



Website lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net
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Lower Connecticut Valley Branch Newsletter

OCTOBER 2022

OCTOBER 2022 CALENDAR

- Oct. 5 Wed- 1pm Zoom Author Event/
Afternoon Book Club – All Invited!
- Oct. 6 Thu– 11am Cultural Trip
- Oct. 12 Wed - 7pm Oct. Meeting
- Oct. Tue – 12:30pm Maj Jongg
- Oct. 25 Tue – Hiking Group (time/details in email)
- Oct. 25 Tue – 7pm Evening Book Club
- Oct. Wed – 4pm Great Decisions



OCTOBER LCV MEETING

Date: Wednesday, October 12th, 2022
Place: Saybrook Pavilion
Address: 155 College St., Old Saybrook
Time: 7:00 pm

END OF LIFE CARE & MEDICAL AID IN DYING - CT LEGISLATION

Speaker: Tim Appleton, Director,
Compassion and Choices

Website: <https://www.compassionandchoices.org>

Comparing Palliative Care (i.e. Hospice) and the proposed State of CT legislation on Medical Aid in Dying for patients with 6-month life prognosis; and the ethical considerations.

--- Gloria & Lucy, Co-Chair

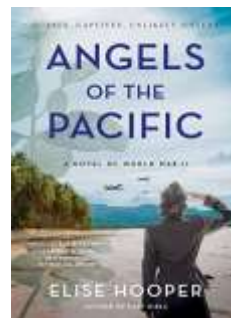
LIVE BOOK DISCUSSION with AUTHOR ELISE HOOPER

ALL LCV MEMBERS INVITED!

Wednesday, October 5th - 1pm (via Zoom)

The Afternoon Book Club is thrilled to again host author Elise Hooper! She last discussed Fast Girls: A Novel of the 1936 Women’s Olympic Team with us.

Elise will now discuss her 2022 highly acclaimed historical novel, Angels of the Pacific, which focuses on the contributions and lives of American and Filipino nurses during World War II.



All LCV members are invited ---even if you haven’t read the book.

Please email Mary Jane by 12 noon, Tuesday, October 4th, if you would like to attend this Zoom event at:
(See Afternoon Book Group article for more information.)

--- Sue & Elaine, Co-Chairs

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our first meeting and Pot Luck in September was very well attended. It was great to see returning members and welcome several new ones!

Please don't miss our first program, October 12th, on compassionate care and end of life issues. It promises to be a very thought-provoking session.

National AAUW encourages everyone to vote on November 8th. If anyone needs a ride to the polls, I would be happy to take you.

---Deb, President



MEMBERSHIP

Our special 50th Anniversary edition of the 2022-23 Membership Directory is ready and will be distributed at our October 12th general meeting. We currently have 81 members. Welcome to our four newest members!

We had another successful **Shape the Future** campaign and have earned three (3) free national memberships. The three new members taking advantage of this will only 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", along with a completed membership application, which can be found on our website (lowerctvalley-ctAAUW.net). One can also bring a check to our October 12th, 7pm, monthly meeting and join then. (Only three (3) new members will be eligible for this \$67 discount.)

----Margie and Deb, Co-chairs

THANK YOU, LCV MEMBERS!

I want to express my appreciation for the outpouring of love David and I received. The food so many brought to our home, flowers, cards of sympathy, and donations!!!

I can never fully express how much it all means to both David and to me!!!

SAVE THE DATE!! Saturday, March 25, 2023

THE BOOK AUTHOR LUNCHEON IS BACK!

Saturday, March 25, 2023



After 2+ years, our Book Author Luncheon & Fundraiser is returning to the Saybrook Point Inn, featuring two very popular authors --- **Heather Webb** and **Amy Poeppel** --- And our fabulous raffle, our lovely silent auction, and a most delightful lunch!

(More detailed event information will be coming at our branch meetings and in our newsletters).

SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarship Committee is meeting in October to plan publicity for the Educational Grant and NCCWSL offerings in 2023. We are continuing to use social media, community resources, and contacts at local colleges to spread the word about these opportunities for college-age women. Many thanks to all Lower Connecticut Valley AAUW members who have helped us with these fundraising and publicity efforts!

--- Olga & Sue, Co-Chairs

NATIONAL AAUW PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

Each and everyone one of us needs to vote and encourage Family and friends to do so as well. Key women's issues for this election year include:

- Voting access
- Pay equity
- Paid leave and child/elder care infrastructure
- Healthcare access and reproductive rights
- College affordability
- Campus sexual harassment and violence.

To read more about these issues, log onto AAUW's Voter Issue Guide at: <https://www.aauwaction.org/voter-education/voter-issue-guide>.

--- Deb, Chair

AAUW LCV FACEBOOK PAGE

Please check out and join our AAUW Lower Connecticut Valley Branch Facebook Page! Invite your friends to join too!



INTEREST GROUPS

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Hello everyone! Thank you for attending the September meeting of the AAUW Afternoon Book Group!

We discussed The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation by Anna Malaika Tubbs. While we had some shared confusion about the organization of the biographies of the three women, we were impressed with the factual information regarding the Civil Rights Movement and women's history in their lifetimes. We learned many memorable facts about these mothers, including:

- Martin Luther King, Jr.'s mother Alberta was murdered in the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta as she played the organ;
- Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birth name was Michael and was changed when he was three years old to honor his grandfather's wishes;
- Malcolm Little changed his name to Malcolm X after he studied Islam in prison because he viewed his given surname reflected slavery;

- Malcolm X's mother, Louise, was confined in a mental institution against her will for 25 years;
- The writing of James Baldwin was impressive even when he was in elementary school.

The author's purpose-- to reveal the lives of black mothers who have been erased from American history-- was clear to us in our reading and discussion.

On **Wednesday, October 5th at 1 pm via Zoom**, we will celebrate National Book Month by again welcoming author Elise Hooper, who will discuss her latest book, Angels of the Pacific (2022). Reviews have called it "absolutely riveting"; it appears on several lists of 2022's best historical novels. Elise will discuss her extensive research into the many unacknowledged contributions of American and Filipino nurses during World War II, and how they survived incredible hardships with courage, endurance, bravery, hope—and sisterhood. She will also take questions from attendees.

The November selection for the Afternoon Book Group is The Chancellor: The Remarkable Odyssey of Angela Merkel, by Kati Marton. One of the New York Times 100 Notable Books of 2021, this biography follows Merkel's accomplished life from her childhood in East Germany to her academic achievements, as a PhD in Physics, to her rise as the most influential woman in modern-day European politics. Judith will lead our discussion on Wednesday, November 2nd, at 1 p.m. on Zoom. We hope you can join us!

-- Sue & Elaine, Co-Chairs



EVENING BOOK GROUP

We had an excellent opening book group meeting on September 20. Thanks to Deb for leading an interesting discussion of Geraldine Brooks latest novel, Horse, and for hosting us, as well. We agreed that the depictions of the characters Jarrett and Theo were excellent, and we enjoyed learning more about horse racing and the painting of horses in the pre-Civil War era. The book's ending was not satisfactory to everyone, but, overall, Geraldine Brooks did well, as usual.

We decided to read Lost Girls by Robert Kolker for our next meeting, which will be held at 7 pm on October 25. Lydia will lead the discussion. All are welcome!

For November, the Evening Book Group will sponsor a special event to which all LCV members are invited. Kate Seaver, the editor of The Personal Librarian by Benedict and Murray, will speak to the LCV group at 3:30 pm at Acton Public Library on November 15th regarding her role as editor of the book. We hope many will read the book and attend the discussion!

---Mary Jane, Chair

GREAT DECISIONS

The Great Decisions Discussion Group (GDDG 2022) met on Wednesday, September 21st. The topic was Myanmar and ASEAN. Kaye presented the results of her research on Myanmar and Aung San Suu Kyi, still considered by many as a leader for democracy, despite being imprisoned by the leaders of the military coup. Judith facilitated the discussion. In the week following the meeting, the NYT reported an attack on a school in Myanmar that killed 11 children. The GD program provides an opportunity for members to better understand current topics that concern us.

To that end, the topic for October 19th is Putin's Russia, which is in our daily news cycle ever since Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24, 2022. The meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m. and discussion is scheduled for 4:15 – 5:45 pm. The meeting will be held at the Acton Library.

GD members are reminded to complete the survey on the planning for GDDG 2023 and return to Judith by October 15. Thank you! If you have any questions, please contact us. We are looking forward very much to seeing you at the October meeting.

----Kaye & Judith, Co-Chairs

HIKING GROUP

Our October hike will be to Wadsworth Falls State Park in Middletown on Tuesday morning, October 25th (rain date Thursday morning, October 27th). More detailed information will be emailed to those in the group.

Please email Margie if you would like to be added to the hiking group.

MAJ JONGG

Mah Jongg will be on, Tuesday, October 11t at 12:30pm. Location TBD. For additional information, please contact me.

---Sharon, Chair

GOURMET

Still time to join the Gourmet Group. Our first dinner will be in a couple of weeks. We will divide up in groups of 6-8 people. Menus and recipes are provided. It's a great way to make new friends and try some great food. Call me with any questions.

--- Beth, Chair



CULTURAL TRIP: OCTOBER

**Event: Lockwood-Matthews Mansion
Tour / Exhibits**

Date: Thursday, October 6th

Location: 295 West Ave, Norwalk, CT 06850

Time: 11am Meet-up/ 12pm Lunch/ 2:30pm Tour

Fee: \$12 per person + Lunch

Our **October Cultural Arts** program will be a tour of the Lockwood-Matthews Mansion Museum in Norwalk on **Thursday, October 6th**. The Museum is regarded as one of the earliest and most significant Second Empire Style country houses in the United States and was built by renowned [financier and railroad tycoon LeGrand Lockwood](#) from 1864-1868. Highlights of the 90 minute guided tour is the costume exhibition, "Making It Last: Sustainable Fashion in Victorian America" and the related exhibit, "Fragments of Light, Impressions of Color".

Our group will meet at exit 65 of I-95 to carpool at 11 am to arrive in time for lunch at O'Neill's in South Norwalk, followed by the tour at 2:30 pm. Please let Sharon know if you are able to drive.

--- Sharon & Mary Jane,, Co-Chairs

CULTURAL TRIP: **NOVEMBER**

Event: Grove Street Cemetery Tour

Date: Thursday, November 10th

Location: Next to Yale campus, New Haven, CT

Time: 9:30am Meet-up/ 10:30am Tour/ 12pm Lunch

Fee: Tip (for tour) + Lunch

Join us for a private guided tour of the famous **Grove Street Cemetery**, located adjacent to the Yale campus in New Haven, at 10:30 AM. There is no charge for the tour, but gratuities are accepted. Our group will meet at 9:30 AM at exit 65 of I-95 to carpool to the cemetery. Parking is available **AT** the cemetery. Following the tour, our group will lunch at Yorkside Pizza, New Haven.

To reserve a spot, please email or call Sharon and let her know if you are able to drive. Fifteen (15) members can attend on this tour.

--- Mary Jane & Sharon, Co-Chairs

CULTURAL TRIP: **DECEMBER**

Event: “Winter Wondrettes” Holiday Play

Date: Wednesday, December 14th

Location: Ivoryton Theatre, Ivoryton, CT

Time: 11:30am Lunch/ 2pm Matinee Play

Fee: \$45 ticket/ per person + Lunch

Our December Cultural Arts program will be to attend the **Ivoryton Playhouse holiday program, “Winter Wonderettes”** on December 14. This seasonal presentation will feature many fun versions of holiday classic songs, performed by the Wonderettes. Join us for the fun by attending lunch at 11:30 AM at Scotch Plains Tavern, Essex, followed by the play at 2 pm.

The discounted cost for the Ivoryton Playhouse ticket is \$45. Send your check to Mary Jane, no later than **November 28**, so that the necessary reservations can be finalized. Also, please confirm IF you will attend the lunch.

--- Mary Jane & Sharon, Co-Chairs



UPCOMING: LCV NOVEMBER MEETING

-AND-

HOLIDAY DONATIONS COLLECTION

Wednesday, November 9th, 2022

7:00 pm

Saybrook Point Pavilion

155 College St., Old Saybrook

Topic: PROTECTING OUR HOMELAND & THE WAR ON DRUGS: U.S. COAST GUARD

Speaker: Capt. Eva Vancamp, Commander, Sector Long Island Sound, U.S. Coast Guard

The US Coast Guard is our neighbor and does so much more than rescue mariners. Serving as the front-line for coastal security and drug enforcement, they protect us all. Learn more --- and be inspired!

Please Bring Donations! We will again be collecting items this Holiday season for the Safe Futures Women’s Shelter. Gift cards (\$25-\$50) for CVS, Target, Walmart, Walgreens, Stop & Shop, etc; toys; clothing; personal items for women and children are greatly appreciated!

Website: <https://www.atlanticarea.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/District-1/District-Units/Sector-Long-Island-Sound/>

Website: <https://safefuturesct.org/>