

**Lower Connecticut Valley AAUW
Branch Meeting
September 14, 2023**

Members Present: There were over 40 members and several new members and guests present at the meeting held at Saybrook Point Pavilion. We started with a pot-luck dinner at 6 pm. and the meeting was called to order by President Deb DeHertogh at 7 pm.

Presentation on National AAUW: Sue Aberbach began the presentation with a handout detailing the history and accomplishments of AAUW. Some highlights:

- Marion Talbot and Ellen Swallow Richards met in Boston with 15 alumnae from eight colleges to discuss the need for college-educated women to have greater opportunities and for more women to have access to higher education.
- By the time we celebrated our 50th anniversary in 1931, AAUW had had 521 branches and 36,800 members. By 1949, we had grown to 1,097 branches and more than 108,000 members.
- In 1920, Marie Curie, a future Nobel Prize-winning scientist, received contributions which went toward the purchase of one gram of radium for her research.
- AAUW was granted permanent U.N. observer status in 1946.
- During WWII, we supported the establishment of women's units of the armed services and advocated for equal pay and rank for women. Members at the national and local level participated in civilian and military wartime activities, including raising money for a War Relief Fund to assist European scholars and university women displaced by the military occupation.
- In 1969, AAUW Educational Foundation established the [Coretta Scott King Fund](#) to provide scholarships to 46 Black women.
- In 1971, AAUW members passed resolutions supporting the legalization of abortion and the Equal Rights Amendment.
- AAUW created a Legal Advocacy Fund in 1981 to support plaintiffs in lawsuits related to sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.
- AAUW hosted its first National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in 2002 at American University in Washington, D.C.

Sue remarked that LCV sponsored 2 young women to attend NCCWSL this past year. Our fundraising pays the cost of the event, \$565, plus a travel stipend, \$175.

Deb DeHertogh continued the discussion with a handout on the awards and grants that National AAUW provides.

- This year, AAUW National awarded \$6.3 million dollars to 285 fellows and grantees and since 1881, more than \$140 million has been donated to 130,000 women from 150 countries.
- 6 Fellowships and Grants were reviewed including
 - American Fellowships, the oldest AAUW program, funds support post-docs
 - Community Action Grants, supports innovative projects that promote equity and education for women and girls
 - AAUW Achievement Award, has been awarded to Justice Sonya Sotomayor, Senator Olympia Snow, Astronaut Mae Jemison, Secretary of State Madeline Albright, and Feminist Gloria Steinem

Funding of these comes from dues, grants, and their endowment.

Jan Furman, Chair of Public Policy for LCV, continued the presentation starting with "we've come a long way ..." but women we still have a long way to go. National AAUW has publicly backed several initiatives:

- AAUW supports the President's Loan forgiveness program
- AAUW supports the Paycheck Fairness Act, which was passed in a bipartisan vote in the U.S. House of Representatives and is awaiting action in the U.S. Senate.
- AAUW joined in the opposition of Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization. The Supreme Court ruled to uphold Mississippi's law and overturned Roe v Wade.

At the State level, there are two major issues:

- Raise awareness of and interest in AAUW
- Safety on college campuses.

Violence against women on campus is particularly disturbing at CCSU and a small group is looking at ways to help address this issue.

A collection basket was provided for anyone wishing to make a donation to National AAUW.

Membership: Margie Rice and Deb Herskowitz reported that we have had 21 members join since March. Tonight's meeting is a Shape the Future event so that new members can save ½ off National dues.

Please turn in Privacy Policy forms if you haven't already.

Monthly Programs: Gloria Gery reported that many excellent speakers have been arranged for the programs throughout the year. Please note that the program on cheese tasting is limited to members only! All programs and activities are on the calendar on our website. Be sure to check it out. IMPORTANT: The members only page is password protected. The password is lcvmember (all lowercase).

501c3 Update: Linda Frigon informed the group that LCV-ESP (Education and Scholarship Program) is now a 501c3 organization. Linda shared a handout with information about why we wanted to become a public charity organization. Some reasons:

- Donations will be 100% tax deductible
- Discounts from software providers and reduced credit card transaction fees
- Exemption from CT Sales Tax on purchases, venue rental, catered meals, services

See handout for more info

Interest Groups

Evening Book Group -- Deb D reported that *Demon Copperhead* will be discussed on September 26th at her house. Titles of books to be read for the rest of the year will be selected at this meeting.

Afternoon Book Group -- Sue Aberbach reported that the next meeting is October 6th on zoom. *The Librarianist* is the book to be discussed.

Hiking -- Margie R told us that the next hike is 10/16 at Groton Long Points (rain date 10/19).

Cultural Arts -- Sharon H reported that the next trip is 10/19 at the Mark Twain House.

Gourmet Group -- Beth Brewer reported that they are looking at a dinner for the end of October. Great way to meet people and exchange recipes.

Great Decisions -- Barb Dimberg reported that the group meets at Acton Library on Wednesdays at 3 pm. Economic Warfare will be the focus of the next meeting on 9/20.

Mahjong -- Carole Otto said that the group meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 12:30. Next meeting is 10/10.

Fundraising: Penny Hein reported that plans are underway for the annual Book Author Lunch (BAL) to be held April 13th. The BAL Committee will have a kick-off meeting on Monday 9/18 at 2 pm at Acton Library. Anyone who is interested in helping is asked to attend or contact Penny or Linda Frigon.

Scholarship:

Sue Aberbach reported the committee works from late fall to spring. The deadline for applications for the scholarships is early June. Contact Sue or Olga Saubermann if you know have questions about the grants or NCCWSL.

Hospitality: Dede Volz and Marcia Machuga were thanked for a lovely potluck event. A sign up list was provided for members to bring a dessert to branch meetings. Dede or Marcia will call to remind you.



Treasurer's Report: MaryAnn Iadarola reviewed the August report. Beginning balance in Business Advantage Checking: \$9,629.00. Ending Balance \$1,883.22. Major expense was \$6,957.78 which was money transferred from the 501c4 scholarship fund to the AAUW-LCV ESP 501c3 checking account. The ending balance of the Business Money Market account was \$20,873.96..

President Deb DeHertogh adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm. The next branch meeting is Thursday October 12th at 7 pm at Saybrook Point Pavilion.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Dimberg
Secretary

1881





Marion Talbot and Ellen Swallow Richards met in Boston with 16 alumnae from eight colleges to discuss the need for college-educated women to have greater opportunities and for more women to have access to higher education.

1882


The initial group was joined by another 16 alumnae to officially launch the American Collegiate Association (ACA), which ultimately becomes the American Association of University Women (AAUW). Their stated purpose was "for practical education work, for collection and publication of statistical and other information concerning education, and in general, for the maintenance of high standards of education."

1884-86



ACA's first local branches were established in Washington, D.C., New York, Pacific/San Francisco, Philadelphia and Boston.

1885



The ACA issued its first research report in conjunction with the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labor: *Enthralled Health Statistics of Women College Graduates*, the report reinforced a widely held belief that women's health and fertility was adversely affected by attending college.

1888


Our first fellowship (\$500) was awarded to Ida Street, a pioneer in the field of early American Indian history. She was a member of the Western Association of Collegiate Alumnae, which merged the next year with the ACA.

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1912

AAUW Member Adia Lathrop became the first woman to head a U.S. federal agency, the U.S. Children's Bureau.




1913


The Washington, D.C. branch issued a study of civil service jobs; it detailed the number of women employed by 13 government departments, the positions they held and their salaries. The study found that women were paid around 70% of what men in similar roles earned.



1917



AAUW Member Rep. Jeannette Rankin (R-MT) became the first woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.



1920


Marie Curie, a future Nobel Prize-winning scientist, received contributions from some ACA members, which went toward the purchase of one gram of radium for her research. Curie's daughter later returned a portion of donated money to AAUW, which used it to create the endowment that funds the Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship.

1921

The Southern Association of College Women (founded in 1903) and the ACA merged to form the newly titled American Association of University Women (AAUW).

1933

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1936

First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt invited Mary Ritter Beard, AAUW member, to the White House. They subsequently met again at AAUW headquarters to kick off the World Center for Women's Archives project to write women back into history.




1938

AAUW published *The Living Wage for College Women*, documenting widespread wage discrimination in academe and serve as the basis for future campaigns to improve the status of women on campus.

1942

AAUW published *The Toll Tax* report documenting how these taxes discriminated people of color, women and people in poverty.



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1945


AAUW began raising money for its War Relief Fund to assist European scholars and university women who are displaced by the military occupation. AAUW provided fellowships to many, including chemist Gertrud Kamfeldt, archaeologist Elizabeth Jarrow and physician Ineburg Kuhn.

1945

AAUW member U.S. Representative Chase Young Woodhouse (D-CT) introduced the first proposed federal equal pay legislation — the Equal Pay Act of 1963.

1946

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1950

Senator Joseph McCarthy accused former AAUW international relations associate Esther Branson of being "instrumental in committing the organization to the support of various (Communist) front enterprises." AAUW general director Kathryn Michele and the AAUW Board of Directors staunchly defended Branson.

1961
President John F. Kennedy established the Presidential Commission on the Status of Women to investigate the social and economic conditions in the United States. AAUW members Rep. Edith Green (D-OR), Magpanita Rowell, Caroline Stone and AAUW general director Pauline Tompkins were actively involved in the commission.

1963
On June 10, President Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act, which AAUW had worked to advance since it was first introduced in 1945.



1968
AAUW launched its environmental initiative, *The Belagard Earth — Our Blue Survival* which urged branch members to study environmental problems in their communities.

1969
AAUW Educational Foundation established the **CENTIS RIGHTS FUND** to provide scholarships to 48 Black women to become leaders in academia, business, the professions, the arts and public service.



1971
AAUW members passed resolutions supporting the legislation of abortion and the Equal Rights Amendment.

1975
AAUW Action Fund created the Capitol Hill Lobby Corps to monitor congressional hearings and lobby for bills that match AAUW's legislative program.

1981
AAUW created a Legal Advocacy Fund to support plaintiffs in lawsuits related to sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.



1961
President Kennedy appointed AAUW board member Sarah T. Lightfoot Hughes as the first female judge in Texas. She later served in President Lyndon B. Johnson's office after the resignation of President Kennedy.

1963
AAUW president Blanche Dow was named to the Steering Committee of the National Women's Committee for Civil Rights.

1963
AAUW observed the 15th anniversary of the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights with a letter to all branches to promote that "human rights know no national boundaries," and urged branches around the country to support civil rights legislation and understanding.

1968
AAUW started the Action for Unified Society initiative "to identify the 'left-out' groups in [branch] communities — the poor, the minorities, the disabled and disadvantaged youth — and to creatively develop projects that will utilize members' talents to help bring these groups into the mainstream of American life." Branches around the country participated in activities designed to promote racial understanding and Civil Rights.

1970
AAUW published *Campus 1070: Where Do Women Stand?* documenting widespread sexual discrimination against women at all levels of higher education.

1972
Title IX became law, protecting against discrimination based on sex in education programs or activities that receive Federal financial assistance. AAUW members were pivotal in Title IX's creation and passage. It was introduced and sponsored by AAUW member Rep. Edith Green (D-OR).

1977
Around 100 AAUW members representing 37 states served as delegates at the landmark National Women's Conference in invasion along with Gloria Steinem, Coretta Scott King, Maya Angelou, Billie Jean King and other activists. The first women's conference supported by Congress. This gathering was conceived by a presidential commission exploring barriers "that prevented women from participating fully and equally in all aspects of life."

1991
AAUW published *Now Schools Shortchange Girls* report, which found how girls overall receive an inferior education to that of boys.

1995
1995: AAUW president and U.N. Representative Mary Parcell attended the Beijing World Conference On Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace as an accredited observer on behalf of AAUW.

2002
AAUW hosted its first National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) at American University in Washington, D.C.

2009
On January 8, AAUW members joined President Barack Obama for the signing of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. AAUW members were instrumental in advocating for the law and providing support to Ms. Ledbetter.

2013-14
AAUW partnered with the Clinton Global Initiative to engage students from around the country to develop a gender perspectives for global issues.

2017
AAUW engaged in White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault.

1993
AAUW successfully worked to help pass the Family Medical Leave Act.

1995
AAUW launched its voter education campaign efforts.

2008
AAUW received special consultative status with the United Nations. This gives us a voice at U.N. meetings and on committees such as the Commission on the Status of Women, U.N. Women, the Committee on Teaching about the United Nations, and the Working Group on Girls.

2011
On March 26, AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund accepted its first strategic lawsuit outside of academia, *Holt v. Hobbes* — the largest-ever class-action sexual discrimination lawsuit. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled against the suit, deeming the class too big to move forward.

2016
AAUW participated in the White House United States of Women Summit and White House Equal Pay Pledge release.

2019
AAUW continued advocating for the Paycheck Fairness Act, which was passed in a bipartisan vote in the U.S. House of Representatives and is awaiting action in the U.S. Senate.

NATIONAL AAUW AWARDS AND GRANTS

**In 2023-24, AAUW awarded \$6.3 MILLION dollars to 285 fellows and grantees
Since 1881, more than \$140 million donated to 130,000 women from 150 countries**

1. American Fellowships

Oldest AAUW Program---started 1888

Funds support post-doctoral research, completion of dissertations, preparing the publication of research results, childcare or other expenses

AMT: \$2,000-\$20,000

2. Community Action Grants

Started 1972

Supports innovative projects that promote equity and education for women and girls.

Eligibility: community non-profits, AAUW branches, individuals & universities

AMT: \$3,000-\$10,000

3. International Fellowships

Started 1917

Supports women from outside the US to pursue full-time graduate or post-graduate education at US schools and who plan to return to their country to pursue a career

AMT: \$20,000-\$50,000

4. Selected Professions Fellowships

Started 1970

Supports women going into fields of architecture, computer science, informatics, engineering & mathematics. Also supports black women who are pursuing MBA, law degree, doctor of medicine.

AMT: \$20,000

5. AAUW Achievement Award

Awarded to women who have achieved the highest standards of service in the public or private sector for at least 20 years.

Past award recipients: Justice Sonya Sotomayor (1917), Senator Olympia Snow from Maine (2013), Astronaut Mae Jemison (2007), Secretary of State Madeline Albright (2005), Feminist Gloria Steinem (2003)

6. AAUW Women of Distinction Award

Started 1985

Awarded to women leaders, innovators and role models from diverse backgrounds and fields. Four to ten women are given this award each year at the NCCWSL conference.

Past winners range from Helen Thomas of the White House Press Corps, to Donna Shalala, President of University of Miami and Former Secretary of HHS, to Elizabeth Acevedo, a poet.

AAUW LCV Education & Scholarship Program, Inc. 501(c)(3)

The LCV Affiliate will now have two arms: the current 501(c)(4) organization and the new 501(c)(3) **Education and Scholarship Program, Inc**, which is a tax-deductible charity.

Why did AAUW-LCV create a second, separate tax-exempt organization?

AAUW LCV Education and Scholarship Program, Inc. was created with the help of ProBono Partnership lawyers, to support our fundraising goals to provide additional and/or larger educational grants to area women.

Why did we want to become a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) public charity organization?

Public Charity Benefits

- 100% tax deductible donations by LCV members, the public and business donors/sponsors.
- Increased credibility with sponsors due to vetting by the IRS as a public charity.
- We are able to take advantage of the following:
 - Discounts from software providers (e.g., Zoom, QuickBooks, DocuSign)
 - Reduced credit card transaction fees (e.g., Book Author Luncheon book charges and silent auction item payments).
 - Reduced LCV website online donation transaction fees (from 2.89% to 1.99%)
- Exemption from CT Sales Tax (6.35%) on purchases, venue rental, catered meals, services, supplies and equipment.
- Eligibility for grants from community, public and corporate foundations and government agencies which limit grants to 501(c)(3) public charities.
- Eligibility for individuals to donate funds from their IRA Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to a public charity without paying taxes on the money. Such donations should be made by an accountant or financial advisor.

Other Facts

Public Scrutiny: A nonprofit is dedicated to the public interest; therefore, its finances are open to public inspection; copies of a nonprofit organization's state and federal filings are available online to learn about salaries and other expenditures.

Need for greater documentation – the 501(c)(3) is held to a higher standard. Annual State and IRS tax filings are required. Accurate detailed donation and expense documentation is required. Retention of documentation is required. Written acknowledgement of all donations over \$250 must be provided to the donor.

Limited liability: Under the law, creditors and courts are limited to the assets of the nonprofit organization. The founders, directors, members, and employees are not personally liable for the nonprofit's debts.

AAUW Lower Connecticut Valley Branch
Treasurer's Report as of August 31, 2023

Beginning Balance		\$9,629.00
Deposits		
08/04/23	1 member renewal & 1 new member @ \$110 each	\$220.00
08/07/23	1 member renewal @ \$110	\$110.00
08/07/23	1 member renewal @ \$110	\$110.00
08/07/23	Transfer money from Bequest Fund to checking for 1st filing fee for St. of CT for 501(3)c	\$50.00
08/28/23	3 member renewals @ \$110 each & 2 Shape the Future new members @ \$38 each	\$406.00
Total Deposits		\$896.00
Expenses		
08/04/23	Visa Chg-AAUW: 1 membership renewal @ \$82	\$82.00
08/04/23	Visa Chg-AAUW: 1 new membership dues @ \$110	\$110.00
08/04/23 Check 1989	Aleia Hayes-Ed. Grant Recipient	\$1,000.00
08/07/23	Visa Chg-AAUW: 1 membership renewal @ \$82	\$82.00
08/07/23	Visa Chg-AAUW: 1 membership renewal @ \$82	\$82.00
08/28/23	Visa Chg-AAUW: 3 member renewals @ \$82 each	\$246.00
08/28/23	Visa Chg-AAUW: 1 membership renewal @ \$82	\$82.00
8/31/23 Check 1999	AAUW-LCV Education & Scholarship Program: money transferred from 501c4 scholarship fund to 501c3 checking account.	\$957.78
08/31/23 Check 2000	AAUW-LCV Education & Scholarship Program: money transferred from 501c4 scholarship fund to 501c3 savings account.	\$6,000.00
Total Expenses		\$8,641.78
Ending Balance		\$1,883.22
Outstanding Checks/Charges		
08/27/23 Check 1996	AAUW-CT dues for 2 Shape the Future members	\$20.00
08/29/23 Check 1997	Diane Volz-Hospitality-hot cups & plates	\$35.98
08/31/23 Check 1998	Jeannette Santavosi-Rental-OS Pavilion Branch meetings from September 23-Jan. 24.	\$175.00
Total		\$230.98
Business Money Market		
Combined Bequest and Business Saving Beginning Balance		\$20,918.24
Bequest Fund	Bequest Fund (unavailable for operating expenses unless specifically approved by LCV Board) -\$50	\$14,290.55
Business Savings	Business Savings (money available for use)	\$6,627.69
8/31/23	Interest	\$5.72
	Withdrawal	\$50.00
8/31/23	Combined Bequest and Business Saving Ending Balance	\$20,873.96

AAUW Lower Connecticut Valley Branch
Budget vs Actual as of August 31, 2023

Income			
	Budget	Fiscal YTD	
Dues			
Budget for 100 members @ \$28 81 members new or renewed FY 23-24	\$2,800.00	\$2,163.00	1 student member who does not pay dues; 11 members pd. Dues @ \$21.
Interest to be obtained from Money Market		\$9.27	
Income Total	\$2,800.00	\$2,172.27	
Expenses			
	Budget	Fiscal YTD	
Hospitality	\$700.00	\$35.98	8/29-hotcups,plates-
Rentals (OS Pavillon) (100 to 501c3)	\$400.00	\$175.00	8/31-Rental from Sept-Jan @ \$35/month
Programs (Honoriums)	\$600.00		
Membership Expenses (printing booklets, etc.)	\$550.00		
Insurance	\$200.00		
Website (\$560 to 501c3)	\$120.00		
Library Donation (Acton)	\$100.00		
Miscellaneous	\$100.00	\$57.22	7/3-Staples- copies for Bd. Meet.
Publicity	\$75.00		
Post Office Box (\$102 to 501c3)	\$202.00		
Zoom Account (\$200 to 501c3)	\$200.00		
Expenses Total (including portion of 501c3)	\$3,247.00	\$268.20	
Expenses Total (excluding portion of 501c3)	\$2,785.00		
Great Decisions /Self-Funding			
	Money Collected	Money Spent	
Available money - \$125.81			
	Available Money	Money Spent or Added	Remaining Money
	July-23	July-23	August-23
Alan Spargo Memorial NCCWSL Scholarship & Grants	\$1,916.83	\$1,916.83	\$0.00
2023 Book Author Luncheon Funds	\$5,040.95	\$5,040.95	\$0.00
Recognition Fund	\$353.63		\$383.63