



Lower Connecticut Valley Newsletter

lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net

January 2017

CALENDAR

Jan 4	Wed	1 to 3 PM	Afternoon Book Group
Jan 5	Thu	7 PM	Evening Bridge
Jan 7	Sat	1 to 3 PM	Annual Tea
Jan 11	Wed	1 PM	Mah Jongg
Jan 15	Sun	12 PM	Gourmet Brunch
Jan 16	Mon	1 to 3 PM	Afternoon Bridge
Jan 24	Tue	7 PM	Evening Book Group

ANNUAL TEA

Date: Saturday January 7th
Place: Pasbeshauke Pavilion
Saybrook Point Park
Old Saybrook CT
Time: 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

The weather outside is crisp and cold --- so come inside and join us on January 7th at 1:00 P.M. at Pasbeskauke Pavillion in Old Saybrook for some warm tea, tasty sandwiches, delicious desserts and a round of mind stimulating **“Trivia Challenge.”**

So review your knowledge about the history of AAUW and our Branch, and the world around us--- -- politics, local history, geography, science, a picture identification challenge ----- to mention just a few of the categories!!!

So make some “Tea sandwiches”, collect and bring your gently read books, and gently used jewelry (for the LAF fundraiser)

and come join the festivities, reunite with other Branch members, and be prepared to be entertained, stimulated, and spend a memorable afternoon.

Mary

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

OH WHAT A NIGHT!! Good food, Beautiful decorations, Sounds of laughter with hugs and friendships renewed. And the music- Need I say more!

Another successful December Holiday Party. This is what AAUW is all about! An organization of giving and receiving. As we enjoyed each other's company , we also raised \$250.00 through our raffle for the Women's Shelter in New London. At our November meeting we collected clothes and necessary items for those in need at the shelter.

Our hope is that your generous donation of monies along with the items will give comfort to women and children needing the shelter's support this time of year.

Thanks to Bonnie and Dot for serving as hosts for the evening along with our musicians Steve Dedman and Emily Marcelo. Hats off to Olga and Mary for organizing the delightful music program.

I hope to see everyone at our January 7, 2017 tea at the Old Saybrook Pavilion from 1- 3pm. Monies raised from our book and jewelry sale will go to the National AAUW Legal Aid Fund.

Come along to our annual tea as we raise our tea cups for a healthy and happy 2017.

The Board sends best wishes to all as we journey into the New Year.

Audrey

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Megan has submitted the necessary paperwork (fall semester grades and spring semester registration) allowing her to receive the second half of her education grant. A check for \$1000 has been mailed to her. We await receipt of similar paperwork from Viktoria before providing her additional funds. The students continue to thank us "so much for all that AAUW has done" and have said that "the scholarship means the world to me and my family."

Viktoria will attend the annual tea on January 7th and we eagerly look forward to meeting her. She is at Elon University in North Carolina. Please join us in welcoming her. Megan is unable to attend since she is interning at Cigna Health Corporation while attending classes at UCONN in Storrs.

Rose
Chair

FUNDRAISER UPDATE

Save the date for our Book Authors' Luncheon on April 1st at Saybrook Point Inn! With two well-known Boston area, women authors, Michelle Hoover and Dawn Tripp, it's bound to be a very popular event this year!

The committee will begin the planning on Wednesday, January 11th, 1-3pm in the Acton Library conference room. If you are interested in being part of the process, please call Sara.

EVENING BRIDGE

Evening Bridge will be held at Barbara H.'s home on Thursday, January 5 at 7 pm. Please let her know if you are able to come. Please arrange carpooling from the Essex fire station at Exit 3 off of Rt 9. Thanks!

AFTERNOON BRIDGE

January afternoon bridge is scheduled for the 3rd Monday in January.
RSVP to Bonnie N.

MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg will be on Wednesday, January 11th at 1:00 pm at Sharon's home. If you are interested in joining Please contact Sharon.

GOURMET DINNER SERIES

We will be having a Gourmet Brunch January 15th at noon. If you are not a member of the group and would like to join, please contact Sharon.

EVENING BOOK GROUP

The Evening book group will meet on Tuesday, January 24 to discuss "The Sisters: The Saga of the Mitford Family" by Mary Lovell. Maggie S. will host us at 7 pm. Please call or email Maggie if you plan to attend. All are invited to attend.

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

The January meeting of the Afternoon Book Club will be held on **Wednesday, the 4th** at the **Acton Library, Old Saybrook from 1-3pm**. The book for discussion is The Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu: and Their Race to Save the World's Most Precious Manuscripts by Joshua Hammer.

All are welcome even if you haven't read the book. There is no need to RSVP.

GREAT DECISIONS

The books for Great Decisions 2017 have been ordered and will be distributed at the January Tea. If you are unable to attend the Tea, please ask someone who is attending the Tea to pick up your book. If that is not possible, I will make other arrangements with you to ensure you receive your book in time for the first Great Decisions meeting on February 7th at the Westbrook Library. Any questions, please contact Donna B.

CULTURAL EVENTS

Our next cultural event will be on Wednesday morning, February 15 at the Florence Griswold Museum. The Gallery will be highlighting the outstanding paintings of **Matilda Browne**, the lone female artist of the original Old Lyme Art Colony.

Pat L., a docent at the Florence Griswold, will take us on tour of these exceptional works of art. Following the tour, we will meet for lunch at the Old Lyme Inn, across the street from the Florence Griswold Museum.

Pat

AAUW PUBLIC POLICY

The following is taken from a letter from Patricia Fae Ho, AAUW Board Chair

Check out the 2016 update of AAUW's popular research report "The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap" which revealed that if current trends continue, the pay gap will not close for 136 years. (That is not a misprint!)

The year ahead presents great challenges and opportunities. We expect the newly elected officials to work together to find common-sense solutions. (There is nothing common about common-sense!)

2017 is the 45th anniversary of Title IX. There are more than 100 AAUW student organizations and 10,000 student associations and three member institutions overseas in Australia, South Africa, and India.

Celebrate all that AAUW does for women and girls. Our Affiliate has much to celebrate!

AAUW Lower Connecticut Valley 2016-2017 Meeting Schedule

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming year. Please note Feb 2017 afternoon meeting!

Due to reduced hours at the Acton Library we have switched some of our monthly meetings to the:

Essex Public Library

33 West Ave
Essex, CT 06426

January 7, 2017- Old Saybrook Pasbeskauke Pavillon at Saybrook Point- Annual tea- 1pm - 3pm

February 8, 2017- Acton Public Library-Old Saybrook - 1pm

March 8, 2017 - Essex Public Library - 6:45pm

April 12, 2017 - Joint meeting with the Shoreline Branch -location TBD- 6:45pm

May 10, 2017- Essex Public Library- 6:45pm

June 2017 Date -TBA- End of year event at the Ivoryton Theater

MEETING MINUTES

LCV AAUW BRANCH MEETING 12/14/16

LCV AAUW Branch members met at St Ann's Hall for our monthly meeting and annual Holiday Celebration. The business meeting was called to order by Audrey at 7:40 pm. Olga then introduced Steve Dedman and Emily Marcelo from Hadlyme who will provide the entertainment at tonight's gathering. They are members of the Plywood Cowboy Band.

Audrey welcomed a potential new member Janet Brown from Old Saybrook and thanked Ted V. (one of four male branch members) for joining us tonight as well.

The minutes for the November 16th meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Jane reported that there is \$1933.35 in Checking and \$3,648.54 in Savings.

New Business: Mary Ann reported that she has been working with Lynn on updating our bylaws to be in compliance with those for National AAUW. She also informed us that National has revised terminology for its local branches. Each Branch will now be called an Affiliate. As an FYI, Maryann said she recently met former member Alice G's daughter and invited her to come to our January Tea.

Programs: Olga reported that our January Tea will be held on Saturday the 7th from

1-3 pm. Members are asked to bring their own teacup, sandwiches or sweets. We will also hold a fundraiser for the LAF so please bring books, jewelry or other gift items for the sale. Mary will lead us in a Trivia Game during the Tea.

Sara next gave an update on plans for this year's **Authors Luncheon** on April 1st. Our speakers will be Dawn Tripp who recently published the book "Georgia" about the painter Georgia O'Keefe and Michelle Hoover who teaches at Brandeis and recently published "Homeland" about life in Iowa.

National AAUW Activities: Sara reminded members about the National AAUW's Double Match annual fundraising drive in which they will match any donation a member makes. She also told us about an upcoming march in Washington D.C. to support women's rights. Our local Saybrook Yarn store has offered a skein of yarn to anyone who

wishes to make a “Pussy Hat” which is what the marchers will wear.

Dawn encouraged members to attend this year’s National AAUW meeting which will be held in Washington D.C. in June.

Other Announcements: Audrey announced that our own Bonnie S. will be appearing in a play at the Ivoryton Theater on December 17th. She also expressed good wishes to Mary who is recovering at home after recent surgery.

The meeting was adjourned by Audrey who encouraged everyone to mingle and enjoy refreshments before holding our Chinese Auction.

Deborah