



Website [lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net](http://lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net)  
Facebook [facebook.com/groups/460005185436947](https://facebook.com/groups/460005185436947)

Lower Connecticut Valley Newsletter

OCTOBER 2023

For more information, visit the LCV website calendar! Press Ctrl + Click on below LCV website link:  
<https://lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net/calendar/>

Click on blue box arrow on left side of "August 2023" to move ahead to October calendar. Click on any event listed and details page will show. Click on the bottom "more details" for further information, if provided.



**LCV OCTOBER CALENDAR EVENTS**

**Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>**

1:00pm - Afternoon Book Club (Zoom)

**Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>**

12:30pm - Mahjong

**Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>**

7:00pm Monthly Meeting & Guest Speaker

**Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**

Time TBD - Hiking Group (Email will have details)

**Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**

3:00pm - Great Decisions (Acton Library)

**Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**

10:30am/ Meet-up for Mark Twain House

**Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**

7:00pm - Evening Book Club

**LCV October Meeting**

**Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> – Thurs – 7:00pm**  
Saybrook Point Pavilion

***"The Rise of Anti-Semitism"***

**Speaker:** Evan Bernstein, CEO & National Director, Community Security Service

June 2020, Bernstein became CEO and National Director of the [Community Security Service](#) (CSS), an American nonprofit providing security to the US Jewish community through trained community volunteers.

In 2021, he was selected to [The Algemeiner's](#) list of "Top 100 People Positively Influencing Jewish Life".

In 2022, Bernstein co-founded the Interfaith Security Council, a coalition of New York City faith-based organizations that promote communal security and multi-faith dialogue.

A graduate of Western CT State University, Evan has a Masters of Liberal Arts from Harvard University. He is a native of East Lyme and his mother, Carole Otto, is an LCV AAUW member.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kudos to Margie Rice and Deb Herskovitz for recruiting 23 new members to LCV! We now are 103 members strong. They are both my choice for the President's Honor Roll this month.

We had a successful and well attended September Pot Luck Supper on the 14<sup>th</sup>. The program that evening was about National AAUW-----its history since 1881, its grants and fellowships programs and its public policy focus on equity for women. Thank you to my co-speakers, Sue Aberbach and Jan Furman, for their excellent presentations.

Hopefully, many of you signed up for interest groups that evening as well and are enjoying the activities we are offering this year. I encourage all of you to avail yourselves of the Calendar on the LCV website for up-to-date-information. The website link is:  
<https://lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net>.

At our monthly meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup>, we will hold our annual collection for the Safe Futures Women's shelter in New London. Please be generous with gift cards, books, unwrapped toys, games, clothing for women, boys & girls, toiletries, etc.

---Deb DeHertogh, President



## MEMBERSHIP

We now have 103 members!! 🍁 We have 28 new members since last September (2022). We are happy to have new members join throughout the year.

Welcome to the 10 new members that have joined throughout the summer:

Barbara Arelt  
Gay Clarkson  
Heather Greacen  
Nina Hagel  
Sally Keating  
Louisa Ketron  
Karen Lockert  
Alyx Mark  
Norma Rogin  
Dani Thibodeau  
Mary Windt

Our new 2023-24 *Membership Booklets* are hot off the press and will be distributed at our October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting at the Pavilion at Saybrook Point. Hope to see everyone there!

---Margie Rice and Deb Herskovitz, Co-chairs



## SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarship Committee will meet in during October to discuss revisions to the Educational Grant application, a timetable for publicity for the Educational Grants, and contacts for identifying NCCWSL students.

---Sue Aberbach and Olga Saubermann

## STATUS UPDATE: AAUW LCV EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM --- A 501(c)(3) TAX-EXEMPT PUBLIC CHARITY

We have been busy setting up a separate bank account for the scholarship funds as well as creating a new "Donate" Button on our website. Once the donation process is complete, additional information will be circulated for those who wish to donate to our Education and Scholarship Program.

--- Linda Frigon, Fundraising Chair



## SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2024!

## BOOK AUTHOR LUNCHEON

The Book Author Luncheon Committee met for their kick-off meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Our committee has a great representation of LCV members but we are always looking for additional help. Should you like to join us, please contact Linda Frigon or Penny Hein.

The Chance and Silent Auction Committee chaired by DeDe Volz is meeting on October 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm @ DeDe's home in Old Saybrook. The committee is starting early to contact the seasonal businesses that close for the winter (i.e., Acer Gardens).

The Book Author Luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, May 13th from 11:30-3pm at the Saybrook Point Inn. We have two great authors booked for the event – Denny Bryce and Adele Myers. We believe they will both have new books coming out before our Luncheon

--- Linda Frigon, Fundraising Chair



### AAUW LCV FACEBOOK PAGE

Please check out and join our AAUW Lower Connecticut Valley Branch Facebook Page to **see photos of our group members at recent events!**

Control + Click on the link below to view:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/460005185436947/>



### INTEREST GROUPS

#### EVENING BOOK GROUP

Date: **Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**

Time: **7:00pm**

Location: **Mary Jane's home**

Book: **Tom Lake, by Ann Patchett**

Thank you to Judith Slisz for leading an interesting and provocative discussion of Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver. While our group agreed that the book was worthwhile and the character portrayals were excellent, it was painful to read of the failures of child services and how the drug industry preys upon the population of Appalachia. Many thanks to Deb DeHertogh for hosting the group.

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 24, at 7 pm at the home of Mary Jane Peterson, 35 Cinnamon Ridge, Old Saybrook. Tom Lake, by Ann Patchett, will be reviewed by Dot Beaulieu. Please call or email Mary Jane by Sunday, October 22 at 860-388-5222 or [mjposct@comcast.net](mailto:mjposct@comcast.net), if you plan to attend. New members are welcome.

---Mary Jane Peterson, Chair

#### AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Date: **Wednesday, October 4th**

Time: **1:00pm**

Book: **The Librarianist by Patrick deWitt**

Location: **via Zoom (invitation will be emailed)**

The Afternoon Book Group met on Wednesday, September 6th to discuss *Master Slave Husband Wife* by Ilyon Woo, an historical book chronicling the escape of a married enslaved couple, Ellen and William Craft. Via careful planning, physical disguises, improvisation, and luck, they traveled from Macon, Georgia, to Philadelphia and Boston. Despite their safe arrival in the North, the Crafts were targeted by Southerners following the Fugitive Slave Law. They later settled in England. Working with abolitionists Frederick Douglas and William Wells Brown, the Crafts became celebrated lecturers, admired across the world. Members agreed we learned so much about the years before the Civil War and the figures of Abolitionism. Woo's book effortlessly wove together the Crafts' escape from slavery with background events in the North, South, and Europe. We had a lively and informative discussion.

**Our next meeting will be Wednesday, October 4th at 1 p.m. on Zoom. MaryAnn Iadorola and Elaine Quayle will lead our discussion of *The Librarianist* by Patrick deWitt, a novel about Bob Comet, a retired librarian who lives a quiet life until he encounters a resident of a senior center, begins to volunteer there, and opens up about his life.**

The book for our November 1st meeting will be *Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow*, by Gabrielle Zevin, about a couple's life-long friendship. It follows them from childhood to college to their collaboration to create video games-- a memorable portrait of friendship. Judith Slisz will lead our discussion.

Our December 6th meeting will be a discussion of the novel *Hello Beautiful*, by Ann Napolitano, a contemporary family story that echoes *Little Women* in

its portrayal of four sisters. If you would be willing to lead this discussion, let us know. We would be happy to provide you with background information and discussion questions.

Thanks to everyone who shared and participated in the discussion of *Master Slave Husband Wife*! Looking forward to seeing you soon -- Happy reading!

--- Sue Aberbach and Elaine Quayle, Co-Chairs



### GREAT DECISIONS

Date: **Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**

Time: **3:00pm**

Location: **Acton Library, Old Saybrook**

Topic: **"Climate Migration"**

Notes: **Email [barbdimberg@gmail.com](mailto:barbdimberg@gmail.com) if interested in joining this group.**

--- Barbara Dimberg, Chair

### HIKING GROUP

Date: **Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**

Time: **TBD (email to be sent with details)**

Location: **Groton Long Point - CT**

Note: **Email [margierice@comcast.net](mailto:margierice@comcast.net) to be added to the email list.**

Our September Groton Long Point Hike was postponed due to rain (!) so – it's been re-scheduled for Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup> (with a rain date of Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.) We will bring our lunches and eat outdoors at Sue Aberbach's house after hiking. Sue will provide iced tea, lemonade, fruit, and cookies. (Thank you, Sue!) I'll send an email reminder the week before.

--- Margie Rice, Chair

### GOURMET

Date: **October (date/time TBD)**

Location: **TBD**

Note: **Call Beth for details - (860) 510-2140.**

Hope everyone had a great summer. Planning an October event. Looking for new members to join the group! Each event has recipes for cooks of all abilities. It's a fun way to try new recipes---and make new friends!

--- Beth Brewer, Chair

### MAHJONG

Date: **Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>**

Time: **12:30pm**

Location: **28 Beaver Dam Trail, Old Saybrook**

Notes: **Email [ottocarole@gmail.com](mailto:ottocarole@gmail.com) IF attending.**

Mahjong will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>, at 12:30, at Jeannette Santovasi's home. Please let me, Carole Otto, know if you will attend so we are prepared with enough games and tables. If you want to learn, please come!!

Feel free to email me any questions you may have. Come and join the fun!

----Carole Otto, Chair

### CULTURAL TRIP - October

Date: **Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**

Time: **10:30am – Meet at Exit 3/Rt 9**

Location: **Tour of Mark Twain House – Hartford, CT**

Lunch: **Trumbull Kitchen - Hartford CT**

Cost: **\$24/person for Tour + Lunch**

Note: **Mail check to Sharon BY 10/4 IF attending.**

The first Cultural Arts trip will take place on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, with a tour of the Mark Twain House in Hartford. The cost is \$24 per person with a limit of 14 participants. The tour will be followed by lunch at the Trumbull Kitchen in Hartford. The group will meet at 10:30am at the commuter lot at Exit 3 on Route 9. Please indicate if you can drive when you sign up. Drivers will be needed.

Send your reservation request, with cash or check made out to Sharon Howell, at 380 Hidden Lake Rd, Higganum, CT 06441, **by Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>.**



### CULTURAL TRIP - November

Date: **Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup>**

Meet at **9:30am/exit 70 I-90**

Museum Tour: **10:30am –12pm**

Location: **Prudence Crandall Museum**

Lunch: **D&G Pizza and Pub, Canterbury, CT**

Cost: **\$12/person for Tour + Lunch**

Note: **Mail check to Mary Jane BY 11/3 IF attending**

Tour the Museum, a National Historic Landmark, where Crandall, the white principal of the Canterbury Female Boarding School, admitted a young black woman.

The tour will take place on Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM. There is a limit of 15 visitors. The cost is \$12 per person. After the 1 ½ hour tour, the group will lunch at D & G Pizza and Pub, Canterbury.

**If you are interested in attending, call or email Mary Jane Peterson no later than Friday, November 3.**

Your reservation needs to be accompanied by a \$12 check made out to Mary Jane Peterson, 35 Cinnamon Ridge, Old Saybrook 06475. Drivers are needed, so please indicate if you can drive.

We will meet at 9:30 am on November 13 at exit 70, I 95 in Old Lyme, to carpool to the location.

---Sharon Howell, Mary Jane Peterson, Pat Prendergast, Chairs



### MEMBERSHIP CONTACT VERIFICATION

Please go to the LCV website (Members Only). Enter password and verify if your contact info is correct. (Name, address, phone, email). Contact Gloria Gery if questions at: [gloriagery@gmail.com](mailto:gloriagery@gmail.com)

### UPCOMING LCV MEETINGS

**Nov. 9th – Thurs – 7:00pm**  
Saybrook Point Pavilion

***“Managing Materials Sustainably”***

Speaker: Emma MacDonald, Analyst, CT Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection

**\*BRING DONATIONS** for the  
Safe Futures Women’s Shelter

Press Ctrl + Click on LCV website link below for more information:

[Gen Meeting: Sustainability & Recycling \(google.com\)](#)

**Dec. 14 – Thurs – 7:00pm**  
Saybrook Point Pavilion

**We’ll gather to celebrate the Holidays!**

**HOLIDAY EATS!**

**\*\*BRING: Savory appetizer -or- Sweet treat!**

**WEAR your Holiday best!**

**CHANCE AUCTION!**

**\*\*BRING a gently used/new/other gift.**

**Raffle tickets will be sold!**