



Lower Connecticut Valley Branch

Website: lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net

Facebook: facebook.com/groups/460005185436947

Lower Connecticut Valley Branch Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2021

NOVEMBER 2021 CALENDAR

- Nov. 3 Wed. 1pm Afternoon Book Club (Zoom)
- Nov. 9 Tue. 12:30pm Mah-Jongg
- Nov. 10 Wed. 7pm General Meeting & Safe Futures' Collection**
- Nov.16 Tue. Daytime Hike (time will be emailed)
- Nov.16 Tue. 7pm Evening Book Club
- Nov.17 Wed. 2pm Cultural Trip
- Nov.17 Wed. 7pm Great Decisions (Zoom)



GENERAL MEETING

- Date:** Wednesday, November 10, 2021
- Place:** Saybrook Point Pavilion
- Address:** 155 College St., Old Saybrook
- Time:** 7:00pm
- Speaker:** Karen Dizenzo, retired Naval nurse
- Topic:** "The History of Navy Nurses and Personal Experiences"

Please plan to join us on the day before Veterans Day for our next General Meeting. Our speaker, Karen Dizenzo, is a retired Naval nurse and recent

AAUW member. She will help us honor the service of Navy nurses by explaining their history, and detailing some of her own experiences. It's sure to be an interesting evening.

---Gerri, Program Chair

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On October 8, AAUW LCV welcomed 30 members to our first general meeting at the Saybrook Point Pavilion for an informative and heartbreaking presentation by Ann O'Brien from IRIS (Integrated Refugee and Immigration Services) regarding the resettlement of Afghan refugees. Ann mentioned that one family has been recently welcomed to Old Lyme through the efforts of three local churches, and another family will soon be resettled in New London. For more information on local efforts, visit Irisct.org.

I am excited that Karen Dizenzo, a retired Navy nurse, will address our group at the November 10 general meeting. We are very fortunate to have a woman veteran to share her experiences on the evening before Veterans' Day. I hope that many of you will be able to attend.

Saybrook members who would like a ride to the general meetings, please contact Jan as she would be happy to pick you up.

If any Essex or Old Lyme residents would like to pick up other members, please give me a call, and I will put it in the next newsletter.

A special thank you to Margie for an excellent job on the Membership Booklet! Please remember to pick up your booklet at the next LCV event.

Thinking ahead as we shop for the holidays, at the November 10th meeting, we will again collect items for Safe Futures. Safe Futures provides shelter and help for battered and abused women and their children. Our group has been contributing to Safe Futures every holiday season for many years, and our generosity is greatly appreciated.

It's been a busy month for our LCV branch with a lively discussion of the Koreas on Great Decisions, two book group meetings, mahjong gatherings, a fun and informative tour of Newport, and a hike at beautiful Gillette Castle.

Please join in the fun!

---Mary Jane, President

SAFE FUTURES DONATIONS

Below is the list of requested items from Safe Futures:

- Women's winter socks and PJs
- Twin or queen sheet sets and towels
- Winter hats/gloves sets for women and children
- Children's coloring books and crayons
- Earphones or headsets for middle school students

ESPECIALLY –

- Gift cards to Target, Walmart, Kohl's, or Stop and Shop.

Collection will take place on Wednesday, November 10, at the 7pm General meeting at Saybrook Point Pavilion.



MEMBERSHIP

The 2021-2022 Membership Directories will be available again at our General Meeting at the Saybrook Point Pavilion at 7pm on Wednesday, November 10th. Hope to see you there!

Shape the Future Campaign

We had a very successful Shape the Future Campaign this summer, so we now qualify for 4 free National Memberships! This is a savings of \$62 for National Dues. New members would still have to pay \$31 for State and Branch dues. If you have a qualified friend, neighbor or family member who would like to join our LCV AAUW Branch at this discounted rate, please have them send a check for \$31 made out to "LCV AAUW" to MaryAnn along with a completed membership application which can be found on our website (lowerctvalley-ct.AAUW.net). They could also bring a check to our November meeting and join then. We only have 4 of these discounted memberships available.

---Margie & Sharon, Co-Chairs



Members visiting Newport, RI, at October's Cultural Trip.

BOOK AUTHORS' LUNCHEON

SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, April 2, 2022

Keep checking this section for more details on this Spring 2022 event.

---Sue & Penny, Co-Chair

DONATING TO THE LOWER CT VALLEY BRANCH OF AAUW

Many of our members donate to AAUW National when paying their dues on-line. Those donation dollars support many of the great efforts that AAUW supports which include economic security and fair pay, gender equity etc. None of the donated dollars to National AAUW go to the branches. If you wish to donate to the Lower Connecticut Valley Branch it can be done easily on our website.

Steps to Donating to our LCV Branch:

Go to our website <https://lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net>
Click on the yellow "Donate Button" on right side of the page.

A donation page will come up.

1. Choose the amount of the donation
2. Choose where you would like the money to go. your choices are:
 - a. Undergraduate Grants & Scholarships
 - b. Recognition Fund "in honor of" or "in memory of"
 - c. LCV Programs or Functions
3. Choose if you would like to add to your donation to help offset the cost of processing fee (ex. For a \$25 donation it would be \$1.25). If you do this you will be donating \$25 to LCV and paying the \$1.25 processing fee.
4. Choose "Donate with PayPal" or "Donate with a Debit or Credit Card"
5. On the payment page you can write a note:
 - a. To identify who the donation is "In memory of" or "in honor of". Please include if you want someone to be notified of the gift. If so, include their name and their address (email or mailing address)
 - b. If you are doing "in memory" or "in honor of" please write in where you want the

money to go – Grants & Scholarships or LCV programs & functions.

6. Fill in your payment information
 - a. Please add your contact information so we can contact you with any questions and/or send a thank you for the gift
 - b. Click on "Donate Now" and you are done.

---Linda, Past Treasurer



SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarship Committee met in October to set our schedule and priorities for the coming year. We will meet again in early December to plan the NCCWSL award process. By then, we will have more information about whether the conference will be virtual or in person this May, the cost of the conference, and how many students we can sponsor.

The Scholarship Committee will then edit the application for the Educational Grants, review last year's publicity, and set a schedule for awarding the grants.

----Sue and Olga, Co-Chairs



Members at the Rocky Neck State Park hike in October.

AAUW LCV FACEBOOK PAGE

Check out and join our AAUW Lower Connecticut Valley Facebook Page to see photos and announcements of our various activities:



Members on the Newport, RI, shore during the October Cultural Trip.

INTEREST GROUPS

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

The Afternoon Book Group is discussing Eat the Buddha, by Barbara Demick, at its Wednesday, November 3rd meeting at 1pm on Zoom. This book is a non-fiction exploration of a Ngaba, a Tibetan town rarely visited by outsiders, site of recent protests, and a window on the history of Tibet and its ties to China.

For our December 1st meeting, we will read Deacon King Kong, by James McBride, a comic detective story with a rich cast of characters who live in 1960s south Brooklyn.

We welcome you to join the Afternoon Book Group! Contact Sue.

Happy reading!

-- Sue & Elaine, Co-Chairs

EVENING BOOK GROUP

A big thank you to Deb for leading an informative and lively discussion of The Premonition, by Michael Lewis. The book highlighted shortcomings of the US public health system that were revealed by the pandemic, along with characterizations of a group of dedicated health professionals who helped get the response underway. Due to weather, we met on Zoom.

On Tuesday, November 16, we will meet at 7 pm at the home of Deb to critique Harlem Shuffle, by Colson Whitehead. Please contact Deb if you plan to attend.

New members are welcome!

---Mary Jane, Chair



AFTERNOON BRIDGE

TBD. If you are interested in playing, and/or chairing, please contact Marcia or Deb.

MAJ JONGG

Mah Jongg will be held on Tuesday, November 9th, at 12:30pm at Jeanette’s home. All are welcome. Please contact Jeanette or Sharon if you plan to attend.

GOURMET GROUP

Looking for new members for Gourmet Group! Hoping to have our first event in February 2022 with a brunch. Looking forward to seeing everyone again! Bonnie will be the co-chair with me, Beth. If you would like to join, please contact Bonnie.

GREAT DECISIONS

The discussion group had a very interesting meeting in October talking about the Two Koreas.

We will meet again on Wednesday, November 17 at 7:00 on Zoom. The November topic is "The End of Globalization?" Again, a very topical discussion now that global supply chain disruptions are affecting the availability and price of everything from food to new cars. Please join us! This meeting will be the last GREAT DECISIONS discussion of the calendar year. Co-Chairs will change to Kaye and Judith who announce that, to date, 21 members have signed up to participate in the 2022 Great Decisions Discussion Group. You can still sign up for next year's discussion group before November 15!

If interested in joining, please contact Kaye or Judith by November 15th.



Members hiking at Rocky Neck State Park in October.

HIKING GROUP

Our hike in November will be at Devil’s Hopyard in East Haddam on Tuesday, November 16th. (Rain date is Thursday, November 18th). Contact Margie if you are interested in attending.



Members on Newport Historical Society’s tour “Discover Colonial Newport” in October.

CULTURAL TRIPS

Event: **IVORYTON PLAYHOUSE MATINEE**
Date: **Wednesday, November 17th**
Location: **103 Main Street, Ivoryton, CT**
Time: **2pm**
Fee: **\$45 per person/Ticket**

We will see the 2 pm matinee performance of

“Say Goodnight Gracie: The Life, Laughter and Love of George Burns and Gracie Allen.” This play won the National Broadway Theater Award for Best Play in 2003-2004.

Sixteen tickets have been reserved for our group, and **there are still tickets available**. Price is \$45 each. Contact Sharon, if interested by November 3rd. Payment must be to Sharon no later than November 10th.

Event: WADSWORTH ATHENEUM MUSEUM OF ART & LUNCH

Date: Friday, December 3, 2021

Location: 600 Main Street, Hartford, CT

Time: 12pm Lunch & 2pm Tour

Fee: \$15 per person/Ticket + Lunch

Join us for a trip to Hartford to see the “Festival of Trees” at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art.

On display will be hundreds of trees and wreaths decorated by artists, community members and organizations. All items are for sale with proceeds going to support the museum.

The tour will be at 2 pm. Tickets are \$15 per person. Fifteen tickets have been reserved. Lunch reservations have been made for 12 noon at the Trumbull Kitchen, 150 Trumbull St., in Hartford.

If you’d like to attend, please contact Deb.

UPCOMING AAUW MEETING: DECEMBER

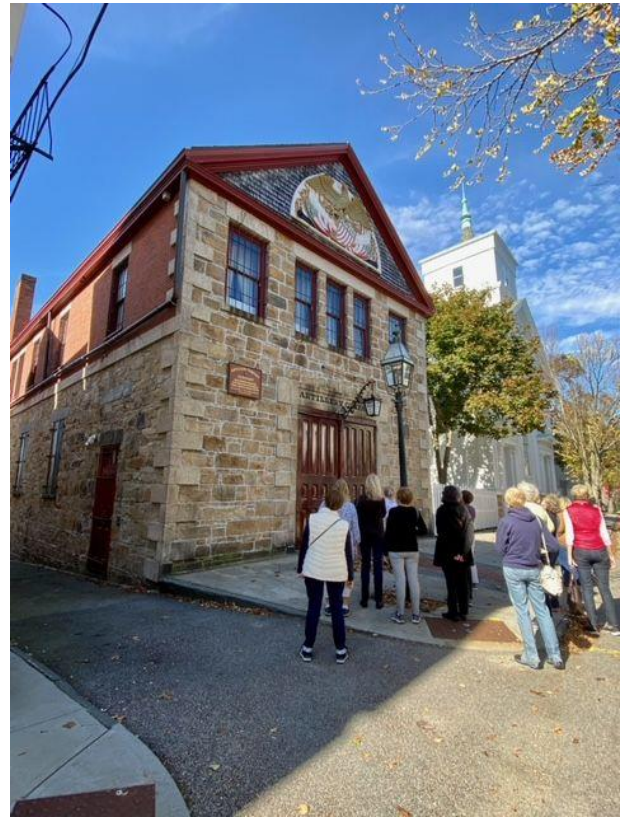
Holiday Gathering

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

7:00 pm

Saybrook Point Pavilion

155 College St., Old Saybrook



Members at Historic Building on walking tour, in October, in Newport, RI.

