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## NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT BRANCH

January/February 2012

Volume 41 No. 4

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**“AAUW advances equity for all women and girls through advocacy, education and research. AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.”**

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### Tombstones & the Stories they Tell

Thursday, January 12, 2012  
Waterford Public Library

5:30 p.m. Board Meeting  
6:15 p.m. Refreshments  
6:45 p.m. Business Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Program



Cemetery or graveyard memorials tell us much more than who is buried in a particular location. These monuments

provide us with a window into people's inner most thoughts and philosophy of life. They offer information about how folks lived and viewed the world around them. Through the use of slides, local historian Dave Oat will take us back 300 years to old New England and walk us through an old graveyard. We'll explore death and burial traditions and learn that these ancient burial places are really outdoor museums, filled with our countries first sculpture. These old stones tell a story of changing religious beliefs, family genealogy, tragic tales and, occasionally, some humor. See what can be learned from these old memorials if you take the time to stop look.

### Cadet Women: Leadership Panel

Thursday, February 9, 2012  
Waterford Public Library

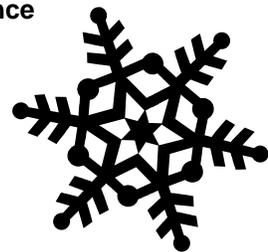
6:15 p.m. Refreshments  
6:45 p.m. Business Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Program

The U.S. Coast Guard Academy has been graduating women officers since 1980, and women make up about one-third of the cadet corps. Today's future leaders have never lived in a time when women could not be officers! Dr. Faye Ringel, who is directing the Honors Program at the Academy this semester, will convene a panel of outstanding female cadets who will speak about their special opportunities for travel, research, and participation in the active Coast Guard, and answer your questions about the challenges they have faced and overcome as women at the Coast Guard Academy.



### January/February at a Glance

- January 12 Branch Meeting
- January 18 Book Discussion Group
- February 9 Branch Meeting
- February 15 Book Discussion Group
- February 16 News & Views Deadline



## President's Report



A personable Chuck Potter commented on his own beliefs about performing good deeds, shared his delight in working with the new, energetic reporters at The Day, and declared his desire to return to the police beat! Thank you, Chuck, for a delightful evening.

The eighteen members in attendance expressed their desire to continue our annual fundraiser because no one can argue with a profit of \$1800- \$2000!!! I'm in the process of making arrangements for 2012. I would like feedback from ALL members, therefore, please fill out the survey that is in this newsletter and return it to me ASAP!!!!!!

Fifty-five members and guests enjoyed a delightful holiday lunch on Sat., Dec. 3! As always, Faye's program was not the standard holiday production as she delivered tidbits of musical history and shared her insights/observations of holiday music around the world. All of this was packaged in the charming, festive surroundings of the Spa at the Norwich Inn! Faye will be joining us for our Feb. program. She will bring a panel of Coast Guard Cadets to speak to us about their fabulous internships around the world!

A special thank you to Elaine Stattler for those fantastic baskets AND her most generous donation of a Kindle, which was the highlight of the raffle! Sue White was the lucky winner of the Kindle! The baskets raised \$455 and after all expenses were paid, a profit of \$340.99 was realized! We most likely will have baskets for our May banquet, so please keep in mind any terrific before/after holiday sales!!!!!!!

Please save these dates at the Spa at the Norwich Inn for 2012:

- Book Author Luncheon Sat. October 20
- Holiday Luncheon – Sat. December 1 (I have booked the Ledyard High School Carolers for the Holiday Luncheon!)

There will be a Board meeting in January before the regular meeting to discuss budget, etc. The Board meeting will begin at 5:30 pm. All are welcome!

Happy New Year! Kerry O'Keefe

## Hospitality

The following members signed up for refreshments in January:

- Vinnie Belbruno – Cookies
- Linda Shailor – Cheese/crackers
- Jeanne Coyne – Fruit
- Ann Carroll – Juice

February:

- Susan White – Dessert
- Gale Bradbury – Cheese/crackers
- Kim Blake – Fruit

Thank you, Elizabeth Hume

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## Book Discussion Group



The January book is *The Calligrapher's Daughter* by Eugenia Kim. Mimi Mountain and Nancy McDonough are the discussion leaders. The afternoon group will meet at 2 pm at the East Lyme Library and the evening group will meet at 7 pm at the Waterford Library on January 18, 2012.

The February book is *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova. Ann Carroll and Mary Wassung are the discussion leaders. The afternoon and evening groups will meet at their regular places on February 15, 2012.

The March book is *The House at Riverton* by Kate Morton. Barbara Jacobsen and Claudia Laxar will be the discussion leaders. The afternoon and evening groups will meet at their regular places on March 21, 2012.

If you do not need a book, please call Elizabeth at 442-1411.

Elizabeth Hume and Kathy Shepherd

News and Views is published 9 times a year by AAUW and sent to members of the New London Branch. Editor: Gale Bradbury 12 Heritage Drive, Stonington, Ct. 06378, fax # (860)464-9927, email: [bradbury@ledyard.lioninc.org](mailto:bradbury@ledyard.lioninc.org). The deadline for submissions is the third Thursday of the month. Branch President: Kerry O'Keefe 123 Wawecus Hill Road, Norwich, CT., email: [mdokeefe@snet.net](mailto:mdokeefe@snet.net). Membership Vice president: Edna Gilstad 19 Mohawk Dr., Niantic, CT., email: [egilstad@aol.com](mailto:egilstad@aol.com).

**New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes  
November 10, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 6:45pm at the Waterford Library by President Kerry O'Keefe. Following the reading of the Mission Statement Kerry thanked members for providing refreshments. The October meeting minutes were accepted as printed in the newsletter.

Finance Chair Claudia Laxar reported the following: Checking Account \$6,134.38, Savings Account \$150.08, Permanent Fund CD \$1,706.72 and Ellen Baird CD \$1,635.59. The grand total assets are \$9,626.77.

Gale Bradbury announced December 12<sup>th</sup> as the deadline for the January/February issue of the News and Views. Eleanor Piel reported that our meeting announcements are usually given on Sunday in the Day.

Elizabeth Hume requested volunteers for January refreshments and supplied Book Group information. The selection for January is *The Calligrapher's Daughter* with Nancy McDonough and Mimi Mountain as discussion leaders.

Corinne Eichleberg will be our return-to -college scholarship recipient. She will be given \$1000 in the spring of 2012— hopefully at our May banquet.

Kerry discussed details of our December luncheon. Dr. Faye Ringel will present our program and a Basket Raffle will be held. Elaine Stattler will provide the baskets.

Kerry announced that a Board meeting will be held at 5:30pm prior to the regular January meeting.

Kerry provided more financial information regarding our October Book/Author Luncheon. The authors (the Goldstones and Rosemary Harris) and Bank Square Books provided some books for the raffle. It was agreed to add a "Basket Budget" to our annual budget for supplies in preparing them. Kerry also requested feedback about this event—Are members willing to support this event? She presented a financial accounting of costs and attendance. In summary—we made less money than last year. She stated that she will wait a week or two before reserving a location if we go forward with plans for next year. She is also looking for a Chairperson for this event.

The business meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Patricia Clairwood thanked Eleanor Piel for obtaining our evening's speaker Chuck Potter, a reporter for the Day.

Respectfully Submitted  
Ann Carroll  
Recording Secretary



**FUNDRAISER SURVEY for 2012**

1. Other ideas for fundraisers: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Shall we just concentrate on baskets?  Yes  No

3. How will YOU support our efforts?

- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend   | <input type="checkbox"/> Bring family/friends |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donation | <input type="checkbox"/> Work on a Committee  |

4. Below is a list of topic/author Suggestions. Please check all that appeal.

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wally Lamb       | <input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Todd Gipstein    | <input type="checkbox"/> Illustrator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening        | <input type="checkbox"/> Poet        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home Renovations | <input type="checkbox"/> Fiction     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food             | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-fiction |

5. Please check out this website: [www.ctbookfestival.org/featuredauthors](http://www.ctbookfestival.org/featuredauthors)

6. Other comments? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Save the Date:** October 20, 2012 for our next book author luncheon at the Spa at the Norwich Inn

6. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey and return it to me at:  
Kerry O'Keefe , 123 Wawecus Hill Rd. Norwich , CT , 06360

Angela Winters

Tel. 732.740.1817  
860-447-1152



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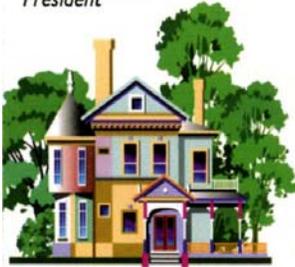
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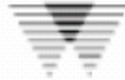


  
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