



Lower Connecticut Valley Newsletter

lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net

April 2018

CALENDAR

Apr 4 Wed 1 to 3 pm Afternoon Book Grp
Apr 5 Thu 7 pm Evening Bridge
Apr 5 Thu 7 pm Great Decisions
Apr 10 Tue 12:30 pm Mah Jongg
Apr 18 Wed 6:45 pm Joint Meeting
Apr 21 Sat Gourmet Group Dinner
Apr 24 Tue 7 pm Evening Book Grp
Apr 26 Thu 7 pm Great Decisions

ANNUAL JOINT MEETING

Date: Wednesday, April 18th
Place: Clinton Library
Clinton
Time: 6:45 PM

What can happen when you say “NO!”
—We’ll find out from Susan Landino—

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Susan is the keynote speaker at our annual joint meeting when the Lower Connecticut Valley and Shoreline branches of AAUW join forces. She is an academic, an expert on Title IX issues and an activist supporting students dealing with harassment issues. What’s more, she is an outstanding example of an individual who stood up and said “No”, successfully bringing her own case against Yale—aided by our Legal Advocacy Fund. Not to be overlooked—she is a member of the Lower Connecticut Valley Affiliate.

Susan has spoken in many states and drew accolades at AAUW’s National Convention in June 2017. This is our chance to hear her message.

We are honored to welcome
Susan Landino
April 18, 6:45PM
at the Clinton Library

AAUW Empowering Women Since 1881

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hopefully, March will go out like a lamb with spring flowers peeking up from the ground. Even though it had snowed the day before, over 35 members attended the March meeting. Safe Futures gave an informative presentation along with a sad but true status on human trafficking. Dot gave an excellent overview of the 3 proposed National by-law amendments for you to consider. Your vote is important! Please go to the National AAUW website to see comments from across the country and place your vote between April 25- June 9, 2018.

The AAUW state convention unfortunately is the same day as our annual scholarship luncheon—Saturday—April 14, 2018. Our efforts are to support the luncheon but if anyone would like to represent us at the state meeting, the flyer is attached to this newsletter. Hopefully, we will see many of you at our luncheon!

Audrey

**FUNDRAISER---BOOK AUTHORS'
LUNCHEON--APRIL 14th**

*DECIDE TO COME
INVITE FRIENDS*

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS
THURSDAY APRIL 5TH!!

FORSYTHIA blooms for the
SPRING FUNDRAISER

Interest groups and others did baskets. Lots of gift certificates, auction art and special items-- new bid-early-to-buy options on some.

All bid by number this year.

Thanks for supporting our mission for female education! If you are unable to attend, your donation is much appreciated!

Sara

AAUW PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW National Board proposal for Bylaws Amendment Vote.

An email was sent to all members on Thursday, February 22nd. If anyone did not receive this, let me know and I will forward a copy.

The purpose of these three amendments is to increase the AAUW impact in advancing equity for women and girls.

Proposed Amendments:

1. Have three year staggered board terms.
2. Open board service to those outside of the AAUW membership.
3. Eliminate the degree requirement for membership.

More information is available on AAUW website.

Look for spring AAUW Outlook magazine. Voter PINs will be emailed to members and also included in spring Outlook.

Voting begins on April 25.

Deadline for AAUW to receive request for paper ballot May 7th.

Deadline for mailing paper ballot May 21.

Online voting ends 9pm June 9.

Vote results announced online June 10.

Read, ask questions, talk to other members. Cast your vote. Feel free to call or email me with any questions.

Barbara H.

BYLAWS CHANGE DISCUSSION

There are 3 changes being proposed to AAUW bylaws. At the March meeting, members were able to review each proposal, consider the rationale for each, and provide comments. Based on comments, our affiliate generally has a positive opinion of all 3 proposals. Most discussion was on proposal #3. Comments were also posted on the AAUW national website.

Here's a brief summary of our discussion.

Proposal #1: Staggered terms of office for AAUW Board of Directors on a 3 yr rotation.

Term of office (3 years) should be specified in the bylaws. (It does appear in Article VI, Section 3 – Term of Office)

Proposal #2: Membership requirement for AAUW Board of Directors: The Board strongly supports allowing up to 5 Directors who are not members of AAUW to serve on the Board.

Questions about non-members who become directors.

- Should they pay dues once they are on the Board?

- Are Board members paid?

- Assuming non-members of the Board could be men?
- How are these candidates evaluated....what about hidden agendas?

Proposal #3: Degree Requirement for membership in AAUW

General agreement that it's time for change, for the organization to become more inclusive. However, does that necessitate a change in the name of the organization?

- There is a certain "branding" associated with the AAUW name. Would the name need to be changed to reflect membership changes? Example of successful transition of meaning.....YMCA/YWCA
- The name is historic and unique. May exert more influence in national and local matters.
- The mission is unique. Would new membership guidelines dilute it?
- Not clear "who" can join – should there be other basic membership requirements other than agreement to "the mission".
- Reference to easier fundraising efforts if the change is initiated....need more info to explain what this means.
- Limited voting time.
- This change has already been voted down several times.
- If membership is declining, leaders should investigate and look for solutions.

Voting online begins April 25th and ends June 9th. The bylaw proposal will be published in the spring AAUW Outlook and voter PINs will be emailed to members and mailed with the Outlook magazine. Results will be published online June 10th.

Dot B.

Bylaws Chair

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Scholarship Committee continues to advertise for education grants for academic year 2018-2019 and anticipate awarding \$2000 grants to two or more students, depending on proceeds from the upcoming Book Author Fundraiser. Students must be at least 20 years old by year end, live in the local geographic area, and attend a college or university. For recommendations or further information, contact Barbara Hall.

Rose P.

Chair

EVENING BRIDGE

Evening bridge will be held Thursday, April 5 at Marcia's house. at 7 pm. RSVP to Marcia.

GOURMET GROUP

Our next meeting will be dinner at the homes of three members on Saturday, April 21. We will be winding down the year with a get together bar- b- que for everyone in one location on Saturday June 9. All AAUW members are welcome if they sign up by the designated date, which will appear in the May newsletter. any questions: contact Mary Ann or Elaine

GREAT DECISIONS

Our April Great Decisions meetings will be held on April 5th to discuss *Russia's Foreign Policy* and on April 26th to discuss *China and America*:

the new geopolitical question. All Great Decisions sessions are held at the Westbrook Library and each program starts at 7:00pm. Any questions can be directed to Donna B.

EVENING BOOK GROUP

Many thanks to Mary Ann K. for leading a lively discussion of The Master and to Betsy G. for graciously hosting our March meeting.

The evening book group will meet again on Tuesday, April 24, at 7 pm at the home of Jane K. We will be discussing The Girl Who Wrote in Silk by Kelli Estes. Please email or phone Jane if you plan to attend.

All are welcome!

AFTERNOON BRIDGE

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

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

The Afternoon Book Group will meet on **Wednesday, April 4th from 1-3pm** at the **Acton Library in Old Saybrook**. We will be discussing Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi. All are welcome to attend even if you have not read the book. No need to RSVP.

I will be collecting donations for the kindle that will be put in our basket for the book author luncheon.

Olga

MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg will be on Tuesday, April 10th at 12:30. Location TBD. If interested in attending, please contact Sharon .

END OF THE YEAR EVENT

Ivoryton Theater. AAUW Summer Social

Wednesday, June 13th, 2018, 7:30 P.M.

A Night with Janis Joplin

From Broadway to Ivoryton, come share an evening with the Queen of Rock and Roll, Janis Joplin. Featuring such unforgettable songs as “Me and Bobby McGee,” “Piece of my Heart,” “Mercedes Benz,” Cry Baby,” and “Summertime,” *A Night with Janis Joplin*, is a musical journey celebrating Janis and her biggest musical influences ---- Aretha Franklin, Etta James, Odetta, Nina Simone, and Bessie Smith.

Janis Joplin was one of the biggest female rock stars of her era. In 1967, she rose to fame during an appearance at Monterey Pop Festival and she also appeared at the Woodstock festival and the Festival Express train tour. She released three albums and a fourth album was released after her death in January 1971. Joplin, highly respected for her charismatic performing ability, was posthumously inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1995. Rolling Stone ranked Joplin number 46 on its 2004 list of 100 Greatest Artist of All Time.

So come join us for an “electrify” evening with “Janis Joplin”!!! Tickets are \$40.00 per person and will be available starting at the April meeting. Reservations are limited to 54 seats, so get your seats early! I will be collecting the money until mid May and then Olga will be taking over the ticket sales.

Mary M., Program Chair

MONTHLY MEETING DATES

April 18, 2018 – 6:45- joint meeting with Shoreline Affiliate- Clinton Public Library

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

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