



NEWS
AND
VIEWS

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT BRANCH

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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.”

**Ann Pamela Cunningham,
the woman who saved Mount Vernon**

Thursday, February 13, 2020
Waterford Public Library

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



February's guest speaker will play the part of Ann Pamela Cunningham and present a program on the founding of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association. This organization was one of the first U.S. preservation and heritage groups that happened also to be started and headed by women.

In 1835, George Washington's home was standing in tatters, roof sagging--held in place by ship masts, paint peeling, and overgrown with vines and hedges run amok. Ann Pamela Cunningham was tasked with saving a piece of history.

Bring a friend to hear the story of this strong-willed belle of South Carolina and her very colorful life.

Madonna Place

Thursday, March 12, 2020
Waterford Public Library

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

Nancy Gentes,
Executive Director of
Madonna Place, Inc in
Norwich, will discuss its
mission and programs.



Madonna Place opened in 1987 when a group of concerned citizens got together to create a center for disadvantaged women and children, a nonjudgmental place where women could meet other mothers and learn from the nurse coordinator and each other.

Madonna Place partners with many local organizations including the Norwich Public Schools, Backus Hospital, United Community and Family Services, the University of Connecticut, Lawrence and Memorial Hospital and local churches. Their mission is to provide services which strengthen families, promote health, and prevent child abuse and neglect. Madonna Place is a family support agency serving all of New London County and beyond and a leader in the field of parent education, home visiting, child abuse prevention services and service to fathers.

February/March at a Glance

- February 13 Branch Meeting
- February 19 Book Discussion Group
- March 12 Branch Meeting
- March 18 Book Discussion Group
- March 19 News & Views Deadline



President's Message



Dear Ladies,
Happy February!!! I was totally taken with our last presenter Dr. Jessica Sommar, Director of Spiritual Care at Yale-New Haven Hospital Group.

Jessica's slides of China inspired me to take a trip to China in the near future. Since last February, I have been volunteering as a Chaplain's Assistant, and I have been taking direction from Jessica.

When I attended the AAUW CT conference last spring, the keynote speaker was Kate Farrar, a very energetic young lady and Executive Director of CWEALF, Connecticut Women's Education Legal Fund. Upon my return from the conference, I have received several mailings from Kate. Every year, CWEALF honors women who contribute to the advancement of women, girls and families in Connecticut. CWEALF's Maria Miller Stewart Awardees and Champions of Change inspire others through their resilience, hope, innovation, and passion to chart the way forward for gender equality. Since I was curious and did not know who Maria Miller Stewart was, I discovered she was a free Black woman in Hartford in 1803 who became the first American-born woman to speak in public at an organized lecture. Stewart spoke out with force on the rights of women. 2019 Maria Miller Stewart Awardees are an extremely gifted group of ladies. They include

- Ella Briggs, 2019 Connecticut's Kid Governor for her efforts to elevate LGBTOIA youth issues.
- Glynda Carr, Co-Founder, Higher Heights for America-for her founding of the only organization in the country to build the political power of Black women.
- Michelle Duprey, Director, Department of Services for Persons with Disabilities, City of New Haven-for her leadership and advocacy for women with disabilities, and
- Dantaya Williams, VP Human Resources, Commercial Engines-Pratt & Whitney for her efforts to advance women's leadership in the workplace.

I applaud each of them. It would be exciting to have one of these talented ladies lecture at one of our monthly meetings.

I was also taken with an article I received about Attorney Shanique Fenlator; Attorney Fenlator is a member of C.A.N. Cooperating Attorney Network. She is driven by her personal litigation to be a civil servant. She writes: "I am an immigrant and a woman; when a client looks at me, I know that they

can see themselves. That relatability and the confidence that is created by it is not something that I take for granted." My conclusion after reading some of these articles is what a fabulous group of young women are affiliated with CWEALF.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our February meeting when Ann Pamela Cunningham will visit. She can't wait to tell you how she and some of her fellow regents from the Mount Vernon Ladies Association of the Union saved Mount Vernon. Stay warm and happy sledding,
Gay

Hospitality

The following members signed up for refreshments.



February:

- Kathy Greene-cookies
- Linda Shailor--cheese and crackers
- Elizabeth Hume--baked good
- Edna Gilstad---coffee

March:

- Kathy Shepherd---brownies
- Elizabeth Hume--baked good
- Mimi Mountain
- Edna Gilstad—coffee

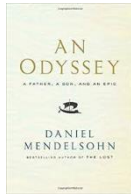
Thank you to everyone who signed up.

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. The deadline for submissions is the third Thursday of the month. Branch President: Gay Clarkson email: willypetey15@gmail.com. Membership VP: Kim Blake, kajblake@gmail.com

Book Discussion Group

The February book is *An Odyssey* by Daniel Mendelsohn. Elizabeth Hume and Barbara Jacobsen 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 February 19, 2020.



The March book is *The Orphan Keeper* by Camron Wright. Jeanne O'Connell and Sue White will be the discussion leaders. The Afternoon and Evening groups will meet at their regular meeting places on March 18, 2020.

There are no large print or audio for the February book.

Elizabeth Hume and Kathy Shepherd



New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes January 9, 2020

President Gay Clarkson opened the meeting at 6:55p.m. She welcomed all members and guests.

Treasurer's Report: Checking Account: \$4,117.34, Savings: \$1,104.60, CD \$1,752.01 for a grand total of \$6,973.95.

This branch of AAUW has pledged \$260 each to sponsor two girls to attend the NCCWSL conference. A motion was made and seconded to donate an additional \$260 to sponsor a third attendee. The motion passed. The state AAUW awards an equal sum of money towards their expenses.

There will be a Board meeting January 16 at the home of Gay Clarkson. [Note this has been cancelled and will be rescheduled] Those attending are asked to bring a pot luck dish as this is a dinner meeting.

Thursday, January 16 is the deadline for articles to be included in the News and Views.

Elizabeth Hume passed a signup sheet for refreshments.

The Book Groups will Meet January 15 at the usual times and places.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda C. Shailor

A friendly notice from our banking partner
Citizen's Bank

Your check is Welcome!

If your check is returned for non-sufficient funds, you expressly authorize your account to be electronically debited or bank drafted for the amount of the check plus any applicable fees. The use of a check for payment is your acknowledgement and acceptance of this policy and its terms and conditions.

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AAUW—New London Branch



Women working together
To advocate for all women



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