



NEWS  
AND  
VIEWS

## NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT BRANCH

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

October/November 2015

Volume 45 No. 2

**“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.”**

### Student Leadership Conference 2015

Thursday, October 8  
Waterford Public Library

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

Alycia Ziegler and Faith Allaire, two Three Rivers Community College students will report on the National Student Leadership Conference (NCCWSL) held at the University of Maryland in June. Join us to hear these two remarkable students talk about their experience at the conference.

**Alycia Ziegler:** I would like to first start by saying thank you to AAUW for helping me attend the 2015 NCCWSL conference again. It is very important to me to be able to advocate for women among my community and promote gender equality here on my college campus. I am currently a second semester sophomore at Three Rivers Community College, where I am the acting President of the feminist group S.A.G.E. here on campus. In addition to this, I am the Governance representative for Student Government, as well as the Walk Chair for The Southeastern Connecticut Walk Now for Autism Speaks. My hope is to bring the

*Con't on P 3*

### Connecticut Casinos with Robert Steele

Thursday, November 12  
Waterford Public Library

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

Robert Steele will join us in November to speak about Connecticut's casino experience and the background to his novel, *The Curse: Big-Time Gambling's Seduction of a Small New England Town*.

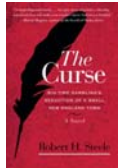
WBZ's Dan Rea calls the book "powerful," and Connecticut author Martin Shapiro describes it as "compelling and timely... a riveting story of history, money, and politics that will make you wonder where America is headed."



Bob Steele is Chairman of Connecticut based NLC Mutual Insurance Company and has been a director of numerous other companies, including CME Group and the American

Stock Exchange.

A graduate of Amherst College and Columbia University, he served in the CIA and Congress and was a nominee for Governor of Connecticut. Bob and his wife, Betsy, have four grown children and live in Essex.



### October/November at a Glance

- October 8 Branch Meeting
- October 21 Book Discussion Group
- November 12 Branch Meeting
- November 18 Book Discussion Group
- November 19 News & Views Deadline



## President's Message



Greetings Branch Sisters, it was such a pleasure to be with you at our September meeting. Our financial status is sound, and our new budget was approved with a few changes to the allocation of funds. But there is always room for growth in funds, despite our highly successful holiday and May luncheon raffles.

With this in mind, I encourage those of you who have computer access to go to our national website, [aauw.org](http://aauw.org), follow the link to "Resources" to "Fundraising", if you haven't ever done so. There you will find links to some very interesting ways to raise funds that are showcased from various branches around the country.

One easy idea from the CT River Valley Soroptimist Club I belong to (an international organization focused on preventing domestic violence and human trafficking) is a club raffle at the monthly meetings. Participation is voluntary as your personal budget allows. Tickets are \$1.00 and officers take turns providing the prizes. The prize and its value are at the discretion of the donator. Club members also donate prizes if they want to do so.

I would love to have your thoughts about any of these ways, or other ideas you may have before our November meeting, by email or phone.

Chantal DeArmitt, M.P.H.

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## Book Discussion Group



The October book is *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande. The discussion leaders are Brigid Boettcher and Sue White. 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 October 21, 2015. The Waterford Library will host a Science Book Discussion with a doctor as moderator on October first if any members would like to attend.

The November book is *Etta and Otto and Russell and James* by Emma Hooper. The discussion leaders are Elizabeth Hume and Jeanne O'Connell. The afternoon and evening groups will meet at their regular meeting places on November 18, 2015.

The December book is *The Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell. Ann Carroll and Irene Finkelstein are the

discussion leaders. The afternoon and evening groups will meet at their regular meeting places on December 16, 2015.

Elizabeth Hume and Kathy Shepherd

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## Hospitality

The following members signed up for refreshments October:



- Elizabeth Hume--baked goods
- Elaine Stattler--cheese and crackers
- Kim Blake--fruit
- Irene Finkelstein--juice

I would appreciate a volunteer to help set up the table each month starting in November. The supplies could be passed along from month to month.

Thank you.

Elizabeth Hume

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## AAUW Note Cards

If any member would like to donate a card that maybe they didn't particularly care for from the AAUW set of note cards that were mailed to us in the spring, I would be glad to use them for Thank You notes that I write to our guest speakers when I give them their payment. Just bring it along to a meeting to give to me. My set is almost depleted. Thanks so much.

Claudia Laxar

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Oct. Program Con't from Pg 1

education and information I receive at this conference back to my community to empower other women and encourage them to pursue and accept leadership opportunities.

**Faith Allaire:** My name is Faith Allaire. I have been married to my husband for ten years and we have two children ages nine and six. I estimate to graduate from Three Rivers in the Spring of 2016 with an Associates in General Studies and a Certificate in Women's Studies. Currently I am the Vice President of S.A.G.E (Students Advocating Gender Equality) and the Secretary of S.I.G.M.A (Sexual Identity and Gender Minority Advocates) where I help to ensure equality and safety upon our campus. I also volunteer in my children's school within their Young Engineers Program. My family and I are very devoted to our martial arts training which has helped not only myself, but my children, to develop key habits that promote great leadership. My husband is an active duty submariner within the US NAVY and I am actively engaged within the support group that is attached to his command.

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### Holiday Luncheon

Although it is only October our holiday luncheon will be here before we know it. Reserve your spot now with the form below. Complete information about the program will be in the December newsletter or download it now with the form from our website at <http://newlondon-ct.aauw.net/>. This festive occasion is sure to get you in the holiday spirit.

### Basket Donations

Our holiday luncheon and basket bonanza are coming soon and your help is needed to make it a success. Donations are needed to fill the baskets we will raffle at the holiday luncheon. We especially like wine or cash.



This is our organization's biggest fundraiser. The proceeds from the 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**
- **Cabernet**
- **Pinot Grigio**
- **Chablis**
- **White Zinfandel**
- **Merlot**
- **Beaujolais**
- **Riesling**

Or, we can use a \$10 donation to purchase food items for the baskets.

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

**Holiday Luncheon at the Spa at the Norwich Inn  
Featuring A Christmas Carol with Jennifer Emerson  
Saturday December 5, 2015**

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 25, 2015 with your check payable to AAUW New London Branch, to Claudia Laxar, 282 Elm Street, Stonington, CT 06378.

**An invitation from Shoreline AAUW:  
“Powerful Voices: CT Women Changing  
Democracy”**

Monday, Oct. 5 7:00 pm  
Henry Carter Hull Library,  
10 Killingworth Turnpike, Clinton (hchlibrary.org)  
HCH Library is pleased to host, in honor of the 95<sup>th</sup>  
anniversary of the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment,  
the CT Women’s Hall of Fame’s interactive, multi-  
media program to learn about some of our state’s  
powerful female voices for change in our democracy.

Discover the power your own voice can have by  
exploring inspirational stories of suffrage advocates  
like Alice Paul and Isabella Beecher Hooker,  
prominent female firsts like Ella Grasso and Denise  
Nappier, and social activists like Helen Keller, Anne  
Stanback and Estelle Griswold.

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**These 5 Women Scientists Were  
“Disruptive”— and We Should Thank Them**  
(from: <http://www.aauw.org/2015/06/12/5-disruptive-women-scientists/>)

**June 12, 2015**

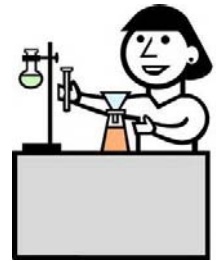
Renowned biochemist and Nobel  
laureate Tim Hunt’s recent remarks  
about women scientists made us think  
we had traveled back in time. Hunt  
claimed that women in laboratories are “disruptive to  
the science.”



“Three things happen when they are in the lab,”  
Hunt said of women. “You fall in love with them,  
they fall in love with you, and when you criticize  
them, they cry.”

Hunt’s sexist remarks are part of a long history  
of gender discrimination against women in science.  
Popular 19<sup>th</sup>- and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century theories held  
that women were both biologically and intellectually  
inferior to men. It was widely believed that women’s  
generally smaller bodies meant that they had smaller  
brains than men. Women were also believed to have  
weaker nervous systems than men, allegedly making  
them prone to emotional distress and fatigue. These  
theories contributed to the notion that, rather than in  
the classroom or workforce, women’s place was in  
the home, where they could properly channel their  
energies into reproduction.

Unfortunately, a century  
later, many women still have to  
challenge this sexist ideology every  
day. But they have strong shoulders  
to stand on. Go to  
<http://www.aauw.org/2015/06/12/5-disruptive-women-scientists/> and  
read about five AAUW founders and  
early members who overcame severe  
gender bias and discrimination to  
become trailblazers in science.



They include Ellen Swallow Richards, chemist  
(1842–1911), Ida Henrietta Hyde, physiologist  
(1856–1945), Florence Bascom, geologist (1862–  
1945), Dorothy Ferebee, physician (1890–1980), and  
Marie Curie, physicist (1867–1934).

These courageous scientists widened the path for  
today’s women and girls. Yet even 100 years later,  
gender discrimination in science remains a problem.  
Breaking down the barriers for women in science will  
take effort from all of us.





## New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes September 10, 2015

President Chantal DeArmitt opened the meeting at 6:50p.m. with the reading of the mission statement. She thanked the board members who provided the refreshments.

The minutes of the April meeting were approved as printed.

Finance Chair, Claudia Laxar, presented her report as follows: Checking Account \$3,494.26, Savings Account \$947.31, Permanent Fund \$1,726.57 and the Baird/Piel Fund was closed out and dispersed to the Savings Account. There was \$507 remaining which was too small for a CD, therefore was put into the Savings Account for scholarship use this coming Spring.

The proposed budget was approved.

Claudia announced that this would be her last year as Finance Chair.

An edible arrangement was given to Gale Bradbury who was recovering from a knee replacement.

### Committee Reports

The Avery Point Scholarship was awarded to Christine Jost who is working towards a Bachelor in Nursing degree.

### Hospitality

Elizabeth Hume passed around a signup sheet for refreshments.

Book Group will meet September 16, 2:00 p.m. at the East Lyme Library, and 7:00 p.m. at the Waterford Library.

*The Sex Lives of Cannibals* by J. Maarten Troost will be discussed.

The Lawrence and Memorial Hospital Auxiliary is sponsoring the Well Heeled Woman program the first Sunday in November. Gay Clarkson/Jeanne O'Connell reserved some tables for AAUW members.

The newsletter deadline is September 17.

There was no Old Business or New Business.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda Shailor  
Recording Secretary





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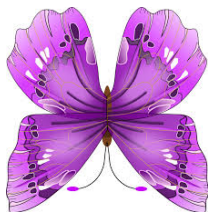
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