

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

**SEPTEMBER 2025**  
**Lower Connecticut Valley Newsletter**

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

### September Meeting & Potluck Supper

Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup>  
6:00pm

Saybrook Pavilion Saybrook Point  
Old Saybrook

#### *Candid New York: The Pioneering Photography of George Bradford Brainerd*

Connecticut River historian Erik Hesselberg,  
author of *Night Boat to New York*, will be  
speaking about his new book, *Candid New York*  
(out in the fall) the first published work on a  
little-known 19th century Connecticut  
photographer who pioneered the genre of  
candid street photography, George Brainerd.

Welcome back! Update on this year's plans and  
activities. **Bring a dish to share!**

Voluntary individual donations to AAUW  
National will be collected.

#### *Save the Date! Saturday, April 11th 2026 Book Author Luncheon*

Saybrook Point Resort & Marina at 11:30-3:00 pm.  
**Featuring author and humorist, Gina Barecca**  
<https://ginabarreca.com/>  
Stay tuned for more details.

#### LCV SEPTEMBER CALENDAR EVENTS

##### **Tuesday, September 2nd**

10:00am-Walking Group  
1:00pm-LCV/ESP Board Meetings

##### **Wednesday, September 4th**

1:00pm - Afternoon Book Club (via Zoom)

##### **Wednesday, September 10th**

2:15pm – Film Group

##### **Thursday, September 11th**

**6:00 pm – LCV Meeting & Potluck Supper**

##### **Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**

11:30am - Foodies  
3:00pm – Great Decisions

##### **Wednesday, September 24th**

7:00pm – Evening Book Club

##### **Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup>**

10:00am – Hiking Group

**NO Cultural Arts**

**NO Crafting**

**NO Mah Jongg**



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Hello Members

Let me be the first to welcome you to the start of another great year in the Lower CT Valley Chapter of AAUW.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at our Potluck Supper on Thursday, September 11, 2025, at the Vicky Duffy Pavilion, 155 College Street, Old Saybrook, Connecticut at 6 pm. Please bring a small appetizer, main dish, or dessert to share.

Following the Potluck Supper is our general meeting. **Erik Hesselberg** will be our guest speaker at our meeting. He is the author of a new book entitled ***Candid New York: The Pioneering Photography of George Bradford Brainerd.***

There will be information and sign-up sheets that night for our eleven interest groups, such as Great Decisions, Hiking, Crafting, etc. I encourage everyone to participate in one or more groups.

We would like to inform all members that we are preparing to update our membership booklet, which is scheduled for distribution at the upcoming October meeting. To ensure your information is included in this edition of the booklet, please make sure your membership dues are paid in full by the September 11th meeting.

At our first general meeting, we will collect donations to support AAUW National. Collected donations will be given to Fellowship Grants and Key Programs.

Looking forward to another year of learning new things, enjoying different activities and appreciating each other. Indeed, it is going to be a great year!

**Jeannette Santovasi, LCV President**



## **MEMBERSHIP**

We have had 9 new members join our branch since the Spring. We will be welcoming new members at our September 11th Potluck Supper Meeting at the Pavilion at Saybrook Point. Information will be provided about AAUW and our LCV Branch Activities. We hope that everyone will join us.

We had another successful **Shape the Future** campaign and have earned three free national memberships. Those taking advantage of this will have to only pay \$38 for State and Branch dues! That is a saving of \$74. If you have a qualified friend, neighbor, or family member who would like to join our LCV AAUW Branch at this discounted rate, please let us know, have them complete a membership application ([lowerctvalley-ct.AAUW.net](http://lowerctvalley-ct.AAUW.net)) and have them mail a check for \$38 to our PO Box 379, Old Saybrook, CT 06475, or bring a check to our September 11 meeting. Only the first three new members will be eligible for this \$74 discount.

We have 93 members as of this printing, but still have 20 members who have not yet renewed. **Members must renew and pay their dues by our first monthly meeting on September 11 to be included in our 2025-26 Membership Directory!**

There are three ways to pay your dues:

\*Mail a \$112 check made out to LCV AAUW to:  
AAUW Membership  
PO Box 379

Old Saybrook, CT 06475

\*Bring a \$112 check made out to LCV AAUW to our September 11 meeting

\*Renew online at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) (use the instructions that were emailed for renewals)

**New 2025-26 Directories will be available at our October meeting. Please send any changes of information (address, email, phone number, etc) to [margierice@comcast.net](mailto:margierice@comcast.net) no later than September 11.**

**Margie Rice and Deb Herskowitz, Co-chairs**



## MEMBER UPDATES

### **In Loving Memory**



It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of our cherished member, **Gail Bassett**. Gail was a founding member of **AAUW LCV** who served as **Vice President in 1982-83 and President in 1983-84**.

#### **Anne Pierson**

is now living at Academy Point at Mystic, close to downtown Mystic. While she chose Academy Point, any transition like this, at any age, can be challenging. Her "Team Anne" is supporting her in getting to AAUW and other cultural and social events.

She would love to hear from her AAUW LCV friends! Please call her (best between 9 am and 8 pm) and visit.

Anne Pierson new landline:  
860-980-8395

Visiting address:  
Academy Point at Mystic  
20 Academy Lane, Mystic

Email and Mailing address - so that her team can support her in participating in organization events:  
[annebpiersemd@gmail.com](mailto:annebpiersemd@gmail.com)  
PO Box 429, Old Lyme, CT 06371

## SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarship Selection Committee was busy this summer. We funded four students to attend NCCWSL, a national three day leadership conference held at the University of Maryland at College Park. The scholarship paid their entrance fee for the workshop and their room and board. We also gave the students a stipend to help pay their travel expenses. Of the five students from CT who attended, we supported four of them. They were asked to write a summary of their experience and describe the impact the conference had on them.

We also read and carefully reviewed thirty-three applications for our \$5,000 educational grants which totaled \$40,000 for eight students. An initial check for \$2,500 was presented to each of the recipients on Monday, July 28 at a luncheon held at Penny Lane in Old Saybrook. The second half of the grant will be presented to the students at our Annual Tea on Saturday, January 3rd at 1 PM at the Saybrook Point Pavilion. The Tea is a wonderful opportunity for all Branch members to meet and talk with the recipients.

Please refer to the attachment at the end of the Newsletter to read a short description of each recipient or, alternatively, go to our website where this information is also posted.

### **NCCWSL 2025 REPORT**

The four students we funded to attend NCCWSL (National Conference of College Women Student Leaders) have returned from the three day conference. They shared their thoughts and gratitude with the board for the "incredible opportunity" to attend. One student wrote: "The keynotes were very interesting, kept us engaged, and gave me a lot to think about on the drive home." She loved the AAUW Money Smart lecture which she thought was incredibly helpful. She wrote "increasing financial literacy in young people is hugely beneficial".

Another student wrote that one on the highlights was meeting a speaker from Howard University. "Hearing her perspective on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion was insightful and refreshing". "I believe this conference is an excellent space for young women like me. I felt not only empowered as a woman, but also inspired in my commitment to creating positive change in the world."

All of the students appreciated connecting with students across the country, sharing ideas and asking questions during the breakout sessions.

Thanks to every branch member for supporting NCCWSL.

**Olga Saubermann, Director of Scholarships**



## UPDATE ON TPEP

Ten women students at York Correctional Institute in Niantic completed the first of two summer courses funded by the Education Scholarship Program (ESP) of LCV. Jackie Stack, Study Hall monitor/tutor at YCI, shared with us these comments to us from the students:

*Thank you for paying for our education. It is very much appreciated.*

*Your support is much appreciated. The supplies help make my learning enjoyable.*

*Thank you so much for enhancing our education. Much appreciated.*

*Thank you very much for believing in our education journey and allowing it to be doable.*

*I appreciate the dedication to improving our education.*

*Your kindness and thoughtfulness are very much appreciated. Thank you for your belief in us.*

The first course was "Religion and Gender in the U.S.," co-taught by Professors Leslie Ribovich and Shane Gleason. The second course, "Introduction to Philosophy," taught by Professor Shane Ewegen, ended on August 21<sup>st</sup>. This course focused on works authored by female philosophers.

We expect to hear comments from the students' learning experience this summer which I will then share with you.

I crafted a note to each of the students that Jackie will distribute. Jackie has also distributed paper and pens to the students who handwrite papers and assessments as they do not have access to computers.

More on TPEP in their newsletter INSERT.

**Judith Slisz, Coordinator, LC V/TPEP  
Collaboration and Chair, ESP Board**



## INTEREST GROUPS

### AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Date: **Wednesday, September 3**

Time: **1:00pm**

Location: **via Zoom**

Book: ***Becoming Madam Secretary***

Happy summer everyone--we hope you are enjoying the warm weather and finding time to read! Afternoon Book Group members have chosen the books we will read for our next year and thought you might like to start reading now to look forward to our discussions.

Wednesday, September 3rd--***Becoming Madam Secretary***—**Stephanie Dray**--fiction—An historical novel about Frances Perkins, the **first woman U.S. cabinet member** as FDR's Secretary of Labor who championed causes including child labor regulations, establishing Social Security, and allowing the rescue of children from Germany during the Holocaust—all while facing gender discrimination and family challenges.

Wednesday, October 1st--***The Frozen River***—**Ariel Lawhon**--fiction--A novel set in 1789 Maine, *The Frozen River* centers on a midwife and healer Martha Ballard whose diary documents her investigation of a body found encased in an icy river and leads to a scandal in the community.

Wednesday, November 5th--***All the Beauty in the World***—**Patrick Bringley**--nonfiction—A memoir by a man who becomes a museum guard at the Metropolitan Museum of Art after the death of his brother. He finds peace amid the beauty of the art and solace in the community of other guards who come to their jobs with a range of backgrounds and skills—artists themselves, immigrants, musicians, and writers

The meetings are at 1 p.m. on Zoom. A few days before the meeting, you will receive the Zoom link. We look forward to seeing you!

**Sue Aberbach and Elaine Quayle, Afternoon  
Book Group organizers**





## **CULTURAL ARTS**

### **Event-Cedar Hill Cemetery**

**Address: 453 Fairfield Avenue, Hartford 06114**

**Date: Tuesday October 21 (Rain Date Oct 22)**

**Meet: 8:45am / I95 Exit 70 commuter lot**

**Tour : 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Tour Cedar Hill**

**Cemetery**

**Lunch: First and Last Restaurant, Hartford**

**Cost: \$8/person admission + Lunch**

**Note: Mail check or Venmo to Debbie Kupfer**

**BY Sunday 10/12**

Please join us on Tuesday, 10/21, for a guided walking tour of Cedar Hill Cemetery in Hartford. Discover the history and beauty of Cedar Hill Cemetery on this tour showcasing some of its most celebrated residents and renowned monuments. Learn about **General Griffin Stedman, J. Pierpont Morgan, Katharine Hepburn** and more.

Established in 1864 and encompassing 270 acres, Cedar Hill serves an incomparable sanctuary for people as well as for memorial artworks, Hartford history, and welcomed wildlife. The remarkable monuments located in the historic sections are creative expressions of **Victorian funerary art**.

If you would like to attend, please send \$8.00 via **Venmo (preferable payment method)** or send a check made out to Deborah Kupfer by the above deadline, 8 Kaatskill Lane, Niantic. We will meet at Tuesday at 8:45 am at exit 70, I 95 in Old Lyme to carpool. Please indicate if you are willing to drive. Rain date is Wednesday, 10/22.

**Upcoming: Friday, November 14, 2025, trip to Wadsworth Atheneum, lunch at the B-Muse, the museum's café.**

**Marcia Machuga, Debbie Kupfer, Co-chairs**

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

**A complete Meeting and Events Calendar for 2025-2026 is attached at the end of this Newsletter and can also be found on the LCV website**

**[lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net/](http://lowerctvalley-ct.aauw.net/).**

**---Carole Otto, Chair Branch Programs**



## **HIKING GROUP**

**Date: Thursday, September 25**

**Time: 10:00 am**

**Location: Bailey Trail South in Madison**

Our September hike will be the Bailey Trail in Madison along the Hammonasett River on September 25th. We will meet and car pool to the trail from Hammonasett State Park and have a picnic lunch there after our hike. Hiking shoes and hiking sticks required. More information to be emailed closer to the date.

Our dates for future hikes are posted on our website calendar so mark your calendars:

October 23

November 20

December 18

January 22

February 26

March 26

April 23

June 4

Please email [margierice@comcast.net](mailto:margierice@comcast.net) to be added to the hiking group email list.



**Margie Rice & Kathy Heebner, Co-Chairs**



## **GREAT DECISIONS**

**Date: Wednesday, September 17**

**Time: 3:00pm - 5:00pm**

**Place: Acton Library, Second Floor Meeting**

**Room**

**Topic: India: Between China, the West, and the Global South**

**Leader: - Karen Christman**

Our topic for September is described by the Foreign Policy Association as:

**India is an emerging major power in world affairs**, occupying a pivotal position between China, the United States, and the Global South. Its population size, economy, and geopolitical location ensure that it will be an influential voice in debates and political struggles over global order. **What are India's choices and opportunities for regional and global leadership?** How will it maneuver between China and the United States, and what is its role as a voice of the Global South? What opportunities exist for Washington to work with India?

India is the world's largest country in terms of population, has the **fifth largest economy**, is a nuclear power, and has an active military second only to the US. It is high time our group gives this fascinating country its due. Everyone is welcome, especially if you have any particular insight on India that you can offer our group!

**Karen Christman, Chair**

## **MAH JONGG**

**September-No Event**

**Date: Tuesday, October 14**

**Time: 12:30 p.m.**

**Place: Home of Pat Prendergast, 65 Neptune Drive, Old Saybrook**

The Mah Jongg interest group meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 12:30 for several hours of friendly Mah Jongg games. No experience is necessary as we will help interested members learn the American Mah Jongg game. Members will need to purchase a \$15.00 National Mah Jongg League game card.



For the October meeting, please RSVP to Pat Prendergast so that she will be prepared with enough games and tables, [pprender7@gmail.com](mailto:pprender7@gmail.com) or 860.304.7221. Let Pat know if you have any questions. Come and join the fun!

## **CRAFTING GROUP**

**September-No Event**

**Create a Succulent Planter for inside your home**  
**October 21**, Tuesday, at 10AM we will go to Killingworth to create an indoor succulent planter. Cathy, from Cathy & Company will guide us choosing the plants and provide planters for the class. \$50/ PP due to Kathy Heeber **October 1st**.

## **Create a Trio of Gnomes**

**December 8th**, Monday, from 1-3pm at Promethea Arts in Deep River.

This class will just be our group and costs \$45/ PP to be paid to Kathy Heeber by **November 18th**.

Take a look at the item on their website.

[https://www.promethea-arts.com/service-page/gnome-workshop-september-8th-1-3pm?referral=service\\_list\\_widget](https://www.promethea-arts.com/service-page/gnome-workshop-september-8th-1-3pm?referral=service_list_widget)

Contact Kathy Heebner to join the group, [kslalikos@gmail.com](mailto:kslalikos@gmail.com).

**Kathy Heebner, Chair**





## EVENING BOOK GROUP

Date: **Wednesday, September 24th**

Time: **7:00pm**

Location: **Penny Hein's – 75 Fenwood Drive, Old Saybrook**

Book: ***Kingmaker: Pamela Harriman's Astonishing Life of Power, Seduction, and Intrigue***

Notes: **RSVP to Penny if you are attending**

Our first book for discussion in 2025-26 will be ***The Kingmaker: Pamela Harriman's Astonishing Life of Power, Seduction, and Intrigue*** by **Sonia Purnell**

I think you will enjoy the biography of this remarkable woman. Start reading, because the book is lengthy!

Although we usually meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, this September that date coincides with the beginning of Rosh Hosannah, so we will instead meet on **WEDNESDAY, September 24** at 7 pm at the home of Penny Hein, 75 Fenwood Dr., Old Saybrook. If you intend to come, please call or email Penny at [pennyshein@gmail.com](mailto:pennyshein@gmail.com) or 203-241-6477, so that Penny has an accurate count.

Last call for book suggestions! Since I will be away for 2 weeks in September, it is important that you send your book ideas no later than August 31. We will make our selections from the books suggested **ahead of time** so that members have time to check out the suggested books. Usually, we try to choose some fiction, some nonfiction, and a classic. We have sometimes tried a mystery, as well, so that's another consideration.

We will choose the books for 2025-26 at the first meeting, along with meeting locations and discussion leaders.

Looking forward to a year of fun reading,

**Mary Jane Peterson**  
**Chair, Evening Book Group**

## FOODIES

Event: **Foodies Luncheon at The Ocean House, Watch Hill, R.I.**

Date: **September 17**

Time: **11:30 AM**

We're looking forward to a wonderful afternoon together, enjoying the beautiful water views and delicious food!

Please note, the event is now at **full** capacity.

- Each guest will receive an individual check.
- Valet parking is conveniently located at the door for \$5.
- If you previously signed up and are unable to attend, please let both Gail and Carole know by email or text.

## **Contacts:**

Gail Briggs – [gail.briggs1@comcast.net](mailto:gail.briggs1@comcast.net) | 860-304-1633 and Carole Otto – [ottocarole@gmail.com](mailto:ottocarole@gmail.com) | 860-575-4718

## FILM GROUP

The Film Group invites anyone who is interested to see the 2:30 matinee of the original Broadway ***Hamilton*** (filmed live) at the Madison Cinema on Wednesday September 10. We will gather about 2:15.

If you cannot make that time or day, do take advantage of the other showings for the week it plays at Madison.

Our October show of “a classic at someone's home” is looking for a host. Host chooses a date that works best for her. Host chooses between “To Kill a Mockingbird” and “Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid”.

**Eileen Browne, Film Group Organizer**





## **BIRTHDAY DAY CLUB**

Welcome back everyone. It's the start of another year for LCV, and what better way to kick things off than by gathering to celebrate birthdays?

Get together and relax with people who share your birthday month! This is a smaller group than our general meetings, so it's a nice way to get to know other members.

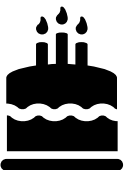
We have people who are coordinating plans for March, June, July, August and November. If you can help with another month, email Deb Herskowitz at [djherskowitz@gmail.com](mailto:djherskowitz@gmail.com) or Cathy Purcell at [cjpurcell01@frontier.com](mailto:cjpurcell01@frontier.com). You will receive the names and emails of people who signed up for your month. Simply send an email to the people on your list, and suggest a place and a time to meet.

**KEEP YOUR PLANS SIMPLE!**

Meet for coffee and conversation at one of our many fantastic local restaurants, coffee bars, bakeries, or outside, weather permitting.

If you can't plan a gathering, but you would still like to be part of a celebration, that's not a problem. Just send Deb or Cathy, your name, email, the month, and date of your birthday (**NOT THE YEAR**), and we will plan something for you.

**Sign-up sheets will be available at all general meetings, so you can join any time during the year!**



**Deb Herskowitz, Birthday Day Club Organizer**



## **WALKING GROUP**

Date: **Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Time: **10:00am**

**Details to be determined and will be provided to group.**

Contact: **Orlene Weyland**

## **WELCOME AUTUMN**





# Educational Grant Recipients 2025

## LOWER CONNECTICUT VALLEY AAUW

### Sophia E.

attends Connecticut State Community College @ Tunxis. Sophia is a wife and mother with two children whom she has home schooled. Her goal is to become a dental hygienist. She has an extensive resume of volunteer work through Wesleyan University and also international service in Yemen and Jordan. She lives in Middletown.



### Ava Frost

attends Providence College, majoring in Elementary and Special Education. She has been nominated to enter the Leadership Fellows Program at Providence College providing a leadership role at the school. Ava lives in Deep River and her community service includes the Interact Club, leading and initiating different fundraisers as well as the Essex Housing Authority and Buddy Track and Field.



### Lauren Harton

is currently attending the University of Connecticut School of Business, majoring in Analytics and Information Management with a concentration in IT Security and Artificial Intelligence. Once she has completed her degree and necessary certifications, plans to become cybersecurity analyst. She is passionate about web development, digital privacy and ethical hacking. She lives in Clinton.



### Aisha Hashim

is currently in the pre-med program at the University of Connecticut (UConn) at the Avery Point campus and lives in Groton. In the fall she will transfer to the UConn Storrs campus. She is an Allied Health Sciences major with a minor in Molecular and Cell Biology.



### Victoria (Tori) Jones

lives in Old Saybrook and attends Southern Connecticut State University. She is in the Environmental Systems and Sustainability Studies program. Tori is minoring in Marine Studies to expand her knowledge of ocean ecosystems and coastal conservation. Together, these programs support her goal of pursuing a career in environmental science focused on sustainability, coastal conservation, and community-based conservation initiatives.



### Sage Lepore

lives in Ivoryton and currently attends the University of Vermont, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. She is majoring in Public Communications with a concentration in Strategic Communications and minoring in Health and Society. As a public communication major with a minor in health and society, she is interested in blending these skills.



### Arya Pandya

attends the University of Connecticut School of Business, majoring in marketing. Arya and her family recently moved to the United States from India and live in Jewett City. She is working to strengthen her understanding of consumer behavior, branding, digital strategy, and data-driven decision-making. She is currently serving as Content and Ideation head for MAHS - Menstrual Awareness, Hygiene and Sanitization, a non-profit in Gujarat, India aiming to bring menstrual and related hygiene awareness in the rural areas of India.



### Kayla Roy

is attending the University of Connecticut School of Nursing and has been accepted into the Urban Service Track that allows her to go out into the community clinics and help the underserved while furthering her skills. She plans to work in a hospital, clinic, or family practice office, in an area that allows her to help the underserved. She lives in Waterford.

Date and Time	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lower Connecticut Valley AAUW MEETINGS /EVENTS SCHEDULE 2025-2026</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Introducer and other details</p>
September 11, 2025 6:00 – 9:00 pm	General Meeting/POTLUCK SUPPER <b><i>Welcome Back!</i></b> Saybrook Point Pavillion <b>Speaker: Erik Hesselberg:</b> Connecticut Photographer and Author, <u>George Brainerd's Candid Victorian Photos</u>	<i>Bring appetizer, main dish, or dessert.</i>  Cathy Branch-Stebbins
October 9, 2025 7:00 – 9:00 pm	General Meeting Saybrook Point Pavilion <b>Speaker: Sheila Horvitz &amp; Nick Swider</b> " Elder Abuse"— Safe Futures, New London	Orlene Gallops
November 13, 2025 7:00 – 9:00 pm	General Meeting, Saybrook Point Pavillion Thanksgiving party/bring slightly used or new unwrapped item/s for the <b>White Elephant/ Fun Chance Raffle</b>	Bring donations for Safe Futures (e.g. \$25. \$50 gift cards Walmart, CVS, Target, etc.)
December 11, 2025 7:00 – 9:00 pm	General Meeting/Holiday Desserts – bring favorites! Saybrook Point Pavilion. <b>Speaker: Rick Friswell</b> , Cultural Historian, Director of Institute Lifelong Learning Wesleyan University: Origins of Democracy-the Spark of Liberty	Cathy Branch-Stebbins
January 10, 2026 Saturday 1:00 – 3:00 pm	Annual Tea and Trivia Challenge Saybrook Point Pavilion <b>Meet 2025 LCV Scholarship Recipients</b>	Bring your favorite tea, teacup and teapot.
February 12, 2026 11:30 – 3:00 Thursday	General Meeting/Valentine Luncheon (catered) Acton Public library, <b>Speaker: Orlene Gallops</b> , Author (A Love Story) <u>Hiding in Plain Sight</u>	Carole Otto
March 12, 2026 7:00 – 9:00 pm	General Meeting, Saybrook Point Pavillion <b>Speaker: Kaisha Esty, PhD</b> AAUW National Fellow, Asst. Professor of African American Studies at Wesleyan University	Orlene Gallops
April 11, 2026 11:30 - 3:00	<b>Book Author Luncheon- Chance &amp; Silent Auction</b> Saybrook Point Inn <b>Speaker: Author, Gina Barreca</b> , Best-Selling Author/Academic & Humorist	<b>Our fabulous annual fundraiser</b> for members and guests!

May 14,2026 7:00 – 9:00 pm	Annual Meeting, Saybrook Point Pavilion <b>Speaker: Ileana Douglas:</b> Celebrated actress and author. <u>Connecticut in the Movies</u> <i>(Vote on new officers &amp; budget)</i>	Carole Otto
June 11,2026 6: 00 – 8:00	<b>YEAR END SOCIAL at Essex Yacht Club.</b> 13 Novelty Lane, Essex (for members and invited guests)	JoAnne Kennedy