



N
E
W
S

A
N
D

V
I
E
W
S

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT BRANCH
<http://newlondon-ct.aauw.net/>

September 2021

Volume 51 No. 1

“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.”

**Influencing the World for Women With
Nancy D. Butler, CFP®, CDFA®, CLTC®**

Date: Thursday, September 9, 2021

Time: 7:00 p.m. Refreshments and Business Meeting
7:30 p.m. Program

Place: Waterford Public Library

The September program will feature Nancy D. Butler, CFP®, CDFA®, CLTC®, talking about her experience as a 2018, 2019 and 2020 delegate to the United Nations for the Commission the Status of Women (CSW). She attended sessions on



human trafficking, child marriage, terrorism, micro insurance, widowhood, domestic violence, water, technology and many more. Nancy stated while it was difficult to hear many of the tragedies that take place in the world, it was great to be a part of helping to make the world a better place. Nancy will share her experience with us and some of the issues and solutions being implemented around the world. CSW brings together thousands of women from around the world, to share their challenges and best practices for solutions, and to make recommendations to the United Nations.

Nancy D. Butler, owner of Above All Else, Success in Life and Business®, is an international speaker and award-winning author. Nancy’s recommendation to be a UN delegate was

Con’t on Page 3

September at a Glance

- September 9 Branch Meeting
- September 15 Book Discussion Group
- September 16 News and Views Deadline



Member Participation Needed!

Our branch consensus last spring was to continue with the New London Branch of AAUW. We are working without a President and will need all of you to help out as needed to make this work. A Program Committee has planned several programs for the year and I would like to ask members to step up and volunteer to be Program Ambassador for one month. Judy Acker has agreed to be Ambassador for September. As ambassador you will need to

- Contact the speaker two months ahead of time for publicity information to go in the newsletter and find out what they need for equipment (laptop, projector, etc. – Note I can provide a projector if needed);
- Confirm with the speaker 1 week before the event
- Introduce the speaker at the meeting
- Arrange with the Treasurer for payment if needed
- Send a follow-up thank you

I would also like a Publicity volunteer to send monthly notices to the newspaper about our meetings. We want to try to build our membership. Consider inviting a friend or neighbor to attend a meeting with you. Let me know by email or at the meeting how you can help out.

AAUW CT Annual Meeting June 18, 2021

The meeting was led by Nana Amos and began with introductions of those representing local branches. Nana opened the meeting with a PowerPoint presentation of the year in review. The Strategic Plan for the year included a membership audit and an effort to increase communication. To this end, there have been two state newsletters, with a third in progress, as well as regular leadership meetings. Increased recruitment of interns has also occurred. AAUW has had representation on a statewide commission, the Governor's Council on Women and Girls. During Women's History Month, stories of women were highlighted. Groups were mostly successful in pivoting to meetings via ZOOM and branch programs were highlighted, including a Greater Middletown candidates' event in the fall of 2020. The annual NCWSL event was held virtually and undergraduate scholarships were awarded.

Reports from State Officers followed, beginning with Secretary Mary Mazur, who began by applauding Nana for her leadership and expressing the need to recognize both long-term members and those who have passed away since the last report. She also noted that the organization needs to improve

both communication and marketing. The Treasurer's report was currently unavailable, but will be accessible soon. Vice-President Judith Slisz mentioned the need for strengthening college and university partnerships and spoke briefly about the scholarships available for mature women, i. e., those returning to seek degrees later in life. Kathleen Holgerson from the Women's Center at UConn spoke of the eagerness of some students to return to in person learning as well as the reluctance of others to resume classroom activities. She noted the use of the SmartStart program on campus and told the group that 15 students from UConn attended NCWSL in 2021. Jaquelyn Cobbina-Boivin, from a similar office at CCSU, expressed eagerness to work with the new president of the state community college system.

Several branch representatives spoke of the highlights of their years, noting that while some members adapted well to the remote format, others had more difficulty with the technology and the lack in personal interaction. A special commendation was given to Jaquelyn Cobbina-Boivin for her many years of working with college women, an unexpected surprise that left the recipient momentarily speechless. One branch representative gave a brief overview of the 2021 virtual NCWSL that she attended, together with 865 students representing over 300 colleges/universities. She reviewed several sessions, noting highlights of some and recommending some books to those attending this gathering.

A vote was taken on the slate of officers for the coming year, with all current officers agreeing to continue serving in their same roles. Looking ahead, Nana mentioned four goals, as follows:

- Increasing communication
- Increasing recruitment
- Aligning branch and state events as possible
- Coordinating – and perhaps combining – scholarship effort

She also noted that the organization needs be innovative to avoid perishing. Mentoring programs and connecting with young people is important and

Con't on P. 3

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: Vacant
Membership VP: Kim Blake, kajblake@gmail.com.

Influencing the world Con't from p.1 submitted by Soroptimist International (SI), a worldwide women's organization she has been a part of for over 35 years. SI has over 75,000 members in 120 countries. The active participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) is a critical element in the work of the Commission on the Status of Women.

CT Annual Meeting Con't from Page 2 should be increased. Scholarships need to be more widely advertised. Public honoring of young scholars could increase AAUW's visibility. One member suggested a scholarship board at the state level; another recommended looking for ways to connect with disadvantaged young women, including those at York Prison for Women. Increasing our Facebook presence and updating the state's website was also encouraged.

A special guest, Alana Gifas, Executive Director of the Women's Mentoring Network, spoke of the work done by this Fairfield County organization. This network, founded in 1990, began as an organization working with women on welfare. The target audience is the community referred to as ALICE, Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed and the group works as a career services program for such women. Two employees and many volunteers work to provide mentoring services, clothing donations, career counseling and food pantry availability. The organization has successfully replicated their services to groups in NY State and they get and give referrals from and to other groups with similar goals. All funding is currently provided by private foundations, such as United Way and individuals, though some city grants have recently supported workshops all of which are presented by professionals in the particular field; the group services between 300 and 500 clients each year.

Some discussion ensued regarding methods of recruitment to expand AAUW membership. One suggestion was that we offer and invite our scholarship recipients to join at the student membership level. The next meeting of the state group will be on July 23, 2021.

Kim Blake

Hospitality



Refreshments for September will be provided by the board. I will send a sign-up sheet for the year at the September meeting.

Elizabeth Hume

New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes April 08, 2021

Gale Bradbury opened the meeting shortly after 7:00 pm by asking Elizabeth Hume for the Book Group report. A book selection meeting will be held in June. The date yet to be determined.

Gale wanted to know if there were any thoughts about next year in regards to AAUW meetings. Needed is a planning committee. Judy Acker and Elizabeth Hume volunteered to be on this committee. All were in favor of continuing as a group. Judy joined the national AAUW meeting on Zoom which addressed the proposal for allowing non college people into the AAUW organization. Most of the attendees seemed to be in favor of this proposal.

The May meeting will feature Ginny Apple speaking about Black Bears in Connecticut.

The June luncheon at Langleys will be held with seating outside.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:20 pm.

Glen Carberry provided a slide show of his experiences as world traveler.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shailor

Book Discussion Group



The September book is *Fast Girls* by Elise Hooper. Meg Wilhelms and Brigid Boettcher will be the discussion leaders.

We plan on meeting in person on September 15, 2021 at the Waterford Library from 2-4 in the afternoon. At the book selection meeting in June at Harkness park there was a consensus that we meet in the afternoon. The Waterford library is opening up their meeting rooms after Labor Day. If there are any changes, I will let you know. Members will be able to drop off and pick up their next month's book. I still need to firm up discussion leaders for the rest of the year. For a complete list of books for the year check our branch website at

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

Elizabeth Hume

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.

800.430.2370/ www.checkvelocity.com



AAUW—New London Branch



Women working together
To advocate for all women



American Association of University Women
New London Branch
12 Heritage Drive
Stonington, CT 06378

