



Lower Connecticut Valley Newsletter

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

June 2019

### CALENDAR

Jun 6	Thu	2 to 4 pm	Thursday Bridge
Jun 10	Mon	6 pm	Joint Book Groups
Jun 11	Tue	12:30 pm	Mah Jongg
Jun 12	Wed		End of Year Social
Jun 13	Thu	6:45 pm	Great Decisions

### END OF YEAR SOCIAL



AAUW Summer Social,  
Ivoryton Theater  
June 12th, Wednesday evening  
**"GODSPELL"**

Godspell is a faithful and uplifting modern take of the biblical story loosely based on the gospel according to St. Matthew. The message of

"Godspell" is completely timeless and has amazed people around the world for over 40 years. It was the first musical theatre offering from the legendary **TONY** award winning music composer Stephen Schwartz who went on to write such well-known hits as *Wicked*, *Pippin* and *Children of Eden*. The show features a comedic troupe of eccentric players who team up with Jesus to teach his lessons in a new age through parables, games, and tomfoolery.

Godspell also features the international hit, "Day by Day" as well as an eclectic blend of songs ranging from pop to vaudeville, as Jesus' life is played out onstage. Even after the haunting crucifixion, Jesus' message of kindness, tolerance and love lives vibrantly on.

Reserve your seat now at \$40.00/person. A reception will precede the performance.

For information and reservations contact:

Mary M.

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVING A TICKET  
IS JUNE 6TH**

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At our annual meeting Linda F. presented the board approved, proposed budget. It is a fiscally sound, balanced budget which uses our income from dues for operating expenses while leaving our assets intact. The budget was passed unanimously. There was some discussion about the amount allocated for speakers being too low. Several years ago the board decided to offer our

speakers an honorarium of one hundred dollars. We have been able to secure very interesting and thoughtful speakers, however if problems with speakers arise in the future we will address them. The new method of renewing our membership was also discussed. To streamline the process and to make it more efficient, renewal will be done online. Linda F. explained the process at length as well as answered questions and concerns about security issues. Let me reiterate what Linda learned from National, which she wrote in an email to everyone. National does not hold on to our credit card information and their website uses the most up to date security system. For members still uncomfortable renewing online, you will be able to print out renewal forms when you respond to the renewal reminder email. Then fill out the form, pay with a check and send the check to Linda. I do encourage you to try this new online method. Several of the board members, myself included, found renewing online very easy and fast. It insures that you can correct your own contact information on the National website and pay your dues at the same time. The membership committee will be immediately notified and your name will be entered in the next membership directory.

During the summer board members will be working on several projects. Among them are giving out grants to local qualified recipients, working on our website and looking into the feasibility of obtaining 501c3 status for the branch. There will be a newcomers meeting in August on the 14th at 6 pm at the home of Deb D.. New members are encouraged to attend. Also any member may bring a friend who is interested in joining AAUW or who wants to learn more about AAUW.

I hope to see many of you at the Ivoryton Playhouse for our June social on the 12th. Godspell is a wonderful show and we will again have time before the show to socialize and enjoy refreshments. Have a wonderful and safe summer. This has been a great year!

Olga S.  
President

## MEMBERSHIP

Our Lower Connecticut Valley branch members of AAUW have begun renewing their membership (2019-2020) using the AAUW Membership Payment Program (MPP) system. This is very **easy** to do, and we encourage you to renew your membership as soon as possible. You will be paying all of your dues (branch, state, and national) either by charge card online or you can opt to send a check to our treasurer.

Each member that has NOT already renewed their AAUW membership for 2019-2020 will receive an additional email from [membershipinfo@aauw.org](mailto:membershipinfo@aauw.org) within a day or two of this newsletter email. (If you have already renewed you will not be receiving an additional email.) You will be able to renew your membership using credit card or paying by check.

**There are two ways to renew.**  
**1) To renew online you will click on the link in the AAUW email that says “click here to pay by credit card”. No sign-in or password is needed! It is really easy and no credit card information is stored on the AAUW site.**

Or you can renew by check  
**2) To renew by check: Make your check payable to AAUW for \$90 (branch, state, and national), and mail it to your branch finance officer/treasurer:**

Linda F.

Thank you for supporting this initiative!  
Linda F., Margie R. and Sharon H.

It is time again to think about friends, etc. who you think might be interested in joining AAUW. The Reception for new and prospective members will be held at Deb D's again this year. The date is Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Please send the full name and email address of anyone you think would be interested to Sharon H.

with China.” Talk about a ‘hot topic’! Carol H. will be the discussion leader.

Here is a quote from our background article (author Jeremy Haft, a 20-year business veteran of the U.S.-China import-export sector): *With one eye, we look at China through the lens of trade balances.... With the other eye, we see China through the lens of GDP. Peering through these lenses, China looks like Goliath and America more like David....But we are peering through economic lenses that are centuries old. They are statistical antiques meant to measure a world before globalization.*

So, we will talk about appropriate economic lens, the current effects of the trade war, and what can be done. See you there!

## **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

The Scholarship Committee continues to advertise and accept applications for education grants for academic year 2019-2020. Students who are candidates for Associate or Bachelor degrees from accredited colleges or universities are eligible to apply. Applications must be received by June 10. Contact Mary M. for further information, or if you want to recommend a student.

Many thanks to our members who offered to help advertise the grants within their local areas.

Rose P., Chair

## **GOURMET GROUP**

We are ending up the year with a picnic at the picturesque home of Bonnie N. which is situated overlooking Rogers Lake. Where could be a more enjoyable setting to eat and converse!

Next Fall we'll be signing up those interested in joining the Gourmet Group. All are welcome - couples and singles alike.

Have a healthy and happy summer. Bon Appetit,  
Your organizers,

Mary Ann . and Elaine .

## **THURSDAY BRIDGE**

Thursday bridge will be held June 6 at Eloise B's home from 2-4. Please let Marcia know if you would like to come .

## **GREAT DECISIONS**

The next discussion for Great Decisions will be held on Thursday June 13 at 6:45 pm at the Westbrook Library. Our topic for June is “Trade

## **AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP**

The June meeting will be our joint event with the evening book group at the home of Mary Ann K. on Monday June 10th at 6. Please RSVP to Mary Ann. Bring your favorite pot luck dish for dinner and your thoughts for discussion of the book *The Masterpiece*, by Fiona Davis, one of our luncheon speakers. Penny H. will be the facilitator for the group.

Please also arrange to car pool from exit 70 commuter lot.

For those of you who want to read ahead, our book for Sept. 4th is *My Dear Hamilton* by Stephanie Dray:) Happy Summer and of course happy reading!

## **AFTERNOON & EVENING BOOK GROUP**

The end of the year joint book group meeting will be held on Monday, June 10 at the home of Mary Ann K. beginning at 6 pm with a potluck dinner. We will be discussing *The Masterpiece* by Fiona Davis, one of the authors who spoke at the Book Author Luncheon. If you are planning to attend, please let Mary Ann know.

## **MAH JONGG**

Mah Jongg will be on Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> this month. Venue TBD. If you are interested in playing, please contact Sharon

### **AFTERNOON BRIDGE**

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

### **2020 AAUW Book Authors' Luncheon**

As co-Chairs of the 2020 Book Authors' Luncheon Committee, Mary M and I are excited to share some wonderful news with all of you! We have already booked next year's venue and speakers!

**Save the Date!** Mark your calendars!

**AAUW Book Authors' Luncheon**

**March 28, 2020**

**11:30**

**Saybrook Point Inn, Old Saybrook**

Our 2020 Authors will be internationally acclaimed writers, **Heather Webb** and **Hazel Gaynor**.

Heather and Hazel have joined together to co-write 2 novels: The Last Christmas in Paris and the soon to be released novel, Meet Me in Monaco. Their latest work is set in the 1950s and revolves around the story of Grace Kelly's whirlwind romance and unforgettable wedding to Prince Rainier of Monaco.

Hazel Gaynor lives in Ireland. She is a *USA Today* and *Irish Times* best selling historical novelist. Her latest solo novel is The Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter. Heather Webb lives in Connecticut. She is the international bestselling author of historical novels set in France. She is also a professional freelance editor. Her latest solo novel is Ribbons of Scarlet. In 2018 Heather and Hazel won the Women's Fiction Writers Association STAR Award

for co-writing The Last Christmas in Paris.

So mark your calendars and date books for March 28, 2020!!!

Penny H.