



NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT BRANCH

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

April/May 2016

Volume 45 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.”

Bird Habitats

Thursday, April 14, 2016
Waterford Public Library

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



Birding enthusiasts are sure to enjoy our April program with Robert Tougias. Mr. Tougias will present a "habitat" approach to birding showing

how to use the awareness of a habitat to find birds. Robert Tougias syndicates nature articles in newspapers throughout New England and writes a birding column for *The Day*. His wildlife articles have appeared in many magazines, including *Appalachian Trailways* and *Fur - Fish - Game*. Mr. Tougias began birding at the age of seven and has been presenting his artwork in juried shows since the age of eleven. He has also been birding in MA and CT for many years. His favorite bird is the Wood Thrush.

An Evening with the Gillettes Portrayed by Harold and Theodora Niver

Thursday, May 12, 2016
The Spa at Norwich Inn

4:45 - 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

This year's May banquet and Basket Bonanza will feature Harold and Theodora Niver as the Gillettes. Not only do Harold and Theodora Niver talk about William & Helen Gillette, they become the Gillettes. Flitting back and forth between being presenters and portrayers.



Who was William Gillette? What was his connection to the greatest fictional detective of all time? Was Sherlock Holmes fact...or fiction? What is the story behind the image of Holmes...the cap...the pipe...the lens?

You will learn about Gillette Castle in East Haddam. What famous people visited the Castle? You will learn about Gillette's greatest love - his wife Helen. And, for you cat lovers, you will learn about Will's love of cats.

Con't on P 3

April/May at a Glance

- April 14 Branch Meeting
- April 20 Book Discussion Group
- May 12 May Banquet
- May 18 Book Discussion Group
- August 18 News & Views Deadline



President's Message



As this is our last newsletter of FY 2015 -16, I want to thank our hard-working Board and committees for all they accomplished in planning and carrying out their work to meet our goals, including the upcoming May Banquet and fundraiser. Special thanks go to Elaine Stattler who, as always, does a phenomenal job making sure that we have exceptional theme baskets to auction.

I also thank our loyal branch members for their support in making our branch activities and fundraisers successful. Our ability to contribute financial support for college women students, AAUW national's graduate fellowships and legal work for cases of job discrimination or other harassment against women depend on the success of these fundraisers.

I also want to thank the members who volunteered to work on our ad hoc Nominating Committee: Linda Shailor, Gay Clarkson and Katherine Shepard. They were tasked to recruit volunteers to replace our terrific Treasurer, Claudia Laxar; outstanding Program Officer, Kerry O'Keefe, and dedicated, long-time Membership Officer, Edna Gilstad. I look forward to working with the new officers who have generously agreed to become our new Treasurer, Katherine Shepherd and Program Officer, Gay Clarkson. I will call for a vote on these nominees at the April meeting. I will also call for a vote to officially install these officers at our September branch meeting in a very brief installation ceremony, a practice I would like to become customary for the future.

We are still in need of a volunteer to fill the Membership position. I hope one of our members will contact me or one of the nominating committee members. You will have all the help you need to fill the duties of this office. It is possible to have co-officers in this and any other position, and to form a committee to assist the officer(s).

Finally, I would remind everyone to be diligent about notifying me and Gale Bradbury of any changes to your contact information, especially email address and phone numbers (home, work, cell), so we can update our individual yearbooks. This is very important so email communications will go to the right place, and phone calls can get through. Gale will send out an all-member email to notify everyone with the info in the newsletter, as before, and send an all-member email in between the newsletters. I will then call those without email.

Looking forward to seeing you on April 14.
Chantal DeArmitt

Book Discussion Group



The April book is *The Golem and the Jinni* by Helene Wecker.

Elizabeth Hume and Elaine Stattler will be 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 April 20, 2016.

The May book is *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr. Gay Clarkson and Barbara Guerra will be the discussion leaders. The afternoon and evening groups will meet at their regular meeting places on May 18, 2016.

The June book selection meeting will be on June 15, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Waterford Library. Please bring a book or two to share--fiction, nonfiction, biography, memoir, anything you think would make a good discussion book. Come even if you don't have a book!! This will be a chance for the afternoon and evening groups to get together and there will be food to share as well as great books.

Elizabeth Hume and Kathy Shepherd

Hospitality



The following members signed up for refreshments in April:

- Anna Mae Burr cookies
- Deb Kirby cheesecake
- Patty Clairwood lemon cake
- Linda Shailor cheese and crackers
- Betty Ahnell coffee
- Edna Gilstad coffee

Thank you to everyone who brought baked goods, cheese and crackers, juice and coffee this year!

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. Branch President: Chantal DeArmitt, email: chantal.dearmitt@gmail.com. Membership Vice president: Edna Gilstad 19 Mohawk Dr., Niantic, CT., email: edna.gilstad@gmail.com.

The Gillettes Con't from P 1

Their costuming is authentic and period correct. Their knowledge of Sherlock Holmes, William Gillette and Gillette Castle is extensive.

Because of their distinctive home which is built around a Holmes theme, they have been in such magazines as *Us, Smithsonian, Fortune, Connecticut* and *Yankee*. TV segments include PM Magazine, ABC News and CBS. Be prepared to be educated and entertained!

Membership

Please note the following changes in contact information for members.

New Email for:

- Chantal DeArmitt - chantal.dearmitt@gmail.com
- Edna Gilstad - edna.gilstad@gmail.com

New Address for:

- Kathy Shepherd, 18 Compass Ct, Niantic, CT 06357 860-691-1554
-

Basket Raffle Donation



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 banquet. 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!



**An Evening with the Gillettes
Portrayed by Harold and Theodora Niver
The Spa at Norwich Inn
May 12, 2016**

Name _____ Guest _____
(Include food choice for all)

Total Enclosed _____

Entrees: _____ Crisp-Crusted Chicken with Natural Jus
_____ Salmon with Fresh Dill Beurre Blanc

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 5, 2016 with your check made payable to AAUW New London Branch, to Claudia Laxar, 282 Elm Street, Stonington, CT 06378.

**NEW LONDON BRANCH A.A.U.W.
MEMBERSHIP DUES 2016-2017**



Dues renewal time is fast approaching. Checks for the coming year are due in by June 30th. An early response would be much appreciated.

Types of Membership

Association Member:	National	\$ 49.00	
	State	10.00	
	Branch	16.00	\$ 75.00 _____
Association Life Member:	National	\$0.00	
	State	10.00	
	Branch	16.00	\$ 26.00 _____
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
February 11, 2016**

Kerry O'Keefe presided in the absence of Chantal DeArmitt. She opened the meeting at 6:45 pm with the reading of the mission statement. She thanked the Hospitality Committee for the evening's refreshments. All visitors were welcomed.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report

Checking Account: \$4,240.51, Savings Account: \$947.35, Permanent Fund: \$1,729.41 for a grand total of \$6,917.27. Philanthropic donation to the AAUW fund was designated to where the need was greatest. Claudia restated that this would be her last year as treasurer. This year \$500 has been budgeted for NCCWSL. If the state AAUW would contribute an additional \$500, then two people could be sent to the conference.

Committee Reports

News Letter Deadline is next month.

Book Group The book group will meet February 17, 2016. *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown will be discussed.

Hospitality There is a need for someone to come early to set up.

Scholarship \$1,000 has been budgeted. Kim Blake thanked AAUW for the emergency scholarship donated to one of her students.

Cultural Interest Meg Wilhelms needs the payment for the theatre tickets by the end of February.

Old Business Elaine needs baskets and donations for the baskets. There is a need for Program Chairman and a Program Committee.

New Business None.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Linda C. Shailor

**New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2016**

President Chantal DeArmitt opened the meeting at 6:45 pm with the reading of the mission statement. She thanked the Hospitality Committee for their contributions. There were no visitors to introduce.

The minutes of the February 11 meeting were approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report

Checking Account: \$2959.36, Savings Account: \$947.36, Permanent Fund: \$1729.99 for a grand total of \$5,636.71.

News and Views deadline is the next day or two.

Committee Reports

Publicity None

Hospitality None

Book Group Book Group will meet April 20. *The Golem and the Jinn* by Helene Wecker will be discussed.

Scholarships Avery Point will make their selection after March 25. The state has granted \$250 towards a NCCWSL delegate. We are hoping for an additional \$250 from the state which would enable our branch to send two delegates. Our branch has budgeted \$500 for one delegate.

Cultural Interest Gay Clarkson announced a fund raiser for Child and Family organization. It will be a Macy's Fashion Show. Reservations must be in by March 20.

Old Business The Nomination Committee has submitted the name of Kathy Shepherd for Treasurer, and Gay Clarkson for Program Vice President. There is a vacancy for Membership Chair.

New Business None

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

Respectfully submitted,
Linda C. Shailor

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AAUW—New London Branch



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