and leadership.

## VOLUNTEER NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Congratulations to **Renee Lynn** for winning **Volunteer of the Quarter** at the wing level. She volunteered more than 200 hours with WESC, Key Spouse and youth programs for the months of April, May and June!

**Special Olympics** was the 29th and 30th. Unfortunately the game was rained out on the 30th, but WESC members were still able to get out on Friday to support the Jeff City Thunder and to hand out goodie bags to the team on Saturday.

**MDA Community Outreach** – Sep 4<sup>th</sup> from 2-5pm, WESC will be serving food at the pre-party “Be a Star” Campaign for the **Jerry Lewis**

**Telethon at Ameristar in Kansas City.** 5-10 volunteers are needed. Check your calendars to see if you can donate your time to this event.

**WESC's Annual Craft Show** will be Nov 12th, 8 to 4 at **Knob Noster High Gymnasium**. If interested in serving on the planning committee contact Christy at [wescwaysmeans@gmail.com](mailto:wescwaysmeans@gmail.com). If interested in being a vendor, email [wesccraft@gmail.com](mailto:wesccraft@gmail.com) to obtain an application and guidelines for the event.

**Consignment donations for the Thrift Store** will be taken at the **WESC August GMM**. Proceeds

will benefit the WESC general fund and help offset our costs. If you have something lying around the house that's taking up space, bring it along to the meeting...one person's trash is another's treasure!

New **volunteer logs** started in July for the 3rd Quarter (July, Aug. Sept.) Turn in your logs for WESC to receive recognition for the amount of hours we contribute to the Whiteman community.

The **Cheers Jar** program to recognize volunteers is in progress for June-October. The drawing for a great gift will take place in November!

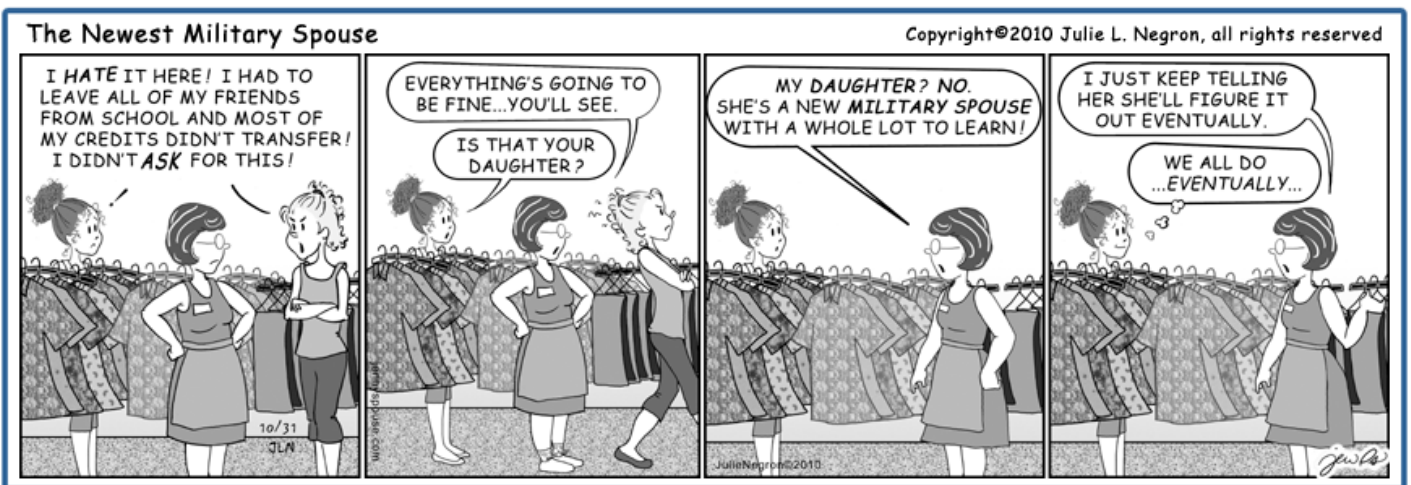
## CELEBRATIONS, HAILS AND FAREWELLS

**Happy Birthday** to August babies **Barbara Barr, Erin Bill** (that's me—I take chocolate!), **Teresa Dunn, Pamela Hust, Marissa Ramnanan, Alison Rhodeman, Angela Welsh, Julia Wolf** and to July baby **Maegan Hager**. **Happy Anniversary** to **Angela Welsh, Shannon Miller, Kandi Moore, Lisa Johnson** and **Christy Bates!**

**Farewell** to **Renee Geren** and **Gretchen Capogna**, who are PCSing on from Whiteman. Best of luck in your moves and in your new homes.

**Paula Greene** received the **Peer to Peer** gift from **Karen Sligh** at the July GMM.

**Member of the Month** for June went to **Renee Lynn** for her dedication in the Thrift Store in June and volunteering at the Sedalia Animal Shelter.



## ONE OF MY FAVORITE PLACES

When I first entered this store I thought I was in a bad episode of Hoarders. This place has floors and rows of items in every single place imaginable. THOSE WERE THE DAYS in downtown Warrensburg is a place to go to find unique vintage and used items. This flea

market type store is located at 138 Pine Street and it is open 7 days a week. It is a fun place to go look around. The items in the store bring back memories of my grandmother house. This may not be a place to go if you are claustrophobic or have major dust allergies.

Check it out; you may never know what you will find in this place.

—Holly Cousino

