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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.”

May Banquet is Cancelled

President’s Message



Dear Ladies,

Where has 2020 gone? What does self-quarantine mean? How does my mask look like? Why am I wearing a mask? The answers to all these questions are all jumbled up in my head. The only crucial thought I have is that all of you and your families are staying safe and well. On another note, I want to thank you for your lovely cards, visits and calls I received when I was ill. This AAUW branch can be proud of their fabulous ladies-THANK YOU! What message could I bring to you, My AAUW Sisters? I always scan the AAUW National website so that I can share National and International information with you. The attached letter from Kimberly Churches, National Chief Operating Officer of American Association of University Women must be shared.

AAUW & COVID-19-: STANDING STRONG THROUGH CRISIS

“We at AAUW are deeply concerned about the impact of COVID-19 on our members, supporters, fellowship alumnae and their families around the world. Your health and safety are our top priority.

We are only beginning to wrap our heads around the unprecedented repercussions in the months and possibly years ahead, as well as the economic and social rebuilding efforts that will be needed. (Only recently the AAUW CT 2020 NCCWSL Conference was cancelled. We are hopeful we can send our scholarship recipients in May 2021.)

Upcoming Events

- August 13 Branch picnic at Harkness
- August 20 News and Views Deadline
- September 12 Branch Meeting
- September 12 Book Discussion Group

AAUW has been at the cutting edge at fighting for economic equity for nearly 140 years. And what we're witnessing is how the pandemic is amplifying and exacerbating all of the nation's inequities. The issues we've long been fighting for are now alarmingly urgent, and our efforts are needed now more than ever. Consider:

- Close to 30 percent of working Americans have no sick leave and have to choose between a paycheck and potentially losing their job or risking exposure to infection.
- Women comprise more than 70 percent of the healthcare industry, including more than 85 percent of nurses. They are on the frontlines, putting themselves and their families at risk to care for others.
- More than 10 million Americans have already filed for unemployment due to the outbreak – and women may well be the majority. The female labor force accounts for a large proportion of service jobs: more than 80 percent of wait staff, 85 percent of retail cashiers and 85 percent of hotel and hospitality workers. These fields are among those likely to face furloughs and layoffs.
- Part-time workers and hourly wage workers will face job loss, hourly wage workers will need reskilling and retraining as we move beyond the immediate pandemic crisis.
- Education is being upended, exacerbating existing education gaps for lower income and students of color.
- Women in college and graduate schools will be entering one of the worst economies in modern history. While still holding two-thirds of the nation's \$1.3 trillion of student debt.
- Retirement and other savings have been hard hit. Already, retired women are twice as likely as men to live at or below the poverty level. As the economy falters, retired women's ability to pay monthly bills and survive will be at risk.

AAUW has always used our collective influence to fight for economic justice from grassroots to national and international fields. But never has our work been as badly needed as it is right now. So my promise to you is that, when things finally settle down, we will be on the front lines of the coming battle to ensure equity and economic security for all.

These are trying times for everyone, for us as individuals, for our families and friends and for our fellow AAUW members. But we are part of a community that is there for each other – as we have been since our inception.

Please stay well, be kind to each other, and know that I along with the AAUW national staff are available and thinking of you. We're all in this together. And together, we can make a difference."

KIMBERLY CHURCHES, National CEO"

Upon reflecting upon Kim's letter, there is nothing I can add. I welcome your comments. I am looking forward to seeing everyone on August 13 at our first annual picnic at Harkness Park, at 5:30pm, details to follow.

Best, Gay

Book Discussion Group

We're in a holding pattern with the Waterford Library. The library is still closed although out April book *The Honey Bus* is there. Two months of books --I don't know when we'll be able to meet. The librarian will contact the book groups when she knows more.

We can reschedule our may book *Educated* for September.

I don't know when we can meet to choose our books for next year - maybe we'll do it a little differently. Let us know of any gook books you have been reading.

Elizabeth Hume and Kathy Shepherd

Dues Renewal Time

It's time to renew your dues for next year. A renewal form is included in this newsletter and is also available on the branch website at:

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

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.

**NEW LONDON BRANCH AAUW
MEMBERSHIP DUES 2020-2021**



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	\$ 59.00	
	State	10.00	
	Branch	16.00	\$ 85.00 _____
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 Jeanne O'Connell, 6 Lantern Lane, Niantic, CT 06357.

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

(To receive News and Views and regular news updates).

College(s) Attended _____ Degree(s) received _____



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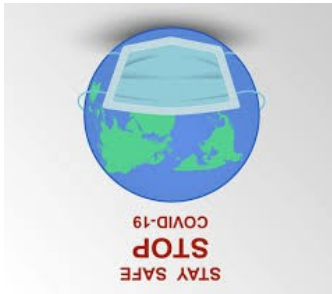
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AAUW—New London Branch



Women working together
To advocate for all women



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