



N
E
W
S

A
N
D

V
I
E
W
S

“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.”

**A Glimpse Into New London History:
Through the Eyes and Heart of Miss Jane Perkins**

Date: Thursday May 9, 2013

Time: Social time 5:00 - 5:45 P.M.
Meeting 5:45 - 6:00 P.M.
Dinner 6:00 - 7:00 P.M.
Program 7:00 - 8:00 P.M.



Place: The Spa at Norwich Inn

Our May banquet will explore New London history through the fascinating character of Miss Jane Perkins, a descendant of Captain Nathaniel Shaw, whose descendants lived in the Shaw Mansion in New London from the 1750s to the early 1900s.

In the 1790s, the mansion passed to the Perkins family through the marriage of a Shaw niece. Miss Perkins, the last surviving member, was born in 1844 to a beloved New London physician and was the last of fourteen children.

Our living history program opens in 1876. It is America's centennial year, and Miss Perkins is trying to come to terms with all the changes and shifts taking place in America. She has just returned from Philadelphia, having attended the Centennial International Exhibition of 1876, the first official World's Fair held in the United States, and she is anxious to share some photographs with us.

The Exhibition was held to celebrate the 100th anniversary

Con't on page 3

May/June at a Glance

- May 9 Branch Meeting
- May 15 Book Discussion Group
- June 7 STEM Expo
- June 12 Book Selection meeting for 2013-2014
- June 30 Dues deadline for 2013-2014
- August 9 News and Views deadline



President's Report



I am pleased to announce that our branch will sponsor Vanessa Parker to this year's NCCWSL event in June. Vanessa is a Three Rivers Community College student who is president of the newly formed club on campus, F.E.M.A.L.E.S., which empowers women in leadership roles. Vanessa, as well as the other TRCC NCCWSL student, will speak to our branch at our Oct. 10, 2013 meeting. I am thrilled that we are able to continue our efforts with NCCWSL----such an important undertaking!!!!

Please remember to vote in AAUW's One Member, One Vote election process which gives everyone a say in the future of AAUW. Voting begins April 15th and ends June 10. Paper ballots may be obtained by calling 800-326-2289 and must be postmarked by May 17th to be counted. All pertinent information is included in the spring/summer issue of our AAUW Outlook magazine.

If you are interested in helping at the June 7th STEM Expo that will be held at Mitchell College, please contact Lucy Brakoniecki at 860-247-6090 x 102 or at lbrakoniecki@cwealf.org.

Please remember these most important dates and PLEASE join us for:

- May 9th Banquet (deadline May 2nd)
- June 12th Book Selection 6 PM
- June 30th Dues for 2013 – 2014
- August TBA Board/Lunch Meeting on my deck

All forms may be downloaded on our website: newlondon-ct.aauw.net.

Have a safe and wonderful summer! See you in September!!!!

Kerry O'Keefe

Editor's Note

I am planning to be away the last 2 weeks of August and need to move the deadline for the September issue of News and Views up. Please send your information to me by August 9 as an email, fax (860-464-9927) or snail mail. Thank you!

Gale Bradbury

Book Discussion Group



The May book is *The Secret Life of Lobsters* by Trevor Corson. Kim Blake and Mary Wassung 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 May 15, 2013.

The June Book Selection meeting will take place on June 12, 2013 at 6 pm at the Waterford Library. Members are encouraged to bring a selection or two in fiction or nonfiction that will be good for discussion. We need a variety of books!! What did you think of this year's books?

Please bring finger foods and desserts and juice to share.

Elizabeth Hume and Kathy Shepherd

Newsletter Ads wanted

Help support the newsletter for our branch of AAUW and promote your business at the same time. Ads are needed for the 2013-2014 year. A business card ad is \$50. If you prefer a quarter page advertisement, please attach it and send \$75, or do a half-page ad for \$100. Your advertisement will appear in each issue of *News and View* which is mailed to approximately 80 female college graduates who belong to the New London Branch. *News and Views* is also used as a publicity piece to attract new members. In return, our members will make every effort to patronize and promote your business. If you or someone you know would like to place an ad please mail a business card or larger piece with a check made payable to AAUW New London Branch to Gale Bradbury, 12 Heritage Drive, Stonington, CT 06378 by August 1, 2013.



News and Views is published 6 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.

Con't from Page 1

the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Many Industrial Age technologies were introduced at the fair, including the Corliss Steam Engine and the first automatic screw-making machinery. Innovations first displayed to the public included:

- Alexander Graham Bell's telephone
- Remington Typographic Machine (typewriter)
- The arm of the Statue of Liberty
- The Wallace-Farmer Electric Dynamo, precursor to electric light
- Hires Root Beer
- Kudzu, an erosion control plant species.

While the wonders of modern technology excite and awe Miss Perkins, she is still recovering from the impact of the Civil War on her family. Though the Civil War ended eleven years earlier, Jane's memories are still vivid and painful. By the war's end, she had lost three siblings.

Now an unmarried woman caring for an aging mother and raising a niece with special needs, Jane is trying to find her bearings within the rapidly changing climate of New London and the United States in 1876. Miss Perkins will discuss the topics nearest and dearest to her heart: education, women's equality, modern medicine, history, and the relationship and rivalry between the cities of New London and Norwich at the time.

She will also share stories of her illustrious family history from a woman's point of view—a perspective not often heard in the "official" history of New London. She will describe how the best and worst of times gave her the courage to adapt, and will talk about her drive to preserve the memory of her ancestors. In so doing, she will demonstrate that the experience of one relatively unknown woman in history is timeless, and that the cultural gap between Jane's time and our own is not as wide as we may think.

About Jennifer Emerson



Born and raised in Groton, Jennifer Emerson worked for ten years at Mystic Seaport, where she honed her skills in 19th century first-person interpretation. During her time at the Seaport, she gained experience in everything from tall ships to hearth cooking.

She also wrote her first two historic plays.

In the summer of 2007, she was approached by the Shaw Mansion (headquarters of the New London County Historical Society) to research Jane Perkins, the last Shaw descendent and the woman responsible for preserving the mansion and its history. Given her experience—and being roughly the same age that Miss

Perkins was in the year 1876—Jennifer was the perfect match for the program.

Since Miss Perkins left very little personal effects, Jennifer had only a handful of papers and photographs from which to build her character and tell the story of Jane's remarkable life and heritage. To add substance, Jennifer blended local, national, and international history into the stories of Jane's ancestors. Normally presented in Jane's ancestral home, Jennifer's living history characterization of Miss Jane Perkins strives to be accurate while at the same time engaging.

A freelance writer and performer, Jennifer has written plays for Mystic Seaport, the Shaw Mansion, and The Friends of Fort Griswold. Jennifer has performed at Fort Griswold (Groton, CT), the Avery-Copp House (Groton, CT), the Denison Homestead (Mystic, CT) and the Chaney Homestead (Manchester, CT). She holds a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing from Fairfield University, and is an aspiring historic fiction novelist. Her current endeavor is a novel concerning some of the lesser known social projects of Charles Dickens.

About the Shaw Mansion

The Shaw mansion was built in the 1750's during the time of the French and Indian War. The house and grounds were owned by five generations of the Shaw and Perkins families before being sold to the New London County Historical Society (NLCHS) in 1907. The mansion still stands, and continues to serve as the headquarters and museum of the NLCHS.

At the time the home was built, stone houses were uncommon in this region. Shaw was inspired to build this unusual house by an unexpected abundance of cheap labor in the form of displaced Acadians. These French colonists from Nova Scotia had been driven out by the British conquest of the area during the French and Indian (Seven Years) War. Many were placed under the temporary care of various New England towns until a permanent home was found. Nathaniel Shaw put them to work quarrying stone on this property and erecting the house, thereby helping to defray the town's cost of supporting the Acadians.

Captain Shaw's son, Nathaniel Jr. became the Naval War Agent for Connecticut during the War for Independence. At that time the state maintained its own navy, but privateering was a far more popular and lucrative activity for New London seafarers and merchants. New Londoners captured a total of 157 British prizes during the war, many laden with valuable cargo. The British retaliated with Benedict Arnold's punishing raid in September of 1781.

During the raid, the Shaw mansion caught fire but the fire was extinguished by neighbors who,

according to legend, poured vinegar on the burning structure.

Nathaniel Shaw, Jr. died in a hunting accident in 1782. In the 1790's, the mansion passed to the Perkins family through the marriage of a Shaw niece. Descendants of the Shaw family continued to live in the house even after the New London County Historical Society purchased it in 1907. Today, the mansion is home to the Society's collection of antiques and extensive research library.

Note: AAUW thanks the NLCHS and Mr. Edward Baker for establishing the character of Miss Perkins, and for their help in arranging for Miss Perkin's appearance.

The Shaw Mansion



Directions to the Spa at 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.

Earth Day, AAUW, and Rachel Carson: An Archives Discovery (From AAUW.org)

Marine biologist Rachel Carson



April 19, 2013

While diligently working in a box filled with scattered correspondence, newspaper articles, and other materials, AAUW Archives

Corps member Caroline Pickens stumbled upon a letter. It could have ended up as one of many, but this one caught her keen eye. Written in beautiful cursive, the letter was written to Mary Boyette, AAUW public information officer, from none other than marine biologist and author Rachel Carson.

Carson, about to receive the AAUW Achievement Award, was writing to Boyette on June 12, 1956. In the four-page, handwritten letter, Carson explains what she will do with the award money, that it will "further the studies I already have underway as a basis for a new book." She also states that her acceptance speech for the award will be on the subject of "new frontiers in biology."

It is fascinating to read Carson's eloquently written letter — but even more so when the piece of correspondence is placed within the chronology of her life's work. The "new book" she was speaking of turned out to be 1962's *Silent Spring*. For those unfamiliar, *Silent Spring* exposed the misuse of pesticides and linked the aerial spraying of DDT to the decline in bird populations. It was a pioneering work that is often credited with starting the modern environmental movement.

Read more about this letter and Rachel Carson at WWW.aauw.org.

Dinner Theater at The Spa at Norwich Inn "A Glimpse into New London History: Through the Eyes and Heart of Miss Jane Perkins" May 9, 2013



Name _____ Guest _____

(Include food choice for all) Total Enclosed _____

Entrees: _____ Chicken Picatta with Lemon-Caper Butter

_____ Pan-Seared Salmon with a Maple Ginger Glaze

All entrees served with a 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 \$40.00

Please return reservation form by May 2, 2013 with your check made payable to AAUW New London Branch, to Claudia Laxar, 282 Elm Street, Stonington, CT 06378

Scholarship winners



We are awarding two local scholarships this year to Corinne Eichelberg at Three Rivers and Elaine Cady at UConn Avery Point. Corinne has sent us the following update.

Dear Ladies of the AAUW,

This year has been one of scholarly challenges as I am in my second semester of the nursing program at Three Rivers. The amount of content is intense, but I love every minute of it! It is exciting to be involved with the staff at L&M Hospital caring for the constant influx of patients with such a wide range of diagnosis. I was even privileged to witness a cholecystectomy (gall-bladder removal) with Dr. Azia as I followed a patient from pre-op admitting through to recovery and discharge.

Once again I am most grateful for the generous gift you have bestowed on me. With your help I was able to purchase the maternity and pediatric text books that are required for the labor and delivery rotation this semester. I was also able to replace my laptop that had finally quit on me. Nursing school requires all assignments to be posted online for the instructors to review and the public library computers are simply inadequate for this task. Your help has been such a blessing at a time when life has been a bit topsy turvy for me. I cannot thank you enough for your continued support.

Sincerely, Corinne Eichelberg

Elaine Cady is this year's Ellen Baird Scholarship recipient. She reports the following: I am happily married to my husband, Tom, for the past twenty years. I was at the end of my third year of college when I decided to take a break and raise a family.

Raising our children, I assisted with many different youth programs my children were affiliated with such as, Colchester Youth Football and Cheerleading, The East Haddam Little League Association for both Baseball and Softball, our local school fundraisers and several others. Our three beautiful children are older now, and all will be going to college in Connecticut in the fall.

I decided to continue my education more than four years ago, hoping to complete my degree before my children started theirs, but that was not quite as easy as I thought. Taking a few courses part time at Three Rivers Community College and working full time, this took longer than I expected. I graduated cum laude with an Associates in Science at Three Rivers, this past May. Therefore, I decided to fulfill my task of completing my Bachelor's taking a full load, five classes during the fall and one in the winter session at Uconn. I pushed myself to stay on top with my GPA,

as all of these factors get calculated for acceptance into the CEIN program. This spring session, I have been taking six classes, two online; forcing me to complete my Bachelor's in General Studies. With all the prerequisites for the CEIN program and my application complete, I need to send my final transcripts in May to the Storrs location for acceptance to their CEIN program for a Bachelor's degree in nursing.

10 Ways to get involved with AAUW

(From aauw.org)

Are you an activist? Do you volunteer? There are many ways to get involved and support AAUW's mission – advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.



1. **Connect with Us**
Stay informed and engaged on Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr, and YouTube.
2. **Take action for equal pay**
Get ideas on how you can take action this Equal Pay Day, April 9, 2013.
3. **Use your voice for change**
Subscribe to Action Network to learn what's happening in Congress and make your voice heard.
4. **Attend an event**
Network with AAUW in your own backyard — find a branch near you and learn about local programs, events, and meetings.
5. **Give to the NCCWSL Scholarship Fund**
Help send a deserving woman to our annual student leadership conference in June.
6. **Donate**
Support AAUW programs to empower women and girls.
7. **Become a member**
Join a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.
8. **Tell us what you think**
Help shape AAUW's programs and activities by completing the 2012 Every Member Survey.
9. **Help shape the future of AAUW**
Get informed on the issues and then vote for your candidates in our election.
10. **Join us in New Orleans**
Register to attend the 2013 AAUW National Convention this June.



The New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes March 14, 2013

President Kerry O'Keefe called the meeting to order at 6:45 pm. Following her reading of the Mission Statement, Kerry thanked the Hospitality Committee for the evening's refreshments and introduced guests Annabelle and Ron Dennis, Sue Sexton and Mr. Mountain.

Kerry O'Keefe read the following Financial report in place of Claudia Laxar who was on vacation: The January Checking Account Balance was \$4,877.03, Savings Account \$300.15, Permanent Fund CD \$1,708.78 and Ellen Baird CD \$1,139.34 for a Grand Total of \$8,025.30. The February Checking Account was \$4,877.03, Savings Account \$300.15, Permanent Fund CD \$1,709.36 and Ellen Baird CD \$1,139.48 for a Grand Total of \$8,026.02.

Newsletter Editor Gale Bradbury announced that the deadline for May would be April 18th. She reminded members that our newsletters are available on the website.

Kerry requested that someone handle publicity for the Day and Bulletin newspapers. All you need is a computer to email information about meetings two weeks beforehand. It has been very difficult to get information in the Bulletin lately.

Elizabeth Hume reminded members who signed up for Hospitality for the April meeting (in March/April Newsletter).

The March book group will be on March 20th, the April book group on April 17th and June book selection on June 12th at 6 pm.

Jeanne Coyne and Ann Carroll from the Scholarship Committee went to Avery Point and chose Elaine Cady from the three available applicants.

Kerry O'Keefe gave information on cultural interests in the area including a Book/Author Luncheon at the Saybrook Inn sponsored by the Lower Ct Valley Branch and a Fundraiser for the Slater Museum on March 27th. Information was available to those who were interested. Forms for the May Banquet are available.

Kim Blake announced that Mitchell College has given us \$500 for NCCWSL students.

Patty Clairwood reported that most of our programs for next year have been chosen, including a speaker on female Spies for September. The Waterford Library will cosponsor our meeting in November with Nick Bellantoni.

Gay Clarkson announced that a program from the Grace Curtis Foundation would be March 28th in Mystic. Information was available.

The League of Women Voters will be sponsoring a program on Autism at the Groton Library on April 15th. Information was available.

Patty Clairwood introduced our speaker, Lisa Saunders whose topic was "Civil War Letters Ever True: A Union Private and His Wife."

Respectfully Submitted,
Elizabeth Hume
Recording Secretary (Acting)

New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes April 11, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 pm by President Kerry O'Keefe. Kerry read the Mission Statement and requested approval of the minutes as printed in the newsletter. She thanked the refreshment committee and welcomed visitors. (Carol Cory, Karen Camlet, and Annabelle Dennis)

Kerry announced that Lucy Brakiniecki was requesting our help on June 7th at Mitchell College for the STEM conference. A sign-up sheet was circulated.

Finance Chair Claudia Laxar announced a correction of one cent in last month's report. She is collecting for the May Banquet. The March financial report was presented: Checking Account \$3,827.03, Savings Account \$300.16, Permanent Fund CD \$1,709.89 and Ellen Baird CD \$1,139.61. Our grand total assets are \$6,976.69.

Gale Bradbury announced Thursday, April 18, 2013 as the deadline for the May News and Views.

Kerry continues to need a person for Publicity for the branch. The Resident and the Day provide good coverage for us.

Elizabeth Hume reminded members of the May 15th book group and June 12th book selection meeting at 6 pm at the Waterford Library. Members are encouraged to bring food to share.

Our Scholarship Awardee from Avery Point has been invited to the May Banquet. She is Elaine Cady and will receive \$1000.

Kerry reported that one student has been chosen to attend the NCCWSL Conference and a second slot remains open. She will contact Three Rivers Community College.

Kerry also reported on some upcoming cultural events at the Slater Museum.

The State AAUW Convention will be held in Storrs on May 4th. Contact Kerry if you want to attend.

Under old business Claudia Laxar announced that a thank you note had been received for the \$150 we gave the Waterford library.

Under new business Kerry reminded members to vote. The paper ballot is in this month's issue of Outlook. Voting ends on May 17th for paper ballots and June 10th for on-line voting.

Elaine Stattler continues to look for donations for the May Banquet raffle baskets. Donations of wine are especially requested.

Kerry adjourned the business meeting at 7 pm and introduced our speaker Eileen Albrizio.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann Carroll
Recording Secretary

NEW LONDON BRANCH A.A.U.W.: MEMBERSHIP DUES 2013-2014



Dues renewal time is fast approaching. Checks for the coming year are due in by June 30th. An early response would be much appreciated. Why not save postage and bring your renewal check to the May banquet.

Types of Membership

Association Member:	National	\$ 49.00	
	State	5.00	
	Branch	16.00	\$ 70.00 _____
Association Life Member:	National	\$0.00	
	State	5.00	
	Branch	16.00	\$ 21.00 _____
Honorary Life Member:	50 year member		Exempt _____
Student Member:	(From a CT college/university affiliated with AAUW)		Exempt _____
Dual Member:	Membership through another branch	\$ 16.00	_____
Study Group Guest:	Ineligible for Association membership	\$ 15.00	_____
Book Group Contribution:	(Suggested donation \$10)	\$	_____
Optional Contribution:		\$	_____

(Where would you like the contribution to go ie EF, LAF, local scholarship, etc.)

Please send this entire form with your check made payable to: AAUW New London Branch, C/O Claudia Laxar, 282 Elm Street, Stonington, CT 06378.

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

(To receive News and Views and regular news updates).

College(s) Attended _____ Degree(s) received _____

Editorial Direction LLC

Elaine Stattler



Freelance Writing • Copyediting • Proofreading • Layout
Newsletters • Books • Journals • Web
Educational/Training Materials • Video Scripts/Support Material

www.EditorialDirectionLLC.com 201 Ocean Avenue
Telephone: (860) 447-8692 New London, CT 06320
Fax: (860) 447-3381 EStattler@EditorialDirectionLLC.com



A Healing Connection
massage with Terese Arpin

CT Licensed Massage Therapist
License #002324 • Fitness Instructor
(860) 859-1503



Angela Winters

Tel. 732.740.1817
860-447-1152



By Nature's Design

www.bynaturesdesignllc.com

P. O. Box 973 Waterford, CT 06385

Newman Enterprises Inc

Property Maintenance

Arthur Newman
President

(860) 917-9540

15 Victoria Lane
Old Lyme, CT 06371

Lawn Care
Driveway Sealing
Power Washing
Snow Removal



Julie Russell, MSW, LCSW
Psychotherapist - Stonington, Ct.

860-415-9573

Julie.LCSW@Yahoo.Com

WWW.JulieRussellLCSW.com

A friendly notice from our banking partner
Citizen's Bank

Your check is Welcome!

If your check is returned for non-sufficient funds, you expressly authorize your account to be electronically debited or bank drafted for the amount of the check plus any applicable fees. The use of a check for payment is your acknowledgement and acceptance of this policy and its terms and conditions.

800.430.2370/ www.checkvelocity.com



CHECKVELOCITY

AAUW—New London Branch



Women working together
To advocate for all women

Mary T. Poola, CRS, GRI, SRES 
Broker/Co-Owner

860-739-4455 x14

Daphne Doran, Closing Coordinator x11



HERITAGE
PROPERTIES SPC

Poola's Power Team

316 Main Street

Niantic, CT 06357

Fax: 860-691-0312

powerteam@heritagesells.net

www.heritagepropertiesct.com



Denotes AAUW member

Let our sponsors know you saw
their advertisement in
News & Views

American Association of University Women
New London Branch
5 Blackberry Lane
Niantic, CT 06357

