



NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT BRANCH

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

April/May 2015

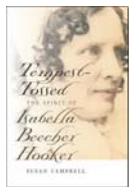
Volume 44 No. 5

“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.”

Isabella Beecher Hooker & Mark Twain

Thursday, April 9, 2015
Waterford Public Library

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



Author and Journalist Susan Campbell will speak at our April meeting about her book *Tempest-Tossed: The Spirit of Isabella Beecher Hooker* and the stormy relationship she had with Samuel Clemens.

The wife of attorney John Hooker, one of the founders of the Nook Farm community, Isabella Beecher Hooker served as hostess to Samuel L. Clemens -- Mark Twain -- on his early visits to Hartford and as landlady to both Samuel and Olivia Clemens in the 1870s while they were building their great home on Farmington Avenue. Clemens and Hooker split over the issue of an alleged adulterous affair involving her brother -- the famed abolitionist preacher Henry Ward Beecher. The trial that resulted had Clemens defending Beecher, and Hooker on the other side of the fence. But affection survived this rift: When she died in 1907, Clemens returned to Hartford to serve as a pallbearer at her funeral.

Con't on P 3

This Old Hat: Leading Ladies

Thursday, May 14, 2015
The Spa at Norwich Inn

5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Social Time
5:30 - 5:45 p.m. Meeting
5:45 - 7:00 p.m. Dinner
7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Program

The New London Branch of AAUW will host Patty Carver, Playwright in Residence for Connecticut Children's Theatre at their May Banquet and basket raffle. The program features "This Old Hat, Leading Ladies" which is Volume II in Connecticut Family Theatre's "Famous Women of American History" programs. Conceived of and written by Patty Carver, *Leading Ladies* is an original tour de force musical that features five noted American Women who were all the "first" to do something:



- **Dolly Madison** Tells her story of saving the Declaration of Independence during the War of 1812 and how she served as "Hostess in the President's House" for sixteen years.



Con't on P 3

April/May at a Glance

- April 9 Branch Meeting
- April 15 Book Discussion Group
- May 14 Branch Meeting
- May 20 Book Discussion Group
- August 20 News & Views Deadline



Welcome

Once again we had a good turnout at the March 12th meeting of both members and guests for our speaker, Mary Anne Borrelli, professor of Government at Connecticut College. How many presidents' wives were you able to identify on Mary Anne's pre talk quiz? Her talk about the influence of modern first ladies, not only on their husbands, but also on the country was filled with information and insight. Mary Anne explained that each first lady had a theme for the mission she chose to follow while at the White House. What a great, entertaining talk! We'll be looking forward to hearing from her at a meeting in the future.

We'll also be looking forward to Matthew Duman's talk on gargoyles and grotesques at Yale University. This was to be the program for the February meeting that had to be cancelled due to snow storms.

Book Discussion Group



The April book is *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline. The discussion leaders will be Sue White, Jeanne O'Connell, and Elizabeth Hume. The afternoon group will meet at the room in the East Lyme Senior Center (where we met in February) at 2 pm and the evening group will at the Waterford Library at 7 pm on April 15, 2015.

The May book is *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes. Gay Clarkson and Irene Finkelstein will be the discussion leaders. The afternoon and evening groups will meet at their regular meeting places on May 20, 2015.

The annual book selection meeting is here already! Come with a book of fiction, nonfiction, biography or anything that you think would make a good discussion. We will meet on June 17, 2015 at 6:30pm at the Waterford Library. Refreshments will be served! Even if you don't have a book to recommend, afternoon and evening members come to enjoy some good food and conversation about books!

Elizabeth Hume and Kathy Shepherd



Hospitality

The following members signed up for refreshments.

April:

- Anna Mae Burr
- Deb Kirby
- Claudia Laxar
- Kerry O'Keefe--fruit and dessert
- Gale Bradbury--cheese/crackers



Please let me know if anyone is bringing coffee or juice. I would also like to thank everyone who brought refreshments this year.

Elizabeth Hume

Raffle Basket Donations

The ever popular basket raffles are our organization's biggest fundraiser and your help is needed. We are looking for donations to fill the baskets we will raffle at the May Banquet. We especially like wine or cash.



The proceeds from the raffle sales will go to the AAUW Local Scholarship Fund. Therefore, the items that you donate will be tax deductible. This is a nice way to contribute to the Scholarship Fund and also help add some excitement to our Holiday Luncheon. Your contributions will be very much appreciated!

Please consider one item below (or more, if you wish!) that you would be willing to donate. If you choose not to donate wine, we would welcome a \$10 cash donation, which we will use to buy items for the baskets that include food.

Here are some types of wine we would love for the baskets (wine baskets are always popular):

- Pinot Noir
- Pinot Grigio
- White Zinfandel
- Beaujolais
- Cabernet
- Chablis
- Merlot
- Riesling

Thank you so very much for helping to make our raffle a success!

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.

Isabella Con't from P 1

Hooker was an enemy and friend to reckon with --"a curiously modern nineteenth-century figure," as Campbell calls her. She was a leader in the suffrage movement, and a mover and shaker in Hartford and Connecticut. She was also an ardent Spiritualist. The biography reveals Isabella's evolution from orthodox Calvinist daughter, wife, and mother to one of the most influential players in the movement for women's suffrage, where this unforgettable woman finally gets her proper due.






Susan Campbell is the author of the memoir *Dating Jesus: Fundamentalism, Feminism, and the American Girl*, winner of the Connecticut Book Award, and co-author of *Connecticut Curiosities*. She has appeared on *CBS News Sunday Morning*, the BBC, and WNPR. Her column about the March 1998 shootings at the Connecticut Lottery headquarters in Newington was part of the *Hartford Courant's* Pulitzer Prize-winning coverage of the tragedy. She lives in East Haven, Connecticut.

2015-2016 Dues

We are coming to the end of another year for AAUW. As we turn our thoughts to next year just a reminder that it is time to renew your membership. A dues renewal form is included and gives you an opportunity to pay them at either of the next two meetings. The form is also available to download and print from our branch website at <http://newlondon-ct.aauw.net/>.

This Old Hat Con't from P 1

- **Elizabeth Blackwell** The first American Woman to become a doctor tells the story of her first day in Medical School. 
- **Nellie Bly** The first undercover reporter, Nellie Bly tells of how she pretended to be insane and had herself committed to Blackwell's Island, New York's notorious insane asylum. She experienced the madhouse firsthand and her subsequent story resulted in reform for the treatment of the mentally ill across the country. 
- **Belva Lockwood** In 1884, before women even had the right to vote, Belva Lockwood tells of her campaign as the first American woman to run for President. Belva Lockwood also sings and talks about Eleanor Roosevelt, the remarkable American woman who never wanted to be a president's wife, but came to be known as "First Lady of the world." A native of Connecticut with a B.A. from Providence College, Patty is a singer, actress and writer with international credits. With a passion for Musical Theatre, she has performed in New York, Los Angeles and London and has been seen across the country in Regional, Stock and Dinner Theatre. Patty has also sung in clubs and cabarets in New York City and along the East Coast, and with big bands in Connecticut including The Dick Campo Big Band, String of Pearls and Sandcastle. 

**This Old Hat: Leading Ladies
The Spa at Norwich Inn
May 14, 2015**



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 7, 2015 with your check made payable to AAUW New London Branch, to Kerry O'Keefe, 123 Wawecus Hill Rd., Norwich, CT 06360.

**NEW LONDON BRANCH A.A.U.W.
MEMBERSHIP DUES 2015-2016**



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 a meeting.

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 _____

**New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2015**

The meeting at the Waterford Library was called to order by hostess Irene Finkelstein at 6:45 pm by the reading of the mission statement. The minutes of the January meeting were accepted as printed.

Finance Chair Claudia Laxar gave her report as follows: Checking Account \$3,221.87, Savings Account \$440.26, Permanent Fund \$1,723.09 and Baird/Piel \$1,005.38 for a grand total of \$6,390.60.

News Letter deadline is March 19, 2015.

Publicity - No report.

Hospitality - All set for April.

Book Group will meet March 18 at 2:00 pm at the East Lyme Library and 7:00 pm at the Waterford Library. *The Edge of the Earth* by Christina Schwarz will be discussed.

Elaine Stattler requested donations for the raffle baskets.

Nominating Committee has been hard at work. Chantal DeArmitt is the candidate for President and Kerry O'Keefe for Vice President for program. In need is a Publicity Chairman. The candidates will be formally presented at the April meeting.

Cultural Interests - The Woman's Club will present a Tribute to Doris Day. Chicos will present a fashion show on April 23 costing \$35. East Lyme Library is sponsoring a bus trip to The Connecticut Historical Society on June 24 for \$60.

Old Business - None

New Business - None

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Shailor
Recording secretary





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AAUW—New London Branch



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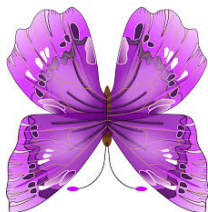
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