



Lower Connecticut Valley Newsletter

September 2014

CALENDAR

Sep 10	Wed	6 PM	General Meeting
Sep 17	Wed	1 PM	Afternoon Book Group
Sep 22	Mon	1 to 3 PM	Afternoon Bridge
Sep 22	Mon	3:30 PM	Creative Arts
Sep 23	Tue	7 PM	Evening Book Group
Oct 2	Thu	7 to 9 PM	Evening Bridge

GENERAL MEETING

POT LUCK DINNER

Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2014

Place: Griffin Room

St. Ann's Episcopal Church

Route 156

Old Lyme

Time: 6 PM

Our first social gathering this season is the Pot Luck Dinner that will be held on September 10th in the Griffin Room at St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Old Lyme at 6 pm.

Please bring an appetizer, hot or cold entrée, salad or dessert to share (to serve eight people). Hot and cold drinks will be provided.

New members will be introduced.

Officers and Interest Group Chairs will also be introduced and available to answer questions. Since information regarding the Branch Interest Groups is provided in this Newsletter, "sign-up" lists for the Interest Group or Groups of your choice will be available at the rear of the Griffin Room.

Please note, to date, no member has volunteered to Chair or Co-Chair the Mah Jongg Interest Group.

We are also seeking a member who is willing to Co-Chair the Dinner Interest Group with Beth B. Interested parties should contact either Sharon H or Dot B.

EVENING BOOK GROUP

The first meeting of the evening book group will be held on Tuesday, September 23 beginning at 7 pm at LeRay's home. We will be discussing the book *Away* by Amy Bloom.

We will also choose a book or two for October and November, perhaps a classic by a woman author. Please bring along your suggestions and thoughts on focusing on women authors this year who have been noted for their exceptional writing and provoking topics, both classic and contemporary.

There will be a sign-up sheet for the first meeting at the pot luck to be included in the group. Please call LeRay if you are planning to attend.

CREATIVE ARTS

Knitters will meet on September 22 at 3:30 at Gladycy's home. All knitters welcome. Please call if attending. Gladycy

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Hi Bookies,
Hope everyone is still enjoying this fabulous summer. I for one will hate to see it end. However, we can all look forward to getting together to discuss the books we will select for the coming months.

Our first meeting will be on:

Wednesday, September 17 at 1 P.M.

at:

Carolyn F's home

Please bring three suggestions of what you would like to read this year.

Carolyn and I hope everyone can attend the meeting. We look forward to seeing you again and sharing with everyone some of the good reads we had this summer and the books we can look forward to in the coming months.

Please RSVP to Carolyn F. or to myself

Olga S.

AFTERNOON BRIDGE

Monday, September 22, 1:00-3:00 at
the home of Bonnie N.
Please RSVP

EVENING BRIDGE

Evening bridge is held the 1st Thursday of each month from 7-9 pm. All players are welcome. If you would like to join, there will be a sign up sheet at the 1st general meeting, or let me know [via](#) email. The 1st bridge evening this year will be on Thursday, October 2nd at my home. Please let me know if you are able to attend via my email or phone.

Thanks, Marcia N.

GOURMET GROUP

The Gourmet Group is alive and well!
Please send me an email if you are interested.
Looking forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting.

Beth B.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that it has selected the following two young women to receive our branch's educational grants for

academic year 2014-2015. Both women were selected from a pool of strong applicants and were each awarded \$2000 grants, of which \$1000 has already been presented to cover the fall semester.

Amanda – Amanda is a second year student at Middlesex Community College where she expects to receive an AS degree and was amongst 19 students out of 200 who were accepted into the radiology technician program. She has a 3.2 GPA and will take three courses in the fall semester for a total of 6 credits. She is 22 y-o, lives in East Haddam with her family, and works part-time as a pharmacy technician in a local pharmacy.

Briana – Briana attends Southern Connecticut State University and is majoring in art education with the goal of becoming an art teacher. She expects to earn her BA degree in May 2016. She is an Honor Society student with a 3.55 GPA and will take five courses in the fall for a total of 13.5 credits. She is 24 y-o, lives in Deep River with a family member, and has supported herself by working as a waitress.

Both Amanda and Briana are thrilled to receive our grants and very appreciative of our financial support. They will attend our September 10th meeting and be introduced to the membership. They are looking forward to meeting us, and we hope you can take this opportunity to meet them too.

Also attending our September 10th meeting are Melissa and Kristen, whom we sponsored to attend NCCWSL at the University of Maryland this past June. Both young women are now sophomores at Middlesex Community College and are continuing in the prestigious honors program. They mentioned how much they were inspired by the conference and will speak to us briefly about their experience. This is a good opportunity not only to meet the students, but also hear about the value of NCCWSL.

A big thanks goes to all of the Scholarship Committee members, Nancy F., Barbara H., Mary M., Deb R., and Suzanne T., for their outstanding work and diligence during the past year which has come to fruition in the selection of two highly qualified students to receive the grant monies that were raised by branch membership at this year's

fundraiser. Going forward, the Scholarship Committee welcomes Carolyn C. as its newest member. If any questions or suggestions, just ask any one of us!

Rose P., Chairperson

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Dues for the 2014-2015 year must be submitted by Sep. 15 in order for your information to be included in the directory. The dues remain at **\$75.00** (\$49 of which \$46 is tax deductible, plus \$5 for state plus \$21 for our branch). There is also a renewal form to complete and include along with your dues to update/confirm your information for the directory. The renewal form is attached to this newsletter. Send your renewal form and check made out to Lower Ct. Valley AAUW to: Nancy F..

Please welcome **NEW MEMBERS**:

KATHRYN R.

BS, SCSU, Special Education
MS, SCSU, Psychology
6th year SCSU, School Administration

THEODORE V.

MD, Columbia Univ. College of Physicians and Surgeons

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.

An application can also be downloaded from our website.

CULTURAL TRIPS

AAUW Cultural Trips - Fall 2014

October 17, Friday, Boston Museum Trip

Isabella Stewart Gardner Tour with luncheon at Café G. Guided tour \$17/Seniors

2-course pris fixe luncheon (entrée and dessert, tax and gratuity included) ~\$29

Group size limited to 20 persons.

Transportation via carpool or commuter train from Green Airport, Warwick RI.

Reserve by September 26 - contact Janice H. to sign up.

November 14, Friday, NYC Museum Trip

Lunch at 11:45am La Bonne Soupe – 48 W 55th St
Afternoon MoMA guided tour of the exhibition “The Paris of Toulouse-Lautrec: Prints and Posters”
\$30/Seniors.

Transportation via Shoreline East/Metro North.

Reserve by October 14 - contact Janice H. to sign up

December 10, Wednesday, Theater Trip

Long Wharf Theater, New Haven, 2pm matinee
Picasso at the Lapin Agile by Steve Martin directed by Gordon Edelstein.

Transportation via carpool.

Tickets are limited so contact Janice H. ASAP to sign up

TREASURER'S REPORT

Branch Financial Summary

(as of 8/25/14)

Checkbook:	\$2,356.12
Savings (bequest):	\$17,449.52
Savings	\$5,511.60
(local grants/AAUW funds)	

Total assets: \$25,317.24

Dot B.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back! I hope your summer has been enjoyable and relaxing.

Sadly, some of our Branch Members are no longer with us. We will acknowledge their passing with a moment of silence at our September meeting.

Our first social gathering this season is the Pot Luck Dinner that will be held on September 10th in the Griffin Room at St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Old Lyme at 6 pm. Please bring an appetizer, hot or cold entrée, salad or dessert to share (to serve eight people). Hot and cold drinks will be provided. New members will be introduced. Officers and Interest Group Chairs will also be introduced and available to answer questions. “Sign-up” lists for the Interest

Group or Groups of your choice will be available at the rear of the Griffin Room. Please note, to date, no member has volunteered to Chair or Co-Chair the Mah Jongg Interest Group. We are also seeking a member who is willing to Co-Chair the Dinner Interest Group with Beth B. Interested parties should contact either Sharon H. or Dot B..

Our two 2014 educational grant recipients are Amanda and Brianna. They were presented their \$1000 awards for the fall semester.

Kristen and Melissa participated in NCCWSL this past June and may briefly describe their experiences at the Pot Luck Dinner.

As of August 20th, national and state dues have been paid for fifty-five members.

Our October 01, 2014 Program Speaker is Dr. Marcia McGowan, Distinguished Professor Emerita, English, Women's and Gender Studies, Eastern Connecticut State University.

Dr. McGowan will present "*Mary Borden: One of the Many Unsung Female Heroes of World War I*". Please note the date change. The large meeting room at the Acton Library is not available on October 08th.

I look forward to working and socializing with you during the 2014-2015 Branch Year as your President.

Sally K.

MEETING MINUTES

AAUW General Membership Meeting May 14, 2014 Acton Public Library

President Mary M. called the meeting to order at 7:18 PM. Although there was not a quorum present – 24 were in attendance – it was decided to go ahead and have the business meeting.

Secretary's Minutes –A motion to approve the March 5, 2014 minutes as they appeared in the newsletter was made by Ann B., seconded by Nancy F. Motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report – Dot handed out an itemized accounting of funds. The current balance is \$29,592.32 and gave a summary of the Fundraiser. The board suggested the funds be split 40% for AAUW Funds and 60% for our local grant/scholarship program. Carolyn C. made a motion that the funds from the fundraiser be split as

the board suggested. Suzanne T. seconded. Motion carried.

\$3648 from the fundraiser will be distributed to AAUW Funds. As there are many different AAUW Funds Mary Ann K. made a motion that a committee decide which funds we will give to. Motion 2nd by Barbara H.. Motion carried. A committee headed by Mary Ann will report back to the group at the end of the summer.

Mary Ann discussed our branch relationship with Middlesex Community College and Eva Jones who is a professor there. Eva is interested in **Start Smart** training that helps women negotiate salaries when they start a job. Sally Keating made a motion, seconded by Dot B. that we give \$100 to Eva Jones to attend the training. Motion passed.

Treasurer Dot B. discussed the budget. Mary Lu made a motion to accept the budget as presented and Barbara H. seconded. Those in attendance accepted the budget but because there was not a quorum we will open it for a binding vote in Sept.

Programs –Carolyn C. discussed our June 11th meeting at the Ivoryton. The show will be **Fingers and Toes**. Tickets are \$30 per person. You may invite a guest. We have \$65 seats reserved. The play is at 7:30 with Happy Hour starting at 6:30.

Carolyn will head the **Programs Committee** for next year and will have a committee to assist her. Anyone interested in being on the committee should let Carolyn know.

Newsletter and Website- The website is up and we thank Eva B. for all her work getting this started.

Scholarship and NCCWSL – Rose P. was not present. Nancy F. spoke for the committee. We will be giving 2 \$2000 grants for the fall semester. The flyers have been printed and distributed. Erma has contacted the local newspapers. June 16 the applications are due. July 15 they will determine who receives them. The present winners can reapply. The applications are judged on financial, academic, personal goals and references. We sponsored 2 students from Middlesex to NCCWSL.

Interest Groups

- **The combined book groups** will meet at MaryAnn's on June 17 for a potluck. Janice H. will be the facilitator.

Membership update and Nominating Committee report –The nominating committee was Nancy F., Sara K., and Pat L.. The nominations for next year's officers are

- President – Sally K.
- VP – Sharon H.
- Secretary – Nancy B.
- Treasurer –Dot B.

Nancy moved that we cast 1 ballot for the slate.

Mary Ann seconded. Motion carried

Nancy mentioned that it is time to renew your membership and she had the forms available if members wished to renew tonight.

President Mary M. thanked individual members by name for their help this year.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy B., Secretary