



Lower Connecticut Valley Newsletter

lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net

April 2017

CALENDAR

Apr 4	Tue	7 PM	Great Decisions
Apr 4	Tue	1 PM	Mah Jongg
Apr 5	Wed	1 to 3 PM	Afternoon Book Group
Apr 6	Thu	7 PM	Evening Bridge
Apr 12	Wed	6:45 PM	Joint Meeting
Apr 17	Mon	7 PM	Great Decisions
Apr 17	Mon	1 to 3 PM	Afternoon Bridge
Apr 20	Thu		Cultural Trip
Apr 25	Tue	7 PM	Evening Book Group

JOINT MEETING

Date: Wednesday, April 12th
Place: Westbrook Public Library
Westbrook
Time: 6:45 PM

The Lower CT Valley and Shoreline Affiliate will jointly host this year's Career Development Grant recipient, Lucy K. on Wednesday, April 12th at the Westbrook Library. Lucy is pursuing her Master's in Environmental policy in Natural resource management at Yale University. She has worked for more than a decade on advancing climate change solutions. She helped start the Women's Earth and Climate Network which empowers women to lead their communities in addressing climate change. Through her Master's, she hopes to broaden her understanding of finance and policy formulation and to research climate change communications and human behavior.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Spring! This April message comes with hopeful wishes for warmer weather with colorful flowers starting to peak out of the soil and bushes. By the time you read this message, our annual scholarship fund raising luncheon will be over. We are hopeful that the proceeds will allow us to provide scholarship monies to several young women as they continue their college education. Many thanks to Sara K. and her committee for the time and effort that it takes to plan and execute our annual fund raiser.

On another note, at our recent Board meeting, we recognized the passing of one of our long time active members, Gladyce L. We spoke fondly of her dedication to our local AAUW. Gladyce was a Founding Member of our local affiliate and generously gave her time and talent in promoting the goals of AAUW. Gladyce was a former social worker. Her passion to help people carried on even after retirement. Gladyce began a knitting group as one of our AAUW activities. Under her guidance, members knitted an array of items that were sent to the needy. She organized the completion of afghans from rectangles created by the knitting group. The completed afghans as well as the toiletries, soaps, food, etc that Gladyce collected, were donated to the New Horizons Women's shelter in Middletown. Gladyce was always willing to help even in recent years when her health declined. Gladyce leaves a legacy of thoughtfulness, generosity and caring. The board feels that as a chapter it would be fitting to honor her many years as a dedicated member. The Board is asking any members who would like

to participate to send a check made out to : AAUW Lower CT Valley in honor of Gladyce to our treasurer, Mary Jane by May 15 , 2107.

A check will be sent to the New Horizons Middletown Shelter in her honor from our AAUW affiliate. The Board felt that this shelter was near and dear to her heart . Please call me if you have any questions. Gladyce will miss you at Mah Jongg!

Audrey

BOOK AUTHORS LUNCHEON

The newsletter goes to press before our spectacular fundraiser so no final report .. yet. The committee is very grateful for all the participation from the members who made baskets led by Dot, our "basket queen!" Interest groups put together baskets for the first time! Several members donated auction items or solicited from restaurants and other businesses. Members who were unable to attend sent in checks to contribute so it was an all out effort. We had the biggest SPI luncheon attendance and it's thanks to the hard-working committee and to all of you. The program has the list of businesses who contributed so be sure to mention your appreciation. Goodwill will come back when we fundraise next year!

Sara

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

We invited Viktoria C. to attend this year's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). However, she has not registered and will not be attending. Thus, we are not sponsoring a student this year. Last year, we sponsored Megan Davis. Both Megan and Viktoria are our two education grant recipients this year.

The Scholarship Committee will meet on April 5 to begin planning and advertising for education grants covering the next academic year, 2017-2018. Committee members are Nancy F., Suzanne T., Barbara H., and Mary M.. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact any one of us. We'd like to hear from you.

Rose
Chair

EVENING BRIDGE

Betsy G. will be hosting April 6 Evening bridge at her home. Please let her know if you would like to play. She can have 2 tables.

MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg will meet on Tuesday, April 4th. Please call or email Sharon for location if you want to play.

EVENING BOOK GROUP

The evening book group will meet on Tuesday, April 25, at 7 pm at the home of Lynne S. We will be discussing The Gene by Siddhartha Mukherjee. Please call or email Lynne if you plan to attend.

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

The Afternoon Book Group will meet on **Wednesday, April 5th from 1-3 pm at the Acton Library, Old Saybrook.** The book for discussion is **Miller's Valley by Anna Quindlen.** All are welcome even if you haven't read the book. No need to RSVP.

GREAT DECISIONS

Our fourth Great Decisions meeting is Tuesday, April 4th, and we will be discussing the fourth article in our Great Decisions book concerning Saudi Arabia in Transition. Our fifth meeting is Monday, April 17th, and we will discuss the fifth article highlighting US Foreign Policy and Petroleum.

We are moving our Great Decisions series to the Westbrook Library for the 2017 series. All programs start at 7:00pm. It is easier to get to the conference room at the lower level of the library if you go to the back door.

Email Donna with any questions .

AFTERNOON BRIDGE

April afternoon bridge is scheduled for the 3rd Monday in April.
RSVP Bonnie.

CULTURAL EVENTS

Our April 20 **Cultural Trip** is to the **Avery-Copp House**, built in 1800 on the banks of the Thames River in Groton, CT.

We will experience a “Living History Immigration Tour” of the house from the perspective of the Irish immigrant servants who lived and worked at the Avery-Copp House. The tour will be given by Leslie Evans the Director and Historian who will be in the role of an Irish Immigrant Servant.

The Avery-Copp House is built on a hillside with irregular stairs and floors. It is safe (I’ve toured the house), but if there are members who do not want to navigate the stairs to the upper floors, they have comfortable places to wait on the first floor while the rest of the group goes upstairs and to the servants’ quarters.

The cost per person is \$5.

We will have lunch across the street from the house at **Puffins**, a training site teaching developmentally disabled adults how to work in restaurants.

We will plan to meet at **10:15 at Exit 70 Park & Ride** off of 95 North.

Our appointment at **Avery-Copp** is at **11:00 a.m.**

If interested in going on this trip, please contact Pat or Dot.

MEMBERSHIP

At our last meeting, Krista introduced Anne B. who has decided to join as a member. Please add her to your member book and welcome her..

End of the Year Event
June 14th, 2017

Come join all your fellow AAUW Lower Ct Valley members for a toe tapping, hard to stay seated, trip down memory lane at the Ivoryton Theater’s presentation of *Million Dollar Quartet*. On December 4th, 1956, an auspicious twist of fate brought together Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Elvis Presley and Carl Perkins at the Sun Records’ storefront studio in Memphis, TN. Soon one of the greatest jam sessions ever starts and rock ‘n’ roll is born. Nominated for three 2010 Tony awards including Best Musical and Best Book of Musical,

Million Dollar Quartet captures the infectious spirit, freewheeling excitement and thrilling sounds of a singular moment when four of popular music’s extraordinary talents came together for a once-in-a-lifetime event. This was the four legends-to-be only performance together. Tickets for this not to be missed celebration of some of music’s greatest talents are \$40.00 per person. So purchase your tickets, make your reservation, put on your “Blue Suede Shoes”, “Walk the Line” down the aisle, swing to “Great Balls of Fire”, and join for this unforgettable evening!!!! Pre-performance hors d’oeuvres will be served under the tent. Reservations: contact Mary M.

Ivoryton Theater
June 14, 2017
\$40.00 per person

AAUW PUBLIC POLICY

Write & submit an Equal Pay Day Letter-to-the-Editor in just a few clicks!

We’re just one week away from [Equal Pay Day 2017!](#) On Tuesday, April 4, people across the United States will observe a national day of action to combat the gender pay gap. This date symbolizes how far into the year women must work to bring home what men made in 2016.

While that’s not exactly cause for celebration, observing Equal Pay Day (EPD) with [events](#), press, and calls-to-action can be an effective way to raise awareness about the gender pay gap in your community.

Now, AAUW has made it even easier for you to take action with this EPD letter-to-the-editor tool!

Writing and submitting a letter-to-the-editor (LTE) is simple. [Click here](#), enter your zip code, and choose a local newspaper. Next, you’ll draft your LTE using the sample talking points and tips provided. Once you’re finished personalizing your letter, click submit and your letter will be sent to the newspaper of your choosing.

All that's left for you to do is keep your eyes peeled for your letter in print. If it's published, don't forget to [let us know!](#)

Ready to make Equal Pay Day 2017 our most impactful yet?

TAKE ACTION!

AAUW Meeting
March 8, 2017
6:45 pm – Essex Library
Agenda

Welcome

Sharon announced that Gladys passed away on March 3rd. There was a moment of silence. A sheet was passed around asking anyone interested in attending the April 7th service sign-up if interested in car pooling.

Approval of minutes from February meeting was waived.

Treasurer's Report: Checking: \$3,959.15 Savings: \$1,848.59

Interest groups:

Afternoon book Group: "Between the World and Me"

Evening book group: Meets last Tuesday of March – reading The Gene by Siddhartha Mukherjee

Dinner series: Will be Saturday, March 18th at Pat's home

Mah Jongg: Will be Tuesday, April 4th Place TBD

Cultural Trips – March – Bush Holly Historical Site in Cos Cob with lunch after.

Membership – One new member attended.

Program - Mary announced that we will be going to the Ivoryton Theater on June 14th to see "Million

Dollar Quartet." Tickets will be available for spouses and friends.

Fundraising – Sara discussed the Book Author Luncheon on April 1 and need for any additional auction items and adds for the program.

Nominating committee – Sharon asked if anyone was interested in becoming President or Vice President to please let her, Barb S. and Mary M. know.

Our next meeting will be the joint meeting with the Shoreline Branch at the Westbrook Library, April 12th at 6:45. A sign up for refreshments was passed.

Speaker: Dr. Kirby Stafford, Ct State Entomologist spoke on the topic of Lyme ticks and Disease.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon H.
Vice President