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NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT BRANCH

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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."

Female Spies of the Civil War

Date: Thursday, September 12, 2013

Time: 6:15 p.m. Refreshments 6:45 p.m. Business Meeting

7:00 p.m. Program

Place: Waterford Public Library

Our first meeting of the 2013-2014 year features Matthew Bartlett author of *The Gettysburg Chronicles*. "For the Sake of the Country" tells the stories of four extraordinary women who risked all for their countries during the American Civil War. These women were not laundresses, cooks, or even soldiersthey were spies! Female spies during the Civil War played an important role in military battles, prisoner exchanges, and social life. Men are more well known for being spies during the "War of Northern Aggression", but females did it better! Join Civil War historian and author Matthew Bartlett as he tells the stories of these amazing women. He will have copies of his Gettysburg Chronicle series available for purchase after the lecture.

Born in Connecticut, Matthew Bartlett was immediately interested in music. At the age of 5, he took up the piano and studied that, along with the organ, until the end of high school. For college, he continued his studies in organ and pursued a profession in Church Music and became a director of music.

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September at a Glance

- September 12 Branch Meeting
- September 18 Book Discussion Group
- September 19 News and Views Deadline



President's Report



Fifty - five guests attended our May 9, 2013 Banquet which created a profit of \$555.46! THANK YOU to all who attended and to Elaine for those profitable

baskets which she designs and assembles ALL on her own!!!!!

On May 4th, Ann Carroll and I attended the

2013 CT AAUW Convention on the UCONN Storrs Campus. Alice Reitz (203-245-9208, alice.reitz@gmail.com) will continue as our state copresident. Sharing that position with Alice is Donna Haghighat (860-416-5707, donnahaghighat@gmail.com). Donna is a lawyer who currently holds the position of Grants & Programs Manager for the University of Hartford. Donna's impressive resume includes many community leadership positions in the Hartford/West Hartford area, tax attorney for the State of CT, owner of her own project management company, and executive director of the Aurora Women & Girls Foundation. Donna's election as co - president emphasizes AAUW's commitment to creating awareness of AAUW's mission on college campuses. For the first time at a state convention, a number of college students were in attendance. This push on college

Lin Rising, CT's College/University Liaison, continues to make great strides in recruiting college partners. At the May 3rd, Regional C/U Branch Meeting held at Three Rivers Community College, Lin noted that originally there were only 10 college partners and now there are 29! Lin has been recognized at the national level for her outstanding success in this area!

campuses is hopefully driving the 2-3 % increase in

yearly membership.

Carol Virostek, the former CT state president, also shared the AAUW programs that are being held on local campuses: Elect Her, Start Smart, Campus Action Projects, and the new Access to Success. Conn College and UCONN will be hosting Elect Her in the spring of 2014. Elect Her is a program to train students to run for elective office on campus. On June 12th, at the National Convention, Carol was honored with an endowment bearing her name, Carol R. Virostek Campus Opportunities Fund (#4378). What a tribute to an inspirational leader!

Welcome to our 96th year of engaging programs! Our first meeting on September 12th will feature three of our own members who will be honored for 50 years of service with AAUW! Congratulations to Loretta Bernier, Mimi Mountain, and Linda Shailor!

Loretta joined AAUW while living in Washington DC with her favorite husband Rene. They have three sons and nine grandchildren. Most of

Loretta's career was spent as a librarian at East Lyme High School.

Mimi credits AAUW with being an intellectual and social lifeline, especially after she left teaching to raise her two sons. She and Phillip are the proud grandparents of two boys and three girls.

Linda was first introduced to AAUW while she was working at Pfizer 50 years ago. She and Bob raised a son and a daughter. Linda still enjoys AAUW meetings as well as gardening and playing bridge.

We do have three new members: Karen Camlet, Annabelle Barstch-Dennis, and Stephanie Berry. Welcome to our New London County Branch!!!!!

Looking forward to seeing everyone on Thursday, September 12th!

Kerry O'Keefe

Book Discussion Group



The September book is *Empire Rising* by Thomas Kelly. Elaine Stattler 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 September 18, 2013.

The October book is *The Kitchen House* by Kathleen Grissom. Ann Carroll and Kathy Shepherd are the discussion leaders. There are a couple changes in this month. The afternoon group will be meeting in the Olive Chendali room at the East Lyme Library at 2 pm on October 16. There should be a sign up at the library. The evening group will be meeting on Tuesday night, October 15 at 7 pm. Waterford was not available on the 16th but I thought it would be best to have the groups meet the same week.

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.

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During his time working in the church, he took an interest in the formation of American Church history and the history of this country. In the spring of 2008, he took a trip with his wife to the battlefield of Gettysburg and was taken aback by the place. Since then, he has surrounded himself with the topic of the American Civil War and the Gettysburg Campaign. In the early months of 2009, he began to write a book that would encompass the complete aspect of the campaign. Originally only a non-fiction source, he found the reading un-engaging and dull. He inserted some themes of historical fiction and the series took off. During the time writing it, he realized that the story could not be told in a simple volume but many. Through months of planning and writing on the side, he realized that 18 volumes would do. Each volume would pertain to a certain section or sections of the battlefield along with people and places that were not fully covered before.

Matthew is a 2013 graduate of the American Military University with a Master's in Military History with a specialization in Civil War studies. Visit his website at: http://www.gettysburgchronicle.com or e-mail him at gettysburgchronicle@yahoo.com

Movies and Other Events of Interest

Two documentaries, "Girl Rising" and "Invisible War" are currently in the headlines. "Girl Rising" follows nine girls living in various developing countries. It details their fight for their own education and human rights. Its Netflix release date is unknown. "Invisible War "calls attention to little known facts about the high prevalence of rape within the ranks of America's armed forces. Interviews with military personnel, elected officials, and rape victims provide alarming evidence. It is currently available through Netflix.

From August 31 - September 27th, the CT Women Artists, Inc will be featured at Converse Gallery, Slater Memorial Museum on NFA's campus. It is the 84th Annual National Open Juried Exhibition. On Saturday, September 7 from 2 -4 pm there will be a reception for the artists, friends, and public. This event is free.



Lower CT Valley has invited us to attend their November 13, 2013 meeting which will feature Admiral Stolz, Superintendent of the Coast Guard Academy. This Wednesday meeting will take place at 7 PM at the Acton Library in

Old Saybrook.

Hospitality

Board members are responsible for providing refreshments in September.



AAUW Celebrates 125 Years of Funding Fellowships for Women

\$3.7 Million Awarded for 2013–14 Academic Year

WASHINGTON — The American Association of University Women (AAUW) formally announced our 125th class of fellows and grantees, who will receive funding for graduate work and educational projects thanks to an extraordinary program that started when women were discouraged from pursuing higher education.

Since 1888, the AAUW fellowships and grants program, which has distinguished the organization as one of the world's leading supporters of graduate women's education, has awarded nearly \$100 million in fellowships, grants, and awards to more than 12,000 women from 130 countries.

AAUW is giving \$3.7 million collectively to the 2013–14 fellows and grantees — which include 245 scholars, research projects, and programs promoting education and equity for women and girls.

"Our members and supporters have given generously to the AAUW fellowships and grants program for the past 125 years because they understand the importance of investing in women," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE. "AAUW has played a role in educating some of the world's leading minds. Our goal is to support women in any way they need to make a positive impact around the globe."

"AAUW's support for women was groundbreaking in 1888, and it still is today. Our generous members understand that a society's advancement largely depends on women having equal access and opportunity," said Gloria Blackwell, AAUW vice president of fellowships, grants, and global programs.

Learn more about AAUW's 125-year history of fellowships and grants through this <u>video</u> and <u>time</u> <u>line</u>, which feature historical photos as well as interesting trivia about the program, such as the effort to help women scholars flee Europe during World War II.

For more information log onto www.aauw.org/article/aauw-celebrates-125-years-of-funding-fellowships-for-women/

The New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes May 9, 2013

Program Chair Patty Clairwood, acting for President Kerry O'Keefe who was in Texas, called the meeting to order at The Spa at Norwich Inn before our May Banquet. Following the reading of the Mission Statement, Patty introduced the slate of officers (for board and committees) for next year:

President: Kerry O'KeefeProgram: Patty ClairwoodMembership: Edna Gilstad

• Corresponding Secretary: Jeanne Coyne

Recording Secretary: Ann CarrollFinancial Chair: Claudia Laxar

• Newsletter Editor: Gale Bradbury

• Hospitality and Book Group: Elizabeth Hume

She thanked Elaine Stattler for putting together the baskets. Tickets were still available. Money from these baskets goes to local scholarships.

Patty then announced the two local scholarship recipients: Elaine Cady, the Ellen Baird awardee from Avery Point and Corinne Eichelberg, the recipient from Three Rivers in the nursing program.

The May book group will meet next Wednesday (May 15th). The book selection meeting will be on June 12th at 6pm at the Waterford Library.

It was announced that Kim Blake needed volunteers for the Stem Expo at Mitchell College on June7th.

Claudia Laxar will accept dues payments. Two new members, Stephanie Berry and Karen Camlet, were also introduced.

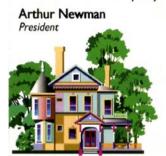
The business meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, Elizabeth Hume Acting Recording Secretary



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AAUW—New London Branch



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