



NEWS  
AND  
VIEWS

## NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT BRANCH

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

December 2019/January 2020

Volume 49 No. 3

**“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 with Flock Theater

Saturday, December 7, 2019  
Langley's, 28 Lamphere Drive  
Waterford

12:00 Noon Lunch  
1:00 p.m. Program

This month will feature our annual holiday luncheon with a performance by Flock Theater. Flock Theatre is a non-profit professional theatre company based in New London, CT. They specialize in classical theatre, puppetry, and education and are well known for their long-standing outdoor Summer Shakespeare in the Arboretum at Connecticut College, Burning of Benedict Arnold Festival, shadow puppetry, and HOT schools residencies within CT public schools.

This holiday program incorporates stories such as "Molly Ryan's Christmas Eve", Dylan Thomas' "A Child's Christmas in Wales", and more. Journey through time to Christmas Past with a group of Flock's most acclaimed actors. The performance also includes a few all-sings, and we ask that you join us in spreading this cheer! Have a wonderful holiday.

### Travels in China

Thursday, January 9, 2020  
Waterford Public Library

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

Our January meeting will feature Rev. Dr. Jessica Sommar, discussing her Travels in China. Rev. Dr. Jessica Sommar is Manager/Director of the Spiritual Care Department in the Yale New Haven Health System, Board Certified Clinical Chaplain and Pastoral Counselor, and Psychiatric attending Chaplain for adult in-patient psych unit. Rev. Dr. Sommar is also a Psychoanalytical Resident at Blanton-Peale Institute in New York City and a Supervisor-in-training in Pastoral Psychotherapy. Rev. Dr. Sommar is an ordained and licensed Interfaith Minister with the Interfaith Temple. She received her Doctor of Ministry in 2017, and she is experienced in creating sacred space and designing ritual encouraging community building and communion among people of different faiths. She has taught Daoism and Comparative Chinese Philosophy as well as Crisis Encounters and Pastoral Care at the New Seminary for Graduate Studies.

*Con't on P 3*

### December/January at a Glance

- December 7 Branch Meeting
- December 18 Book Discussion Group
- January 9 Branch Meeting
- January 15 Book Discussion Group
- January 16 News & Views Deadline



## President's Message



Dear Ladies,  
Here we are celebrating Thanksgiving, Hannukah and Christmas Holidays. It seems as if I was just welcoming everyone back from Summer. I hope 2020 will be a Happy and Healthy Year for us. We have our Annual Holiday Luncheon on December 7 at Langley's. The fabulous Flock Theatre will entertain with some Holiday drama and comedy. Please send your entrée choices & checks to Jeanne O'Connell, 6 Lantern Lane, Niantic, CT 06357.

On November 14 Kris Magnusson spoke about the natural and manmade hazards that affect our area. Kris explained what the plans are and what each person can do to be prepared in case of a disaster, bio-terrorism or pandemic. There are ways our AAUW branch can assist in a public health emergency. Kris distributed several brochures explaining what we can do; hopefully she will bring these materials to our next meeting.

I had been thinking of an article to write for the December-January newsletter. All of a sudden a request for applicants to apply for the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) appeared in my mailbox. The conference will once again be held at the University of Maryland, College Park, May 27-30, 2020. If we submit one or two students early enough, the State of CT branch will pay half of the student's tuition, approximately \$250. Last year UConn student Sierra Jennings attended. Sierra had a fabulous time and she wants to attend in 2020. In the meantime, we are looking for other applicants. In the past we have approached Three Rivers.

These are some of the bullet points that appeared in the email:

### **Challenge Yourself, Inspire Others, Create Impact when you attend the Conference**

- **On a Budget?** AAUW will give you certain steps so you can fit NCCWSL into your college student budget.
- **Call for Workshop Presenters: Whom Will You Empower This Year?** Every year NCCWSL offers skill-building workshops that challenge and inspire our attendees to make an impact on their campuses and in their communities.
- **AAUW – MD Woman of Distinction, Judy Carbone:** Throughout her entire career, Judy Carbone helped people plan their educations and professional paths, serve their communities, and live authentic lives.
- **Woman of Distinction 2019: Sandra Kim:** Sandra Kim is the founder of the popular

website: *Everyday Feminism and Re-Becoming Human Together*. *Everyday Feminism* celebrates intersectional feminism in daily life and is visited by millions of people.

- **Introducing the 2019 NCCWSL Keynote Roxane Gay:** When Roxane Gay's essay collection, *Bad Feminist*, hit the bestseller list in 2014, Gay became an overnight sensation. But the journey to success has been a long and winding road.
- Other presentations include **Documentary and Discussion: RBG,** "There will be enough women on the Supreme Court when there are nine." **Jane Marie Chen**, Co-founder of Embrace Innovations, and **Ashley Nell Tipton**. Tipton's breakthrough came when she competed in Project Runway, beating out her competitors in 2015 and becoming the first designer in the show's history to focus on fashion for the plus-size woman.

Wow, what an exciting conference; I want to attend. Let's get a busload of AAUW members and go!! I'll keep you posted on applicants. I hope we get a lot to choose from. I'll see you at our Holiday Luncheon.

Best, Gay

## Hospitality

The following members signed up for refreshments.

### January

- Edna Gilstad--coffee
- Ann Carroll – Cookies
- Kathy Greene – Cookies
- Kris Magnusson – Cheese & crackers
- Elizabeth Hume – Baked good

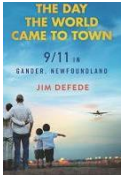


Thank you to everyone who signed up.

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](mailto:bradbury@ledyard.lioninc.org). The deadline for submissions is the third Thursday of the month. Branch President: Gay Clarkson email: [willypetey15@gmail.com](mailto:willypetey15@gmail.com). Membership VP: Kim Blake, [kajblake@gmail.com](mailto:kajblake@gmail.com)

## Book Discussion Group



The December book is *The Day the World Came to Town* by Jim DeFede. Ann Carroll and Linda Shailor 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 December 18, 2019.

The January book is *In the Midst of Winter* by Isabel Allende. Meg Wilhelms and Brigid Boettcher will be the discussion leaders. The Afternoon and Evening groups will meet at their regular meeting places on January 15, 2020.

If you are not at the November meeting, please call me or Kathy Shepherd about getting a copy of the book--there will be a limited number available at the library.

Elizabeth Hume and Kathy Shepherd

### New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes October 10, 2019

President Gay Clarkson opened the meeting at 6:45 pm. She thanked Kim Blake for her effort in assembling the year book which is available on the back table. Please sign your name as you take one. Claire Long was welcomed as a new member. Flock Theater will present a program at our Christmas luncheon to be held Saturday, December 7 at Langleys.

#### Treasurer's Report

Balance of the checking account is \$5,442.73.

A thank you note was read from the presenter of the Days for Girls program. The stipend of \$50 will go for the support of this program.

Meg Wilhelms announced that her husband has an interest in amateur theater. The next presentation will be "Agnus of God" which will be held the last weekend of October and the first weekend of November.

Sue White said that the Greek Festival is to be November 5 to the 8, 11 am to 9 pm at St. Sophia Church

Elizabeth Hume announced that the book group will be meeting October 16 at their usual time and locations.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda C. Shailor

*Con't from P 1*

Dr. Sommar was a professor at Zhejiang/Jing Mao University in Hangzhou, China, teaching International Finance, Economics, Business Communications and English.

Rev. Dr. Sommar facilitated Transformational workshops: Classical Yang Family Style Tai Chi Chuan, Daoyin-Daoist nutrition, diet, meditation and exercise, Kripalu yoga, pranayama, and philosophy. She is an award-winning business journalist with over 15 years' experience on daily newspapers, magazines and newsletters as well as editorial management of print and website content. Her freelance writing includes International Business and Economics in China and the West Markets, Finance and White Collar Crime, Health and Healing, yoga, tai-chi, spirituality, consciousness, and poetry

### New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes November 14, 2019

President Gay Clarkson opened the meeting at 6:15p.m. She welcomed all and then read the AAUW mission statement. She thanked Gale Bradbury, Editor of the newsletter, and Linda Shailor, Recording Secretary, for their contributions towards the operations of AAUW.

**Treasurer's Report:** No report

#### Book Group

The Book Group will meet November 20, 2019 at the usual time and places.

Elizabeth passed around a signup sheet for refreshments.

There being no Old Business or New Business, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Shailor, Recording Secretary



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## AAUW—New London Branch



Women working together  
To advocate for all women



American Association of University Women  
New London Branch  
24 Giovanni Drive  
Waterford, CT 06385

