



Lower Connecticut Valley Newsletter

lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net

January 2018

CALENDAR

Jan 3 Wed 1 to 3 pm Afternoon Book Grp
Jan 6 Sat 1 pm January Tea
Jan 8 Mon 1 to 3 pm Book Authors Comtte
Jan 9 Tue 12:30 pm Mah Jongg
Jan 23 Tue 7 pm Evening Book Grp

ANNUAL JANUARY TEA

Date: Saturday, January 6th
Place: Pasbeskauke Pavilion
Old Saybrook
Time: 1:00 PM

Ol' Man Winter is finally showing his punch---the weather outside is forecasted to remain frosty and bitter cold. So remember to join us on Saturday, January 6th at 1:00 P.M., at the Pasbeskauke Pavilion in Old Saybrook, to warm your body with cups of hot tea, your stomachs with delicious sandwiches and delectable desserts and your hearts with friendships renewed. Remember to bring along your favorite tea cup, some gently used books and puzzles to raise money for AAUW's LAF fund. Also, don't leave home without your "Thinking caps" and be prepared to be challenged, stimulated and just have a lot of fun at our now annual "Trivia Challenge." Prizes will be awarded to the winning team!!!! Also, this year a fun game will be added to the festivities. The proceeds from this event will be added to a fund established to financially help members who would like to attend the National Convention three years from

now. So come and join us for what promises to be a memorable afternoon.

Mary

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This fall has passed by quickly! The holiday season is over and 2018 is upon us. I hope everyone had a happy and healthy holiday season. I'm sure we all need a rest from all the activities and too much food!!! Our December Holiday party was filled with laughter and good will. Thanks to all members who made it a successful evening.

Our AAUW year starts off with our annual tea on Saturday, January 6, 2018 from 1pm - 3pm at the Old Saybrook Pavilion. Mary Mazur has an article in this newsletter to fill you in on all the details for our tea.

So come join us to raise a cup of tea and share a story or two with friends!

Happy New Year!

Audrey

FUNDRAISING

Mark your new 2018 calendars for the Book Authors Luncheon, Saturday, April 14th. The first committee meeting will be Monday, Jan. 8th, 1-3 at Acton conference room. Stay tuned for updates on plans for this important and very

enjoyable event! Think forsythia blooming at SPI to warm you during this frigid beginning to 2018!

Sara

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Scholarship Committee has received recommendations from LCV members for students to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders in 2018. We appreciate the branch's input and are in the process of awarding scholarships based on interest and availability of students, as well as available funding from our branch and possibly CT AAUW. Once selected, students will need to sign up by January 31st in order to qualify for early bird registration at a lower cost. Linda Frigon is the committee's point person for coordinating NCCWSL.

The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, simply known as NCCWSL, started in 1983 and this year marks the 33rd conference. It attracts over 1000 students, mostly from the US and also abroad, and is recognized as the premier conference for students to "hone their leadership skills, make lifelong connections, and get ready to shape the world." For more than 30 years, NCCWSL has laid the groundwork for the next generation of leaders, many of whom have entered the corporate world, risen to high ranks within government, led nonprofit organizations, created new innovations, made major discoveries, and more. One of the highlights of the conference is the Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony which honors current recipients. Past honorees have included an Olympic gold medalist, senator, journalist, academician, astronaut, reproductive rights advocate, CEO, entrepreneur, author, actress, and many more. For more information, visit www.nccwsl.org.

This year's conference will be held on May 30-June 2 at the University of Maryland campus in College Park. Over the course of three days, there will be keynote speakers, presentations by role models, graduate school and career fairs,

and opportunities to network and interact with students of other diversities. In addition, there will be about 50 skill-building workshops where attendees interactively develop their leadership and professional skills through voice, skill-set, and mind-set activities. Throughout the conference, students gain a better understanding of issues affecting women, and, importantly, AAUW's role in empowering women to take action.

After the conference, students are encouraged to keep advancing AAUW's message on their campuses and to apply their learnings by taking on a leadership role on campus, in the community, or their daily life.

Mary M. and Francesca M., our current education grant recipients, have been invited to attend our annual tea on January 6th. Mary will attend and is eager to meet us. Francesca is not available and has offered to meet us at a later date. Mary is a senior at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, NY. She anticipates earning her BS in Biology in May after which she plans to attend graduate school to become a Physician Assistant. She lives on campus and is from Old Saybrook.

Rose P
Chair

GREAT DECISIONS

The books for Great Decisions 2018 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. Please let me know who that will be.

If the Tea 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 22nd at the Westbrook Library.

I have purchased extra books, so you can purchase one at the Tea for \$30, if you missed our group order.

Any questions, please contact Donna

GOURMET GROUP

GOURMET GROUP - Hostesses needed!! Our February Brunch is coming up on Sunday, February 11 and we need at least one hostess for 8 to 10 people. Please contact us no later than Friday, January 20 if you would like to hostess.

Mary Ann K. -
Elaine N.

In order to assign guests and menu we must hear from all interested in attending our Brunch by **January 20.**

ARTISTS AND MAKERS GROUP

The next meeting for the Artists & Makers Group will be in April.

Contact Amanda Merritt with any questions

EVENING BOOK GROUP

Many thanks to Deb for hosting our December meeting and leading a very interesting discussion of "The One Man".

The Evening Book Group will meet again on Tuesday, January 23, at 7 pm at the home of Pat C.,. We will be reviewing "The Tea Planter's Wife" by Dinah Jefferies. If you plan to attend, please call or email Pat
All are welcome to attend!

Mary Jane

EVENING BRIDGE

There will be no evening bridge in January.

AFTERNOON BRIDGE

Afternoon bridge is scheduled for the 3rd Monday of the month. Please contact Bonnie for time and place.

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

The meeting will take place on **Wednesday, January 3rd from 1-3pm at the Acton Library, Old Saybrook.** The book to be discussed is Remarkable Women of Hartford by Cynthia Wolfe Boynton.

All are welcome no need to RSVP.

Reminder: The following people will present two women:

Eileen	Hannah Hudson and Edythe Gaines
Carolyn	Lydia Sigourney and Ella Grasso
Eva	Harriet Beecher Stowe and Hilda Standish
Sara	Elizabeth Colt and Rachel Taylor Milton
Deb	Virginia Smith and Beatrice Fox Auerbach
Dot	Dotha Bushnell Hillyer and Mary Townsend Seymour

Audrey will lead the discussion.

MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg will be Tuesday, January 9th at 12:30 pm at the home of Mary Jane P.. Please let her know if you will be attending.

AAUW FUNDS

The AAUW Fund – Working for gender pay equity (<https://salary.aauw.org/about/>)

Currently the overall gap is \$.80 on the man's dollar. AAUW believes pay equity and equal opportunity are matters of simple fairness and is leading the charge to end pay discrimination and open doors for women in the workplace through several channels:

- **Connecting** and rallying advocates at the local, state, and national levels to advance strong pay equity legislation and

enforcement that aims to shrink the gender pay gap

- Conducting groundbreaking research on issues related to gender equity in the workplace and highlighting *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap* and what we can do to end pay disparity
- **Supporting** efforts to use the court system to challenge sex discrimination and unfair pay in the workplace

AAUW offers two workshops that help women learn how to negotiate their salaries. The Start Smart workshop helps women who are applying for their first post college jobs. Work Smart is for women already on the workforce. As the AAUW web site states, “The gender pay gap starts **just one year** out of college with women making 82 cents to a man’s dollar, and the disadvantages **only worsen over time**. That is why it’s crucial to establish a fair salary early on.” Both workshops are designed to empower women with the skills and confidence they need to successfully negotiate their salary and benefits. The workshop curricula employ the latest in research and negotiation strategies to help women navigate the complexities of job offers and promotion opportunities. Women come away from the workshops knowing how to determine their market worth based on their skills, experience, performance, qualifications, and responsibilities on the job and having the tools and business strategies they need to successfully negotiate for fair pay for the rest of their careers.

Let’s take some action. Check **out** <https://salary.aauw.org/about/> to find a workshop for a college student or a woman in the workplace. Send the link to young women you know since this site provides workshop schedules, sign-up for attendees, information for potential facilitators, and email forms to help one lobby for a college to offer a workshop.

Read the *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap*, Fall 2017 Edition

(<https://www.aauw.org/research/the-simple-truth-about-the-gender-pay-gap/>). The report explains the pay gap in the United States; how it affects women of all ages, races, and education levels; and what you can do to close it. In 2016, for the fifth anniversary of *The Simple Truth*, AAUW updated the report with information on disability status, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

Deborah R

MONTHLY MEETING DATES

January 6, 2018- Saturday – Annual tea - 1pm – 3pm Old Saybrook Pavilion

February 14, 2018- 12noon Acton Library
-Old Saybrook-

Valentine luncheon-
Bring a sandwich for yourself and a munchie to share Dessert and beverages provided

March 14, 2018-6:45- Essex Public Library

April 18, 2018 – 6::45- joint meeting with Shoreline Affiliate- location TBA

May 9, 2018-6:45- Essex Public Library

June 13, 2018- 6:30pm – Ivoryton Playhouse end of year social/play

AFFILIATE WEBSITE

lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net

During this past month, our website had **59** visitors, of these, 90% were new.