



Lower Connecticut Valley Newsletter

[lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net](http://lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net)

January 2015

### CALENDAR

Jan 7	Wed	1 PM	Afternoon Book Group
Jan 8	Thu	7 PM	Evening Bridge
Jan 10	Sat	1 PM	Annual Tea
Jan 14	Wed	1 to 3 PM	Organizational Meeting for Book Author Luncheon
Jan 19	Mon	1 to 3 PM	Afternoon Bridge
Jan 21	Wed	1 PM	Mah Jongg
Jan 27	Tue	7 PM	Evening Book Group
Feb 2	Mon	7 PM	Great Decisions

### ANNUAL TEA

Date: Saturday January 10  
Place: Pasbeshauke Pavilion  
Saybrook Point Park  
Old Saybrook CT  
Time: 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

As we have done in the past, we will again have our “jewelry and book sale” to benefit the AAUW LAF – the Legal Advocacy Fund. Each year, branch members bring jewelry, books and DVDs that they no longer use and would like to pass along, to the Tea. The items are displayed and donations are offered....no set pricing. This is a fun event!

Please bring finger foods (an appetizer or dessert plate) to share, a teacup, and a teapot if you have one.



### EVENING BOOK GROUP

The evening book group will meet on Tuesday, January 27, at 7 pm at the home of Tina L. Please call or email her to let her know that you will be attending – We will be discussing *I know why the caged bird sings* by Maya Angelou. Dot B. will lead the discussion.

### AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

The Afternoon Book Club will meet on January 7th at 1:00pm at the home of Sara K. We will discuss *The Strange Death of Mistress Coffin* by Robert Begiebing. Please RSVP to Sara if you plan to attend.

Our February meeting will be held at the Essex Library where we will discuss *The Tiger's Wife* by Tea Obreht.

### CREATIVE ARTS

Knitters will **not** be meeting in January. Knitters please continue knitting the rectangles for the afghan. I have yarn for anyone who needs it. Gladycy

### GREAT DECISIONS

The Great Decisions books and DVD have been ordered, and the books will be handed out at the January Tea. If you are unable to attend the Tea,

please ask someone who is attending to pick up your book for you. If that is not possible, please contact me and I will make alternate arrangements with you.

Our first meeting is Monday, February 2nd at 7:00pm at the Acton Library. We will read and discuss the first article in the book. I will send out a reminder email the week before the meeting.

Happy New Year! Donna

### **EVENING BRIDGE**

Evening Bridge is scheduled for January 8th at Barbara S. home. Please let her know if you would like to play- she can have 2 tables.

### **AFTERNOON BRIDGE**

Afternoon Bridge will meet January 19, from 1:00 to 3:00.

If you would like to play, contact Bonnie

### **MAH JONGG**

Next meeting is Wed January 21 @ 1:00 pm at Sharon's home.

Please RSVP to Sharon if you plan to attend.

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

All directories that have not been picked up at meetings have been mailed to respective member. Please call or email Sara K. or Nancy F. if you know of anyone interested in joining our group. We will be happy to send information about AAUW to them as well as an application.

### **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Our two students, Amanda and Briana have registered for courses for the spring semester and are awaiting receipt of their fall semester grades. Once they submit documentation of both spring registration and fall grades to the Scholarship Committee, we will be able to present them with their second \$1000 awards to cover the spring semester. Both students have been invited to our Annual Tea on January 10<sup>th</sup> and we await confirmation regarding their availability.

Rose P., Chairperson

## **ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING BOOK AUTHOR LUNCHEON**

Our big fundraiser and wonderful book authors' luncheon will be on March 28th again at Saybrook Point Inn. This requires much planning and preparation to be fun and successful. Our first organizational meeting will be January 14th, 1-3pm in the small upstairs conference room at Acton Library. We invite any member who would like to be part of the process to come to the meeting; there will be sub-committee heads and teams to work on the tasks we need to accomplish. It's a chance to participate in the successful fundraiser and serve the organization while getting to know members better. That's the sales pitch for we could use your help! For any questions please call or email the co-chairs Mary M. or Sara K.

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Thank you to every member who participated in the Holiday Social and helped to make the event enjoyable and rewarding for one and all.

- We thank Audrey C., Krista M. and their helpers for setting up the festivities and for returning the Griffin Room to its original state at the conclusion of the Holiday Social.
- We thank Jane G. for providing music at the piano for a wonderful group sing-a-long of holiday songs.
- We thank those members who participated in our Raffle either through their donated raffle items and/or their purchase of raffle tickets. Funds totaling \$350.00 were matched with \$350.00 by Gowrie Group. We are pleased to have donated \$700.00 to the Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries. Many thanks to Mary M. and Krista M. for making the Raffle happen.
- We thank those members who donated items designated for the abused women's shelters in New London and Middletown. Many thanks to Dot who delivered these items to the Shelter and were gratefully received.

Our next Board Meeting will take place on January 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:30AM-12:30PM at the home of Dot B.

The next Branch Event is the “Annual Tea” to be held at the Pasbeshauke Pavilion at Saybrook Point on January 10, 2015 from 1PM to 3PM.

- Please remember to bring your Tea Cup and Tea Pot.
- Members should bring an appetizer or dessert plate.
- Please remember to bring your donations of jewelry, books, videos or DVD’s to be purchased. The proceeds will be donated to AAUW’s Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF).

Our next General Meeting will take place on February 11, 2015 at the Acton Library at 7 PM. Our speaker, Dr. Al Saubermann, will speak on “Hypnosis and Surgery”.

Stay warm, be safe. I look forward to socializing with you on January 10<sup>th</sup>. Happy New Year!

Sally K.  
President

### BRANCH WEBSITE

lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net

During this past month, our website had 8 visitors.

### MEETING MINUTES

General Membership Meeting  
December 10, 2014  
St. Ann’s Church Old Lyme

**President** Sally K. called the business meeting to order at 7:35 PM

**Visitors-** Debbie C. who is a member but has been unable to attend was present

**Secretary’s Minutes** from the November 12,2014 General Membership Meeting were distributed in the newsletter. Sharon H. made a motion that they be accepted as distributed, Lynn D. seconded. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Dot B. noted that there were no changes since are last meeting.

**Interest Groups**

- **Gourmet Group-** Sharon H. will be holding a cocktail party at her home on January 26,2015 for the members of the dinner series. We will discuss at that time how we want the program to be run this year. Spouses are welcome
- **Gifts** for the Women’s Shelter were collected at tonight’s social. Dot will deliver them
- **Raffle** - Krista M. did a beautiful job of setting up the raffle items donated by the members. Mary M. conducted the raffle. \$350 was collected and will be sent to The Shoreline Soup Kitchen and will be matched by Gowrie Insurance.
- **Hospitality-** Audrey C. noted the January Tea will be held at Saybrook Pavilion. Members should bring finger foods or desserts to share, a tea pot if they have one and their own tea cup. Further details will be in the newsletter.
- **Membership-** Nancy F. brought the directories one last time. She will now mail out the ones that have not been picked up

**Adjournment** Jane K. made a motion to adjourn the business meeting at 7:40 PM. The holiday social continued with member Jane G. playing the piano. Members enjoyed wine and food donated by members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy B. Secretary