



NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT BRANCH

March/April 2012

Volume 41 No. 5

“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.”

Telling Your Story with a Photo

Thursday, March 8, 2012
Waterford Public Library

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



A photograph has the ability to convey stories to those that view them. Over the centuries, people have gathered around campfires, in town squares, over meals, and in other places to tell their stories. Such gatherings have

become central to the shaping of cultures and communities.

This meeting is an opportunity for you to share your story. You don't have to be famous to have a unique and interesting life story to share. Each person's life story is punctuated with triumphs and tragedies, adventures, family, and friends.

Please bring a photograph of yourself as a child. The photograph should have significant meaning to you, and should represent an important time or event in your life. For example, perhaps it was the day you won an honor at school, or took your first ride on a bicycle, or joined girl scouts, or celebrated a life-changing event.

Con't on P. 3

Yoga for Health and Vitality

Thursday, April 12, 2012
Waterford Public Library

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



Yoga is familiar to all of us, whether we ourselves practice occasionally or regularly, or we know neighbors, friends, relatives who do so. Some of us may see it as trendy or a nice fitness activity, and some of us have found it necessary to basic health, hygiene and sanity. Come and hear what the latest research says about how yoga works, why it can be essential to building and maintaining good health. Come and experience a little taste of why yoga might be a good choice for you. No experience necessary, no special clothing or equipment will be needed.

Carol Klammer BA, MEd, ERYT 500 began studying yoga in 1990 and found it so beneficial, she pursued her first teacher training certificate at Kripalu in 1996. Since then she has taught at hospitals, prisons, community centers and many churches and synagogues in SECT. In September 2011 she opened a studio in Norwich at 12 Case Street, where she and other teachers offer classes, workshops and private yoga therapy sessions.

March/April at a Glance

- March 8 Branch Meeting
- March 21 Book Discussion Group
- April 12 Branch Meeting
- April 18 Book Discussion Group
- April 19 News & Views Deadline



President's Report



At the January Board meeting, we agreed to increase our scholarship offerings to \$2500. We now have \$1000 for Avery Pt., \$1000 for Three Rivers Community College, and \$500 for a member of the Lone Juliet Club (student AAUW) at Three Rivers. WOW!!!!!!!!!!!! This is a fabulous increase from the \$700 we were giving just 4 years ago!!!! So supporting our luncheon/banquets and participating in our basket bonanzas have truly paid off!!! WELL DONE and THANK YOU!!!!!!!!

All of our current board members have agreed to serve for another 2 years. Thank you! However, if any member wishes to serve in any of these capacities, we will gladly let you do so! I do need to be frank with you about the office of president. While I'm willing to serve through May 2014, I'd love to have someone step forward before 2014 in order for the smoothest transition possible!!!!!! Please consider becoming a co-president (especially in 2013- 2014). I'd also like someone to chair the Oct. Book Author Luncheon at ANY time!!!!!! Neither position is hard but does require attention to detail, access to a computer (can't believe all the info was handled by phone calls), and during certain months, more time/energy than other months!!!!!! At the moment, we are running smoothly, programs are in place, and members are willing to help! It is important to maintain that progress!

Elizabeth Hume is requesting help with her hospitality duties and would love to have someone come in early to set up for the monthly meetings. Is this something the monthly hospitality committee could handle?

We are going to encourage car pooling for our March fundraiser at Dog Watch Cafe. Hopefully, this will increase participation on March 28th. Please remember, all proceeds go to the scholarship fund!!!!!!!!

We do NEED BASKET DONATIONS for ALL of our luncheon/banquets in Oct., Dec., and May. Those baskets are our largest source of revenue!!!!!!!!

Last, but not least, is our Oct. Author Luncheon. I did receive only 1 survey. I was able to speak to Wally Lamb's assistant and he is not available this year because he is finishing his latest book. I told her I would not let Wally off the hook because he did speak to the Bridgeport AAUW and Norwich is his home town!!!!!! She chuckled and I have saved her phone number! However, I am thrilled to let you know that Wendell and Florence Minor have agreed to speak to us on Oct. 20th! He has illustrated more

than 1500 book covers for many authors---Pat Conroy, Jodi Picoult, David McCullough, Jean Craighead George, etc. His work covers a vast array of genres! He collaborates with his wife on children's books! Please check them out on the web! I'm considering just having the 2 of them speak because I feel that the 15-20 min. time block for each author is very rushed. Plus, we will have many books for sale because of the magnitude of Wendell's work! I've asked Annie for her opinion!

I'd also like to welcome our newest member, Gay Clarkson, to our branch!

Any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me!

Book Discussion Group



The March book is *The House at Riverton* by Kate Morton. Barbara Jacobsen and Elizabeth Hume will be 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 March 21, 2012.

The April book is *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese. Barbara Guerra and Kathy Shepherd are the discussion leaders. The afternoon group will meet at 2 pm in the Olive Chendali Room at the East Lyme Library and the evening group will be at 7 pm at the Waterford Library on April 18, 2012. Please note the change in rooms for the afternoon group--our regular room was unavailable.

The May book is *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot. Kim Blake and Irene Finkelstein are the discussion leaders. The afternoon and evening groups will meet at their regular places and times on May 16, 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. 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. Membership Vice president: Edna Gilstad 19 Mohawk Dr., Niantic, CT., email: egilstad@aol.com.

Your story Con't from P 1

In the first part of the program, all the photographs will be posted and numbered. Everyone in attendance will be given a list of all our members' names and asked to match the names to the numbered photos.

In the second part of the program, we will ask for volunteers to share a little about their photos. They might talk about such things as:

- What they were wearing and what they were doing;
- What was happening in the world at that time;
- Why the event was important to them; and
- What lesson was learned that day that changed their life.

Please join us for this trip down memory lane. Learn something new about other AAUW members and enjoy some storytelling along the way!

Membership News

Welcome to our newest member Gay Clarkson 24 Giovanni Dr. Waterford, CT 06385 Phone: 860-574-9507 (H) Email: Gaywil2@aol.com. Gay is a graduate of Oklahoma State University with a B. A. and M.S. in Curriculum and Instruction.

May Banquet

Our May banquet features "They called me Lizzy" the story of Elizabeth Keckly and her rise from slavery to the White House. Elizabeth Keckly was best known as a dressmaker to Mary Todd Lincoln and author of *Behind the Scenes, 30 Years a Slave and Four Years in the White House* The true life story of Elizabeth Keckly; her rise from slavery to entrepreneurial freedom then scandal and decline.

Hospitality

The following members signed up for refreshments in March:

- Sue White – Dessert
- Edna Gilstad – Coffee
- Kathy Shepherd
- Kay Islieb
- Loretta Bernier
- Mary Murai.



April:

- Jeanne O'Connell – Juice
- Eileen McGovern – Fruit
- Mimi Mountain.

Thank you, Elizabeth Hume



Dog Watch Café and AAUW Fundraiser
Wednesday, March 28, 2012



Treat yourself and a friend to lunch or dinner anytime between 11:30 am and 9 pm and earn 15% for our scholarship fund by mentioning this AAUW fundraiser to the wait staff.

The Dog Watch Café is at 194 Water St., Stonington Village at Dodson's Boatyard overlooking Stonington Harbor.

Contact: Claudia Laxar at camlax50@comcast.net for further information



Dinner Theater at Norwich Inn and Spa "They Call me Lizzy" May 10, 2012

Name _____ Guest _____

(Include food choice for all) Total Enclosed _____

Entrees: _____ Chicken Piccata with Lemon-Caper Butter Sauce

_____ Pan-Seared Atlantic Salmon with a Maple Ginger Glaze



All entrees served with house salad or mixed baby greens, dinner rolls, a starch and vegetable. Chef's daily dessert creation will be served with coffee or tea.

Price of meal including tax and gratuity \$38.00

Please return reservation form by May 3, 2012 with your check made payable to AAUW New London Branch, to Claudia Laxar, 282 Elm Street, Stonington, CT 06378

**New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2012**

President Kerry O'Keefe conducted a Board meeting prior to the regular meeting at 5:30pm. Claudia Laxar, Financial Chair, presented a proposed budget for 2012 and recipients for Named Gifts were chosen.

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:40pm by President Kerry O'Keefe at the Waterford Library. Following the reading of the Mission Statement, Kerry thanked the members of the Hospitality committee. The November meeting minutes were approved. Philip Mountain was welcomed as a guest.

Finance Chair Claudia Laxar thanked the Board for approving the budget and reported the following: Checking Account \$6,389.25, Savings Account \$150.09, Permanent Fund CD \$1,706.87, and Ellen Baird CD \$1,636.41. The grand total assets are \$9,882.62. To honor Mary Loose \$500 will be given to the Campus Outreach Project (LAF) and to honor Eleanor Piel \$580 will be donated to the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund (EF).

Elizabeth Hume continues to request volunteers for monthly hospitality and stated *Still Alice* was the book group selection for February.

Kerry stated that the Basket Raffles have been financially "a Gold Mine" and will enable us to increase funds for scholarships at Three Rivers and Avery Point.

Under new business Kerry announced the Book Author luncheon will be October 20th at the Norwich Inn and Spa. She continues to pursue authors for the event and hopes to have them in place by March. Members were encouraged to contact her with suggestions.

Before adjourning at 6:55pm--Irene Finkelstein introduced her guests--Mr. and Mrs. Clarkson from Oklahoma.

Patty Clairwood introduced our speaker—David Oat who spoke about "Tombstones and the Stories They Tell".

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann Carroll, Recording Secretary

**New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2012**

President Kerry O'Keefe called the meeting to order at 6:45pm at the Waterford Library. Following the reading of the Mission Statement, she welcomed members and guests and thanked the Hospitality Committee for providing refreshments.

Financial Chair Claudia Laxar gave the following report: We made donations to the National Educational Foundation and the Legal Advocacy Fund. The Checking Account balance is \$5,094.53, the Savings Account balance is \$150.09, the Permanent Fund CD is \$1,706.94, and the Ellen Baird CD is \$1,636.82 for a Grand Total of \$8,588.38. Claudia announced that \$46 of our dues are tax deductible.

Claudia also reminded members that our annual fundraiser at the Dogwatch Café will be on March 28, 2012. She encouraged members to attend and tell their friends. You do not have to be a member for AAUW to get donations of 15% of whatever you spend on that day. A signup sheet for carpooling was passed around.

Gale Bradbury announced that the deadline for the March/April newsletter would be February 16, 2012.

Elizabeth Hume reported on the Book Group selections for February and March.

Kerry reported that all current board members have agreed to continue for the next two years. She would like someone to think about taking over as President in 2013. She is willing to train that person.

Kerry enthusiastically reported that we have increased our scholarship contributions to local colleges. This is all due to our basket raffles at the Christmas, May and Book/Author banquet and luncheons. Elaine is accepting donations for the May Banquet baskets.

Kerry reported that she has booked the authors for our October event. The husband and wife team of Wendell and Florence Minor will be the only two. Wendell Minor is an illustrator of many books, some of which she showed. We will also have a different menu from our Christmas luncheon, including a Chicken and asparagus crepe and a vegetarian choice.

Kerry introduced a new member from last month Gay Clarkson who introduced her husband William, a professor at the Coast Guard.

The business meeting was adjourned. Patty Clairwood introduced Fay Ringel, who is directing the Honors Program this semester. She brought three female cadets-- Kelli Normoyle, Jessie Lukasik and Macaela Baca who spoke about their experiences at the Coast Guard and answered questions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elizabeth Hume, Acting Recording Secretary

Angela Winters

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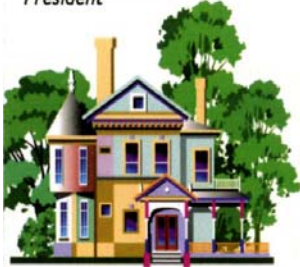
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