

Website: lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net *Facebook:* facebook.com/groups/460005185436947

JUNE 2022 CALENDAR

Jun 1 - Wed. 4pm Joint Book Clubs Meeting Jun 2 – Thu. 7pm Cultural Trip (Hartford) Jun 8 - Wed. 6:30pm Year End Social Jun 11- Sat. 6pm Gourmet Group Jun 14 - Tue. 12:30pm Mah-Jongg Jun 15 - Wed. 4pm Great Decisions Jun 21 – Tue. Hiking Group (Email will have time/location.) Jun 28 – Tue. 3:30pm Evening Book Group (NO Afternoon Bridge)



JUNE MEETING: YEAR END SOCIAL

<u>Comedic Play</u>: "Native Gardens" by Karen Zacarias



Date:Wednesday, June 8, 2022Place:Ivoryton PlayhouseAddress:103 Main St., Ivoryton, CTTime:6:30 pm - Drinks and Appetizers
(in tent next to the theater)7:30 pm - Production - "Native Gardens".

Let's finish out the 2021/22 season with a delightful evening at the Ivoryton Playhouse. We will gather prior to the performance for a little food and drink. Our Hospitality Committee will graciously supply appetizers. The Playhouse will offer wine/beer/iced tea or lemonade for \$5/drink. **Please bring cash.**

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We will then proceed to the theater to enjoy the comedy, "Native Gardens" by Karen Zacarias.

The Playhouse requires patrons to provide proof of vaccination, with photo ID. If not vaccinated, you must provide a negative Covid test within 72 hours, with photo ID. Masks are recommended.

Looking forward to seeing you in Ivoryton!

---Gerri, Programs Chair

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our May 11th Annual Meeting began with a presentation by Dr. Hermes, of CCSU, who created a website for the Ancient Burying Ground Association in Hartford highlighting the people of color buried there. A very interesting topic of which most of us were previously unaware! The Annual Meeting also approved the budget for 2022-23 and elected officers for the upcoming year. Congratulations to Deb as incoming President, Jeannette as Vice President, Barbara as Secretary, and MaryAnn returning as Treasurer.

A special thanks to Elaine for her outstanding contributions as Secretary over the past three years. Elaine has managed to act as secretary in several different capacities. We are grateful for her willingness to help wherever she is needed.

Plan to attend our last meeting of the 2021-22 year on Wednesday, June 9, at the Ivoryton Playhouse. This event is returning after a three year hiatus, so please join in to welcome it back! We will enjoy a social hour beginning at 6:30 pm with light refreshments, followed by the play, *Native Gardens*. This is always a fun event! As of July 1st, LCV welcomes Deb as our new President, and I will move on as Past President. What a time the past two years have been, with Covid looming over all! But, with the help of Zoom and everyone's willingness to try new twists on activities, we have managed to continue to enjoy our meetings and interest groups. Thank you for your forbearance and continued participation.

It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as your President. I would especially like to thank the Board. They have been supportive and helpful in every way, and I am very grateful for all that they have done.

Have a great summer, everyone!

---Mary Jane, President



LCV May Annual Meeting presentation by Dr. Hermes, CCSU, on the Black and Indigenous Women in the Ancient Burying Grounds of Hartford, 1640-1885.



LCV BOARD MEMBERS 2022-23

POSITION

President Vice-President Treasurer Secretary Past President Programs Membership Scholarship Communications Newsletter Fundraising Hospitality

NAME

Deborah D. Jeannette S. Mary Ann I. Barbara D. Mary Jane P. Gloria G./Lucy D. Margie R./Deb H. Sue A./Olga S. Elaine Q. Kristen O. Linda F./Kathy H. Diane V./Marcia M.

VOTING RESULTS: AAUW PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES

AAUW National Election 2022's votes have been tallied. The results:

- Peggy Cabaniss, Cheryl Sorokin, Dale Satake and Mary Zupanc have been elected to serve on the AAUW National Board of Directors;

- The bylaws amendment on nominations was approved by 97.37% of voters;

- The bylaws amendment on ballot administration was approved by 97.81% of voters.

Thank you for your participation.

---Dot, Chair

PUBLIC POLICY

There are so many issues that we need to make our voices heard about now. Please contact your senators and congress members to let them know how you feel. Remember that, even if you know they agree with your point of view, it is important to be counted amongst their supporters on the issue. Write, email, or phone.

In view of the terrible school shooting in Texas, gun control and safety IS at the forefront.

Women's rights and health care are under attack in multiple jurisdictions. Urge your representatives to pass laws to protect women and to ensure that services are available for all mothers and children. If Roe vs. Wade is struck down, it will be women in poverty who will be most impacted. Other women will turn to dangerous alternatives which will endanger their lives and health. For most of us, it will be our daughters and granddaughters that will be affected, so once again we must thrust ourselves forward to protect them.

Climate change is upon us. Environment protection laws and regulations are vital to slow down the changes. Again, we are doing battle for the sake of our kids and grandkids as we see the obvious effects already.

Throughout the next few months, please take action on issues that will impact the future.

--- Dawn, Chair

MEMBERSHIP

The Lower Connecticut Valley Branch members of AAUW can now begin renewing their membership (2022-23) using the AAUW Membership Payment System. **Dues will be \$98** (\$67 for National Dues of which \$64 is tax deductible, \$10 for State Dues, and \$21 for Branch Dues) which you will pay all at once. **Membership Dues are due by June 30th**. You will be able to renew online or by check.

To renew online:

1.) An email will be sent to you to reset your account and **create your password** to access your **Personal Snapshot**. Or you can just directly to **my.aauw.org** to log in to your Personal Snapshot.

2.) Within your **Personal Snapshot**, click the blue **RENEW** button at the bottom of the screen to update your profile and renew your national, branch **CT-1022-Lower Conn Valley**, and state memberships. You can pay using your credit card.

To renew by mail:

Send a check made out to LCV AAUW for \$98 to: MaryAnn I.

Feel free to contact me with any questions. If you would like to pay by check, you can also give me a check at the Year End June Social at the Ivoryton Playhouse on June 8th.

---Margie, Co-Chair



SCHOLARSHIP

Four local college women will be sponsored by LCV-AAUW to attend NCCWSL, a national conference for college women leaders, which will be held virtually on May 25th and 26th. The conference keynote speaker will be Nicole Hannah-Jones, author of the book, <u>The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story.</u>

The application for Educational Grants is available on the LCV AAUW website. **The deadline for applications is June 13th with awards announced on July 1st**. We encourage you to consider any qualified college women you know to apply.

The Educational Grant opportunity has been publicized widely in local newspapers and social media. Many thanks to Scholarship Committee members, Kaye, Deb and Gloria, for their help on publicity.

---Sue & Olga, Co-Chairs



AAUW LCV FACEBOOK PAGE

Check out and join our AAUW Lower Connecticut Valley Facebook Page!



INTEREST GROUPS

AFTERNOON BRIDGE

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

MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg will be held on Tuesday, June 14th at 12:30pm. Venue TBD. Anyone interested, please contact Sharon.

GOURMET GROUP

Our first Gourmet Group event will be Saturday, June 11th, at 6:00pm. It will be a cocktail party at the home of Sharon & Alan Howell - 380 Hidden Lake Road, Higganum. (203-258-5715). Please bring a savory hors d'oeuvre or a sweet dessert to share. The event is BYOB. We will provide soft drinks, ice, and paper goods.

As always, we welcome couples and singles, as long as everyone is vaccinated. Please RVSP Beth, Co-Chair.

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

The Afternoon Book Group met on May 4th to discuss <u>The Four Winds</u>, by Kristen Hannah. Thanks to Sara who led us in a very engaging discussion of the plot and characters of this memorable novel set in Texas and California during the Depression and Dust Bowl era.

An exciting event will be a joint meeting with the Evening Book Group on Wednesday, June 1st, 4 p.m. Mary Ann has graciously offered to host this meeting. (Detail follow.) We hope you can attend!

-- Sue & Elaine, Co-Chairs



JOINT BOOK GROUP ANNUAL MEETING

Mary Ann Kistner has once again offered to host our annual Joint Book Group meeting and potluck dinner on Wednesday, June 1, at 4 pm at her home - 29 Josie Perkins Lane, Lyme. We will discuss <u>Oh, William</u>! by Elizabeth Strout, followed by a potluck dinner.

Please EMAIL Mary Ann

if you plan to attend. She needs an accurate count, as she is hosting the dinner. Mary Ann requests that

members be vaccinated to attend. **Bring a hearty dish** to share – an appetizer, salad, main dish, or dessert. Since parking is limited, plan on meeting at Exit 70/ Park and Ride at 3:30pm to carpool to MaryAnn's home. Kindly email Mary Jane if you are carpooling. We don't want to leave anyone behind!

-- Mary Jane /Sue, Chairs

EVENING BOOK GROUP

Our April meeting was a wonderful evening with a stimulating discussion of <u>Bad Blood</u>, by John Carreyou! Many thanks to Jane for her warm hospitality and to Dot for leading the group.

The Evening Book Group will also meet on Tuesday, June 28, at the home of Barbara to discuss <u>Klara and the</u> <u>Sun</u>, by Isighuro. Since we will meet outside, **the time has been changed to 3:30 pm.** Please email Mary Jane if you plan to attend.

--- Mary Jane,, Chair

GREAT DECISIONS

The Great Decisions Discussion Group (GDDG 2022) met on Wednesday, May 18th, at the Acton Library in Old Saybrook. The topic, "Industrial Policy," has frequently been in the news lately. Members were actively engaged in discussing the topic. Facilitators Kayeand Judith received positive feedback on the balance of presentation and discussion.

The June meeting will focus on the "Quad Alliance,"—a collaborative effort of the U.S., Australia, Japan, and India to strive for a region in the East and South China Seas that is "free, open, inclusive, healthy, and anchored by democratic values and unconstrained by coercion." The Quad Alliance has also been in the news lately. The meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m. with discussion from 4:15 - 5:45 pm. The meeting will be held at the Acton Library, 60 Old Boston Post Road, Old Saybrook.

If you have any questions, please contact Kaye or Judith. We are looking very forward to seeing you on June 15th.

Kaye & Judith-Co-Chairs



LCV members hiking the Heritage Trail in Hartman Park, Lyme, this May.

HIKING GROUP

We had a great hike in May at Hartman Park in Lyme on the Heritage Trail. Our June hike will be Tuesday, June 21st. You will be receiving an email with the details Please email me if you would like to be added to the hiking group email list.

---- Margie, Chair

CULTURAL TRIP: JUNE

Event: Author Amor Towles, <u>The Lincoln Highway</u> Date: Thursday, June 2, 2022 Location: Immanuel Church 100 Woodland St. Hartford, CT <u>Time</u>: 7pm <u>Fees</u>: \$35 (includes a signed copy of book) + Dinner

This is a Live, In Person Event featuring Author Amor Towles who will discuss his book, <u>The Lincoln</u> <u>Highway.</u> The Mark Twain House & Museum is the sponsor. (It is now SOLD OUT).

We will go to dinner at Peppercorns Restaurant in Hartford.

I have two tickets still available. If you are interested, please contact me asap.

--- Deb, Chair



Essex, CT – Sailboats on the CT River

Happy Summer!

The next AAUW-LCV Newsletter will arrive via email by September 1st.

