



NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT BRANCH

November/December 2011

Volume 41 No. 3

“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.”

N E W S A N D V I E W S

Politics in New London

Thursday, November 10, 2011
Waterford Public Library

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



Chuck Potter will be our speaker in November. He will discuss his work as a reporter for *The Day* and offer some opinions on New London politics. For 10 years, his opinion

column appeared on the front of the region section. He also covered the Town of East Lyme for two years. For seven years, Chuck covered the police beat reporting on crime and breaking news. Currently, he covers the Town of Groton. Chuck also spent 10 years in talk radio at AM 980, WSUB.

Chuck attended high school in New London where he has lived for more than 50 years. He and his wife of 31 years, Cheryl, have three sons including a son who is a Staff Sergeant in the U. S. Army. He and Cheryl have four grandchildren.

Holiday Luncheon

Saturday*, December 3, 2011
The Spa at the Norwich Inn

***Note Change of day**

11:15 a.m.	Social Time
12:00 Noon	Lunch
1:15 p.m.	Performance
2:15 p.m.	Q&A

The December meeting of AAUW will feature our traditional Holiday Luncheon with entertainment provided by Dr. Faye Ringel. Reserve your spot with the form included inside. As the days grow short in December, many cultures light candles against the darkness and fill the air with music, to drive the cold winter away. Dr. Ringel, a musician and collector of folklore, will play and sing some old songs for Yuletide, Chanukah, and Christmas, and share the customs and traditions that inspired the music.



Dr. Faye Ringel was honored with the title of Professor Emerita of Humanities by the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, CT, where

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November-December at a Glance

- November 10 Branch Meeting
- November 16 Book Discussion Group
- December 3 Branch Meeting
- December 12 News & Views Deadline
- December 21 Book Discussion Group



President's Report



It is always refreshing to hear about our NCCWSL students' experiences at the University of Maryland. Erin Van Dam and Brittany O'Neil did not disappoint as they claimed their participation was "life-changing"! Both students expressed their thanks and appreciation for this stimulating opportunity.

Our officers continue to streamline our mailing process (and cost). We are making substantial progress in this area. If you receive an online newsletter and still want a hard copy, please send \$5 to Claudia Laxar to cover the printing / mailing cost. There will be a board meeting at 5:30 on Jan. 12th, prior to our regular meeting. We will address our annual budget and review the results of the 2011 Author Luncheon. All are welcome!

Dates to remember:

Sat., Dec. 3 Holiday Luncheon

Wed., March 28, 2012 -----Dog Watch Cafe Scholarship Fundraiser-----Thanks , Claudia for setting that up!!!!!!

See you on Nov. 10th!!!!

Thank you, Kerry O'Keefe

Book Discussion Group



The November book is *Rainwater* by Sandra Brown. Linda Shailor and Sue White 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 November 16, 2011

The December book is *Empress Orchid* by Anchee Min. This is a change from our original selection (*Cloud Atlas*) which will be done next September. Kim Blake and Elaine Stattler will be the discussion leaders. The afternoon and evening groups will meet at their regular places on December 21, 2011.

The January book is *The Calligrapher's Daughter* by Eugenia Kim. Mimi Mountain and Nancy McDonough are the discussion leaders. The afternoon and evening groups will meet at their regular places on January 18, 2012.

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

Elizabeth Hume and Kathy Shepherd

Hospitality

The following members signed up for refreshments in November:

- Eileen McGovern --fruit,
- Brigid Boettcher--Dessert
- Elaine Stattler--juice
- Ann Carroll--coffee.

Thank you, Elizabeth Hume

New Member

Welcome to new member Jeanne M. O'Connell from Niantic. Jeanne has a BS degree from Russell Sage and a MS from Southern Connecticut State College.

Greek Food Festival

The 59th annual Greek Food Festival will take place November 8-11 at St Sophia's Hellenic Orthodox church, 200 Hemstead Street, New London. This popular event features traditional Greek foods and entertainment.



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.

Dec. Program Con't from Pg 1

she had taught English and interdisciplinary Humanities courses from 1985-2009. Dr. Ringel remains a consultant to the Alumni Association.

Dr. Ringel has been a scholar in residence at the University of Canberra in Australia and at Charles University in Prague, the Czech Republic. She has offered courses on local history and folklore at the University of Rhode Island, Connecticut College, Three Rivers Community College, and for Norwich's Adventures in Lifelong Learning. For 15 years, she has also presented musical programs for ALL— which some of you have attended. She has entertained with piano and voice for 55 years, and particularly enjoys collecting and performing traditional music with her singing partner April Grant as "The Midnight Belles." She is also a member of Klezmenschen, a Klezmer band performing Jewish traditional music.

She resides in the house in which she grew up in Norwich, Connecticut and lectures on New England literature, history, and legend for school, libraries, and historical societies. She regularly guides tours of the "Shadows of Norwich History."

Directions to the Spa at the Norwich Inn, 607 West Thames St. Norwich: Take 95N or Rte 32 to Rte 395N; take Exit 79A onto CT-2A and take Exit 1-Rte 32 towards Norwich. Turn left onto RTE 32 (north). Continue for about 1.5 miles. The Inn is on the left at the top of a hill. Park in any free spot or use valet parking. Go to main entrance of main building. Lunch will be in the Hunt Room

AAUW Celebrates Women's Hall of Fame Inductees

"No botox, no detox. My name is Loretta Ford, and I approve this message."

So ended the speech of 91-year-old Ford as she accepted her induction into the National Women's Hall of Fame along with 10 others in Seneca Falls, New York.

The tone of her remarks was unexpected, yet they captured the essence of the ceremony — the spirit, excitement, and passion of women who have changed the world and aren't done yet.

Sitting in a room with these women who have shaped — indeed, are shaping — major areas of our lives was enthralling, and AAUW was proud to be there to celebrate the role four of them have played in our mission. Helen Murray Free, Donna Shalala, Lilly Ledbetter and Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) all have ties to AAUW. Read their inspiring stories on the AAUW blog at www.aauw.org.



Holiday Luncheon at the Spa at the Norwich Inn Songs and Tales for the Winter Holidays Saturday December 3, 2011

Name _____ Guest _____
(Include food choice for all)

Total Enclosed _____

Entrees: _____ Warm grilled Salmon on a bed of organic greens with lemon dill butter
_____ Grilled Chicken on a bed of organic greens, candied nuts & raspberry vinaigrette

All entrees served include a tortellini appetizer, dessert and coffee or tea.

Price of meal including tax and gratuity \$30.00.

Please return reservation form by Wednesday, November 23, 2011 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
October 13, 2011**

President Kerry O'Keefe called the meeting to order at 6:48pm at the Waterford Library. Following the reading of the Mission Statement, Kerry thanked members for providing refreshments. They were provided by Betty Ahnell, Irene Finkelstein, Lisa Hilliard and Elizabeth Hume. Kerry welcomed our new member, Jeanne O'Connell. The minutes of the September meeting were accepted as printed in the newsletter.

Finance Chair Claudia Laxar reported the following: Checking Account \$5,372.50, Savings Account EF \$150.08, Permanent Fund CD \$1,706.65 and Ellen Baird CD \$1,635.18. Our total assets are \$8,864.18. Book/Author checks totaling \$1,120.00 are included in that total.

With Board approval Kerry announced that funding for our scholarship recipient will be continued.

Gale Bradbury announced that the deadline for the combined November/December newsletter is October 20, 2011. Publicity regarding the upcoming luncheon was printed in the Day. Grace.com will have an article on AAUW and the luncheon. Judy Dolphin at Patch.com will also give us some publicity. Kerry reported that the info is also available on the Chamber of Commerce website.

Susan White announced that the Greek Food Festival will occur from 11am-9pm on November 8th through November 11th.

Hospitality Chair Elizabeth Hume sent a sign-up sheet around for future refreshments. As Book Group Co-Chair she announced that the November selection would be Rainwater by Sandra Brown and the December selection would be Empress Orchid by Anchee Min.

Under new business Kerry gave the date of March 28, 2012 as our Dogwatch Café fundraiser. Carpooling is planned to encourage participation.

As of October 13th seventy-five people are planning to attend the luncheon. Twenty-nine attendees are AAUW members. Kerry encouraged members to continue to promote this event. The State Co-President, Alice Reitz, is planning to come.

A special feature of the raffle tickets being sold is an opportunity to be written in as a character in a future mystery by Rosemary Harris. Brigid Boettcher explained raffle ticket prices. Elaine Stattler, with Brigid, has prepared numerous prizes.

Kerry announced that a Board meeting will be held at 5:30pm on January 12th prior to the regular meeting. The annual budget will be discussed.

The business meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.

Mary Loose introduced our program's speakers, Erin VanDam and Brittany O Neil. The women spoke of their experiences while attending the Student Leadership Conference last June at the University of Maryland.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann Carroll
Recording Secretary

Angela Winters

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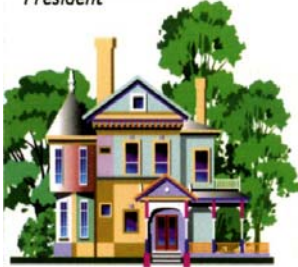
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