



NEWS
AND
VIEWS

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT BRANCH

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February/March 2016

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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.”

The First Lady, the President, and U.S. Foreign Policy

Thursday, February 11, 2016
Waterford Public Library

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

MaryAnne Borrelli, Professor of Government in the Department of Government and International Relations at Connecticut College will join us once again to speak about the First Ladies.

Traveling with the president and independently, addressing domestic and international audiences, first ladies have advocated on behalf of the presidents' foreign policy. Eleanor Roosevelt's five weeks in the South Pacific in 1943 and Pat Nixon's 1969 visit to Saigon showcased the presidents' concern for the soldiers and determination to prevail in the wars. Jacqueline Kennedy's 1962 speech in Miami, delivered in Spanish, to the Cuban fighters who had survived the Bay of Pigs; Rosalynn Carter's advocacy and fundraising on behalf of the Cambodian refugees fleeing the Khmer Rouge; Hillary Clinton's speech to the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women declaring that "women's rights are human rights"; and Laura Bush's radio address drawing attention to "the brutality against

Con't on P. 3

Outrageous and Courageous: CT Women and the Fight for Suffrage

Thursday, March 17, 2016
Please note: This is the third Thursday
Waterford Public Library

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



Dr. Tracey Wilson will speak this month on the women's suffrage movement in Connecticut.

The Connecticut Woman's Suffrage movement helped build women's leadership, through cross class alliances and attempts to organize in new ways. The New Woman spoke in public and made arguments about suffrage based both on the equality of men and women and the differences between men and women. Ultimately, the 19th Amendment passed without being ratified by Connecticut. This presentation is illustrated with photographs and political cartoons from the time period.

Tracey Wilson, PhD is a retired high school history teacher, and the West Hartford Town Historian. She has a BA and MA from Trinity College and a PhD in history from Brown University. She researched the Connecticut woman's suffrage

Con't on P. 3

February/March at a Glance

- February 11 Branch Meeting
- February 17 Book Discussion Group
- March 16 Book Discussion Group
- March 17 Branch Meeting
- March 24 News & Views Deadline



President's Message



"Greetings" to All. This is a good time to review the AAUW 2015 Policy Accomplishments to set the tone for 2016's advocacy work. I will be distributing the complete details from the recent email sent by the AAUW Action Network. If you are not already on the list-serve, I strongly encourage you to sign up at advocacy@aauw.org.

A few highlights from the report:

- over 250,000 emails were sent to state and national legislators in support of laws furthering our public policy priorities
- the AAUW Advocacy Fund Capitol Hill Lobby Corps made over 1,300 visits to Senators and members of Congress and were by for their 40 years of citizen lobbying.
- New title IX Coordinator materials and guide were published this year and distributed to schools in 17 states, with more to be distributed this year as a "resource delivery project", meeting with the Coordinators, supported by the U.S. Dept of Education's Office for Civil Rights.

Is this something we could do here? Let's check it out, and see what other 2015 accomplishments we may be inspired to undertake as well.

The numerous other accomplishments will be distributed by email and at the February meeting, and can be made available at all of our meetings for public awareness.

Proud to be Your President,
Chantal DeArmitt

Book Discussion Group



The February book is *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown. Brigid Boettcher and Kathy Shepherd will be the discussion leaders. The afternoon group will meet at 2pm at the East Lyme Library and the evening group will meet at 7pm at the Waterford Library on February 17, 2016.

The March book is *Founding Gardeners* by Andrea Wulf. Nancy McDonough and Linda Shailor will be the discussion leaders. The afternoon and evening groups will meet at their regular meeting places on March 16, 2016.

Elizabeth Hume and Kathy Shepherd

Hospitality



The following members signed up for refreshments

February:

- Susan Archer--baked goods
- Meg Wilhelms—brownies
- Mimi Mountain--cookies and juice
- Jeanne Coyne--cheese and crackers
- Edna Gilstad---coffee

March:

- Vinnie Belbruno--shortbread
- Susan White—cookies
- Kathy Shepherd
- Gay Clarkson
- Edna Gilstad--coffee

I would welcome some help setting up in March and April. This will involve coming a few minutes early the month that you bring refreshments with the bag of paper goods and table cloths and setting up two tables to place everything on.

Thank you, Elizabeth Hume

New Members

Welcome to our two new members:

- Jane DeGraff, 91 Riverview Rd., Niantic CT 06357; 860-451-8584, jcdegraff@gmail.com.
- Bonnie Hanna, 77 Old Colchester Rd., Quaker Hill, CT 06375; 860-443-0443, bonnie.hanna@snet.net

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. Donations made to the baskets for the Holiday Luncheon and May banquet are also tax deductible.

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

Claudia Laxar, Financial Chairperson

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. Branch President: Chantal DeArmitt, email: Chantal.dearmitt@yahoo.com. Membership Vice president: Edna Gilstad 19 Mohawk Dr., Niantic, CT., email: egilstad@aol.com.

First Lady *Con't from P 1*
women and children by the al-Qaida terrorist network” all advanced presidential policy priorities. This talk will examine the contributions of modern first ladies to the achievement of presidents’ foreign policy goals.

Outrageous Con't from P 1
movement at the master’s level over 30 years ago, and studied working women at Colt and Travelers Insurance Company for her doctoral dissertation. She lives in West Hartford with her wife, State Senator Beth Bye. They have 5 grown children.

Broadway at Garde Arts Center



To promote and encourage friendship and camaraderie among members outside of the regular meetings, I’m starting a cultural interest subgroup for AAUW members. For our first outing, I’m proposing that we see a Broadway production at the Garde Arts Center. If you’re interested, we can meet for dinner before the play. The play that drew the

most response from the members at the January meeting was “Saturday Night Fever”. This play is based on the 1977 movie starring John Travolta and is packed with legendary hits from the Bee Gees, including ‘*Stayin’ Alive*’ and ‘*You Should Be Dancing*’. If you are interested please email me at margaret.b.wilhelm@sbcglobal.net (note that my email address is incorrect in the handbook) or call me at 772-486-5221 by Feb. 8th (so that we can all sit together). If you signed up at the general meeting or book group, you don’t need to send me an email now unless you have a change. The play is on Thursday May 5th at 7:30 PM at the Garde Arts Center in New London. The cost per ticket is \$50.40 (this reflects the senior discount). The seats will be in the Orchestra in order to avoid any issues with stairs. I will order and pay for the tickets and collect the money from each of you. I’ll get your ticket to you prior to the show or distribute them the night of the show.

Meg Wilhelms

New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes January 14, 2016

Claudia Laxar, presiding in the absence of President Chantal DeArmitt, opened the meeting at 6:45 pm with the reading of the mission statement. She thanked Hospitality Committee for providing the refreshments. Visitors were introduced. She announced that there are two new members: Bonnie Hanna and Jane DeGraff.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved as printed.

Treasurer’s Report

Claudia reported that 59 people attended the holiday luncheon. Profit from the baskets was \$1,000. She thanked Elaine and Marlene for all their work assembling the baskets. Her report is as follows: Savings Account \$947.35, Checking Account \$4,041.41, Permanent Fund \$1,728.82 for a grand total of \$6,717.58. For tax purposes, \$46 of the dues is tax deductible along with any donation towards the baskets. Emergency scholarship recipient Hope Dixon, sent a thank you note.

Committee Reports

Publicity: The Waterford Public Library did the publicity as this meeting was jointly sponsored. News and Views deadline is January 21st.

Hospitality: No report.

Book Group: The book group will meet January 20th to discuss the book *The Art of Mending* by Elizabeth Berg.

Cultural Interests: Kerry O’Keefe said that the exhibit about John Meyer will continue through January 18th. Ann Carroll announced that on January 28th, the Waterford Women’s Club is presenting Ann Shapiro who will perform folk songs and stories at 10:15 am. Lunch will be provided. All are welcome.

Meg Wilhelms passed a sign-up sheet around for names of people interested in attending the Guard presentations of Broadway theatre productions.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda C. Shailor



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