



NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT BRANCH

<http://newlondon-ct.aauw.net/>

December 2014/January 2015

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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.”

Holiday Lunch & Basket Raffle

Saturday, December 6, 2014

The Spa at Norwich Inn

***Note Change of day and place**

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| 11:15 a.m. | Social Time |
| 12:00 Noon | Lunch |
| 1:00 p.m. | Performance |



The December meeting of AAUW will feature our traditional Holiday Luncheon and basket raffle with entertainment provided by the Ledyard

High School Carolers. The LHS Carolers under the direction of Russ Hammond have been from their inception an ensemble dedicated to using music to spread joy during the holiday season. The group is comprised of twenty four students who love music and want to share their talent in singing to benefit others. Carolers sing in a multitude of venues, indoor and outdoor to a variety of audiences. Some of the more memorable performances include singing at elementary schools and senior centers, the Holiday Concert, and a day long trip to New York City.

Con't on P 3

Slave Catcher, Coswell Tims

Thursday, January 8, 2015

Waterford Public Library

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



Our January meeting features Jim Littlefield portraying Coswell Tims, a fictional “slave catcher” described in his book *The Slave Catcher’s Woman*.

Littlefield captures the persona of the character he portrays, characters based on real people! After studying the speaking style of Southerners' he is able to carry on conversations in the Southern dialect, making his portrayals more believable and entertaining. While his characters are fictional, his portrayals are accurate to the time period and historical context. He works to open the eyes of his audience to the issues and questions of the time.

Coswell Tims is a slave catcher from Milledgeville, Georgia operating before and during the War Between the States.

Con't on P 3

December/January at a Glance

- December 6 Branch Meeting
- December 17 Book Discussion Group
- January 8 Branch Meeting
- January 21 Book Discussion Group
- January 22 News & Views Deadline



Welcome



Student Delegates to The National Leadership Conference:

You couldn't be at the October meeting without catching the enthusiasm of Alycia Ziegler and Diana Mason, the Three Rivers College students who attended this year's AAUW National Student Leadership Conference in Maryland last Spring. They used every minute they were there to attend workshops, conferences and connect with other attendees and the workshop leaders.

When asked which workshop they were especially impressed, they both mentioned the "Women of Distinction" evening. Women who are leaders spoke on "Engaging Your Community" - giving back to their communities. Both these young ladies cited a primary goal of empowering others to become leaders. They're both officers of organizations at Three Rivers, where they organize and work on projects such as ending Domestic Violence, enforcing Title 9 laws, in support of girls in sports, running camps for young girls to examine the media's definition of female beauty, (ie. beauty is what you bring to the world).

Alycia and Diana were great examples of why we raise funds to support local young women in their education!

Fred Herbert, Regional Historian Emeritus of the Civil Air Patrol:

At the November meeting, we heard Fred Herbert, the Regional Historian Emeritus of the Civil Air Patrol talk about the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Using his library of photographs and maps, he outlined events leading up December 7, and those that followed the bombing. A fascinating part of his talk was about the 'Forbidden Island of Nihoa', a small island protected as a center of Hawaiian culture.

This program was attended not only by many AAUW members, but also by many guests, who enjoyed Mr. Herbert's extensive recounting of American history at that time. The Waterford Library and AAUW sponsored this event.

Book Discussion Group



The December book is *George Washington's Secret Six* by Brian Kilmeade and Don Yaeger. The discussion leaders are Linda Shailor and Elaine Stattler. The afternoon and evening groups will meet at their regular meeting places on December 17, 2014.

The January book is *The Secret History* by Donna Tartt. The discussion leaders are Ann Carroll

and Elizabeth Hume. The afternoon and evening groups will meet at their regular places on January 21, 2015.

The February book is *The Light Between Oceans* by M.L. Stedman. The discussion leaders are Mimi Mountain and Mary Wassung. The afternoon and evening groups will meet at their regular meeting places on February 18, 2015.

If you do not need a book or you would like to be added to our library list, please call Elizabeth at 442-1411.

Elizabeth Hume and Kathy Shepherd

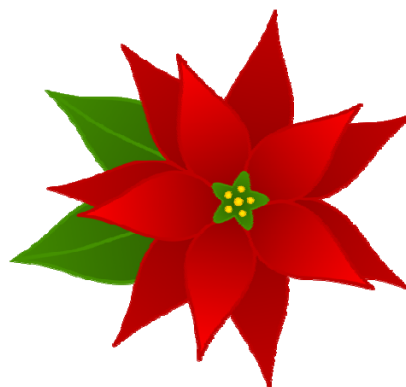
Hospitality

The following members signed up for refreshments January:



- Jeanne O'Connell-- Juice
- Elizabeth Hume--Fruit/Cheese and Crackers
- Kerry O'Keefe--Dessert
- Sue White--Dessert
- Edna Gilstad--Coffee

Elizabeth Hume



News and Views is published 5 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. Membership Vice president: Edna Gilstad 19 Mohawk Dr., Niantic, CT., email: egilstad@aol.com.

Holiday Lunch con't from P 1

Every student in Carolers loves to use their talent to spread holiday joy, and many have wanted to do so since they were in elementary school. Carolers is steeped in important tradition. Everything from the costumes to the music is part of the Caroler tradition developed over the past forty years, and these traditions continue to flourish today.

Tax Deduction for Dues



AAUW national membership dues are \$49. Of that amount \$46 is tax deductible as a charitable contribution, and \$3 is not deductible because it supports the AAUW Action Fund's section 501c(4) Lobby Corps

and get out the vote activities.

Note: Branch/State portions of dues are not tax deductible.

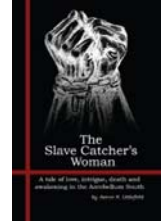
Claudia Laxar, Financial Chairperson

Holiday Luncheon

Reserve your spot for the holiday luncheon with the form below or download it now with the form from our website at <http://newlondon-ct.aauw.net/>. (Click on reservation form for the event on the calendar page.) This festive occasion is sure to get you in the holiday spirit.

Coswell Tims Con't from P 1

States. He attempts in his presentation to portray himself as a law abiding, upstanding citizen who actively assists law enforcement and upholds the legal code(s) of the times. While explaining America's initial embrace of slavery and the subsequent fugitive slave laws of 1794 and 1850 that were enacted, Coswell reminds people of a citizens' duty to follow all the laws of the land, not just the ones that appeal to them personally.



Littlefield has taught history in East Lyme schools for the past 47 years. Rather than "preach to the choir" of history buffs with a nonfiction book, Littlefield felt he could engage a wider audience by writing a novel. Three-quarters of the characters in the book are based on real people, some of whom he "visited" in the Milledgeville cemetery. "I had to tip my hat to Phoebe, the prostitute, as I passed by," he said.

Read more about Jim Littlefield and his character portrayals at jimlittlefield.com and join us in January for an entertaining evening.



**Holiday Luncheon at the Spa at the Norwich Inn
Entertainment by Ledyard High School Carolers
Saturday December 6, 2014**

Name _____ Guest _____
(Please list initials of each person beside the food choice)

Total Enclosed _____

Entrees: _____ Warm Grilled Salmon on a bed of baby vegetables with citrus dill dressing
_____ Chicken francaise with a lemon white wine sauce

All meals include a salad of mixed garden greens with house dressing, chef's choice of starch, vegetables of the season, an assortment of warm rolls and sweet butter and chocolate-raspberry cake for dessert. Coffee, decaffeinated coffee, and assorted teas will be available.

Price of meal including tax and gratuity \$40.00

Please return reservation form by Wednesday, November 26, 2014 with your check payable to AAUW New London Branch, to Claudia Laxar, 282 Elm Street, Stonington, CT 06378.

7 Facts You Didn't Know about Eleanor Roosevelt and AAUW



Eleanor Roosevelt was well a known and very interesting First Lady. But did you know about her close connection with AAUW? AAUW is proud to have called Eleanor Roosevelt a member, supporter, and friend. Here are some of the ways she connected with them over the years.

1. She joined AAUW in 1929.
2. Her first speech to an AAUW audience was in 1929.
3. She attended AAUW branch meetings throughout the country.
4. Her close friend was an AAUW leader in New York.
5. She believed that women were written out of history.
6. She spoke at the AAUW National Convention in 1959 on the United States as a Democratic Leader.

7. Eleanor Roosevelt and AAUW were a natural fit from the start!

Read more about her affiliation on the AAUW website at www.aauw.org/2014/10/31/eleanor-and-aauw/

Holiday Gift Guide for girls with help from our Friends at AAUW



Are you looking for the perfect holiday gift for the little girls in your life? The AAUW webpage has some great suggestions to help you out.

The list is divided into age groups and includes books, art materials, interactive dolls based on historical women, computer games, electronics, maker kits and more. The list is interactive and includes price and ordering information. Visit the webpage at www.aauw.org/2014/11/10/gift-guide-2014/

New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes October 9, 2014

The meeting at the Waterford Library was called to order by hostess Linda Shailor at 6:45 pm. Following the reading of the mission statement, Linda thanked the Hospitality Committee. The minutes of the September meeting were approved as printed.

Finance chair Claudia Laxar, reported that the Board approved the proposed budget for the coming year. The finances stand at: Checking Account \$3,806.20, Savings Account \$440.24, Permanent Fund \$1,720.20 and Baird/Piel Fund at \$1,003.70 for grand total assets of \$6,970.34.

Karen Camlet reported that The Day printed the AAUW meeting in its calendar listings.

Elizabeth Hume passed around a refreshment sign-up sheet for November. She announced that the book group will meet Wednesday, October 15, at 2:00 at the East Lyme Library and 8:00 at the Waterford Library. *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd will be discussed.

Kerry O'Keefe reported that on November 1, 2014, Elect-Her will be held at Connecticut College from 10:30 am to 3:30 pm.

Lawrence and Memorial Hospital will present the Well Healed Woman. There is a possibility of getting a table of AAUW members. If interested, contact Jeanne O'Connell

Edna Gilstad announced that the Year Books are here.

Old Business Gay Clarkson has collected eight prom dresses so far.

Elaine Stattler thanked everyone who contributed items for the raffle baskets.

New Business Sue White stated that the Greek Food Festival will take place November 4, 2014 from 11 am to 9 pm. Kerry O'Keefe introduced Alycia Ziegler and Diana Mason who reported on the National Student Leadership Conference held in June.

Respectfully submitted, Linda
Shailor Recording Secretary

**New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2014**

The meeting at the Waterford Library was called to order by hostess Jeanne Coyne at 6:45 pm. Following the reading of the mission statement, Jeanne thanked the Hospitality Committee. The minutes of the October meeting were read.

Claudia Laxar, finance chair, reported that the checking account is \$3929.90, savings account \$440.25, permanent fund \$720.77 and Baird/Piel account \$1,004.93 for a grand total assets of \$7,094.95.

Jeanne introduced a new member, Jane Bates.

Gale Bradbury said that the deadline for the December/January newsletter is November 20th.

Committee Reports:

Publicity: No report

Hospitality: A sign-up sheet was passed around.

Book Group. The book group will meet Wednesday, November 19, 2:00m.p. at the East Lyme Library and at 8:00 pm at the Waterford Public Library. "And the Mountains Echoed" by Khaled Hosseini will be discussed.

Scholarship: No report

Cultural Interest: No report

Old Business: No report

New Business: No report

Jeanne introduced Fred Herbert who spoke about a Japanese plane crash on a remote Hawaiian Island on December 7, 1941.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Shailor, Recording Secretary





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AAUW—New London Branch



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