



Lower Connecticut Valley Branch

Website: lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net

Facebook: facebook.com/groups/460005185436947

Lower Connecticut Valley Branch Newsletter

JANUARY 2022

JANUARY 2022 CALENDAR

Jan. 5 Wed. 1pm Afternoon Book Club (Zoom)

Jan. 8 Sat. 1pm – TEA & TRIVIA

Jan. 11 Tue. 12:30pm Mah-Jongg

Jan. 13 Thu. 10:30am Cultural Trip

Jan. 25 Tue. 7pm Evening Book Club (Zoom)

(Note: Bridge, Gourmet, Great Decisions and Hiking groups will not meet this month)

GENERAL MEETING: TEA & TRIVIA

Date: Saturday, January 8, 2022

Time: 1:00-3:00 pm

Location: Zoom (Virtual)

Let's start the new year off right with our annual Tea & Trivia event. Don't forget your thinking caps as Dot and Mary Jane are working on some devilish trivia questions. It'll be fun to see how trivial we all are!

See you in 2022!

---Gerri, Program Chair



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Holiday greetings to all! We missed one another due to the weather cancellation of our Holiday Party, but I look forward to seeing our members again at our annual Tea & Trivia on Saturday, January 8 at 1 pm. Get your teacup ready and start flexing your trivia muscles in advance of that date! Please stay alert for email messages should Covid restrictions dictate a change in plans.

It is exciting that our Book Author Luncheon committee will meet for the first time on January 10 to begin planning our April 2 event. If you are interested in helping with our signature scholarship fundraising event, please contact Sue to receive a Zoom invitation.

December was an active month with a terrific trip to Hartford to see the Festival of Trees, a well-attended Evening Book Group meeting, Mahjong, and the Afternoon Book Group on Zoom. Along with our general meeting, January promises to bring us more book group meetings, Mahjong, and a tour of the Currier and Ives exhibit at the Florence Griswold Museum.

I wish you and yours a Happy and Healthy New Year!

---Mary Jane, President

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS

Please note: Deb Herskowitz's new email address.

SHAPE THE FUTURE CAMPAIGN

We still have 3 Free National Memberships available for new members through the Shape the Future Campaign. 3 New members would only have to pay \$31 for State and Local Dues. If you have a qualified friend, neighbor, or family member who would like to join our LCV AAUW 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 next meeting and join then.

---Margie & Sharon, Co-Chairs



BOOK AUTHORS' LUNCHEON

We welcome your help for the Book Author Luncheon which will be held at Saybrook Point Inn on **Saturday, April 2, 2022.**

The Book Author Luncheon committee will start meeting on January 10th at 1 p.m. on Zoom and will meet every few weeks to plan the fundraising event—from the silent auction and raffle items to the events the day of the Luncheon.

We welcome everyone's help! If you can assist in any way -- even if you can't be at the meetings -- know there is a role for you. **Please contact us if you can help in any way.** Know we have lots of fun while doing important work!

To join the Book Author Luncheon Committee, contact Co-Chairs Sue or Penny..

SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarship Committee met in December, and we will meet again in January.

We are editing the application for the Educational Grants, reviewing last year's publicity, and setting a schedule for awarding the grants.

Our other agenda item was to plan for the NCCWSL award process. As we still do not know if the conference will be virtual or in person this May, we will wait to learn more before we identify students to sponsor and attend.

Know we have invited the Educational Grants recipients to our January 8th Tea & Trivia meeting so you can meet them!

----Sue and Olga, Co-Chairs

AAUW LCV FACEBOOK PAGE

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



INTEREST GROUPS

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

The Afternoon Book Group will meet on Wednesday, January 5th at 1 p.m. on Zoom to discuss Yellow Bird: Oil, Murder, and a Woman's Search for Justice in Indian Country, by Sierra Crane Murdoch, a non-fiction book about a journalist investigation of an oil field worker's murder on a North Dakota Native American reservation.

Our February meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 2nd, and we will discuss the novel A Woman Is No Man, by Etaf Rum, about three generations of Palestinian-American women navigating the complexities of their lives in conservative Arab families in modern-day America.

For those of you who would like to read ahead, our March selection and discussion is The Four Winds, by Kristin Hannah. This novel set in the Midwest, during the Depression, and focuses on a woman and her family as they struggle to survive the Dust Bowl and migration to the West.

Know that ALL are welcome to join -- as an active participant or to just listen in! Please email if you'd like to participate.

Happy Reading!

-- Sue & Elaine, Co-Chairs



AFTERNOON BRIDGE

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

EVENING BOOK GROUP

In December, the Evening Book Group enjoyed a discussion of How It All Began, led by Elaine. Thank you, Elaine!

The group will meet again on Tuesday, January 25 at 7 pm on Zoom. We will be discussing The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles, and Judith will lead our review. Zoom invitations will be sent to the members of the Evening Book Group.

If you would like to participate but are not a member of the group, please email me for a Zoom invitation. All LCV members are welcome to participate.

---Mary Jane, Chair

MAJ JONGG

We will be playing on Tuesday, January 11th at 12:30pm. Meeting place TBD. Please call Jeanette or Sharon if you plan to attend.

GOURMET GROUP

Happy New Year!

As Omicron spreads, we will take a wait and see approach for our first in-person dinner. Check the February newsletter for an update.

Meanwhile, please send me an email letting me know if you would still like to be part of the group. I always welcome suggestions for dinner themes and recipes.

---Beth, Co-Chair

GREAT DECISIONS

To date, 23 members have joined the Great Decisions Discussion Group (GDDG) 2022.

The topics are as follows:

Changing Demographics
Outer Space
Climate Change
Russia and the U.S.
Myanmar and ASEAN
Quad Alliance
Drug Policy in Latin America
Industrial Policy
Biden's Agenda

The first meeting of the new season will be on Wednesday, February 16 via Zoom, starting with some social time at 4:30 and discussion from 4:45-6:30 pm. Subsequent meetings will be held at the Acton Library in Old Saybrook on the third Wednesday of the month from April -November. (There is no meeting in March or July.)

We anticipate distribution of the GDDG booklets at the January Tea & Trivia event on Saturday, January 8th, so that members will have the opportunity to prepare February's timely topic: Climate Change.

If anyone has questions, please contact Co-Chairs Kaye or Judith.



HIKING GROUP

There will be no hike in January. Hopefully we will have one in February. Contact Margie if you'd like to attend.

CULTURAL TRIPS

**Event: FLORENCE GRISWOLD MUSEUM:
CURRIER & IVES EXHIBIT & LUNCH**

Date: Thursday, January 13, 2022

Location: Old Lyme, CT

Time: 10:30am Tour / 12pm Lunch

Fee: \$12 per person/Ticket + Lunch

Please join us to see the exhibit "Revisiting America: The Prints of Currier & Ives" at the Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme, CT. The tour will start at 10:30 am and we will have LCV member, Sue, as our guide. Tickets are \$12 per person.

After the tour, we can have lunch at The Hangry Goose, 11 Halls Road, Old Lyme. **There is room for FOUR more people for this tour.** Please contact Deb by January 6th.



**Event: LONG WHARF THEATRE MATINEE
"FIRES IN THE MIRROR" & LUNCH**

Date: Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Location: New Haven, CT

Time: 11:45am Lunch/ 2pm Matinee

Fee: \$35 per person/Ticket + Lunch

We are very excited that we will again be going on one of our favorite trips to the Long Wharf Theater in New Haven on Wednesday February 2, 2022, for the 2 pm matinee performance of "Fires in the Mirror".

We will have lunch before the performance at Brazzi's Restaurant which is located in the same complex as the Long Wharf. Lunch reservation is for 11:45. **There is room for THREE more people for this trip.** Please email Deb no later than Jan 10th if you would like to attend. Please mail a check for \$35 to Deb.

UPCOMING MEETING: FEBRUARY

Valentine Luncheon
Wednesday, February 9, 2022
12:00pm

Acton Public Library – Old Saybrook
60 Old Boston Post Road

Speaker: Tom Schuch, Local Historian
**"A Microcosm of a Nation in Turmoil:
The Harris Sisters in Antebellum New London,
1830-1850"**



**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022
TO ALL!**

