



NEWS
AND
VIEWS

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT BRANCH

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February/March 2023

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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.”

**My Freedom is a Privilege That
Nothing Else Can Equal: New
Research Into the Life of Venture
Smith. Co-sponsored with the
Waterford Library**

Wednesday, February 8, 2023
Waterford Public Library

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

Elizabeth Wood from the Stonington Historical Society will talk about new research on the life of Venture Smith, the slave who bought his freedom. She will discuss the grant process and putting together a team of professionals for Research, Archaeology, and the final exhibit itself. She will address the findings, but also talk about why this story is important locally and nationally. She will talk about the impact they have seen from this exhibit including record-breaking visitation and the responses from visitors - both children and adults.



Elizabeth Wood is a lifelong student of history and is a graduate of Connecticut College where she received a BA with honors in American History in 1997 (and an award from the AAUW). Always attracted to the

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**An Evening with Eleanor Roosevelt
Co-sponsored with the Waterford
Library**

Wednesday, March 8, 2023
Waterford Public Library

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

Join author and historian Carol Cohen for a look into the life of Eleanor Roosevelt. During this presentation, meet Eleanor Roosevelt at her home in Hyde Park, New York, to learn about her role as a human rights activist. Using primary sources that were very much a part of Eleanor Roosevelt's personal and professional life, Cohen's presentation is both interesting and interactive. This is Eleanor after the death of Franklin, when she is living at Val Kill on her own. She has just returned from Paris where the Declaration of Human Rights has been passed at the United Nations.



Carol Cohen has spent her life dedicated to teaching and learning. Carol is on the faculty of Lesley University Graduate School of Education where she teaches Social Studies Methods, Literacy and

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February/March at a Glance

- February 8 Branch Meeting
- February 15 Book Discussion Group
- March 8 Branch Meeting
- March 15 Book Discussion Group
- March 17 News & Views Deadline



Ledyard High School Carolers

Fourteen members enjoyed a holiday luncheon in December at Filominas. We were entertained by the Ledyard High School Carolers with a nice selection of holiday music. In addition to the songs chosen by the choir they also sang selections requested by members.



AAUW CT State Scholarship

Join us as we celebrate the revitalization and renewed energy of AAUW CT, partially due to the leadership and dedication of your State Board and to an increasing greater part, to the dedication of all our Branch Presidents and their Boards.

Looking ahead to the future, to make our presence more visible within our State, and to increase our impact through “advocacy, education, philanthropy and research,” we, your State Board, working with an enthusiastic team, are excited to offer two new initiatives, a “Mentorship Program” and a “AAUW State Scholarship.” Details on the “Mentorship Program” will be addressed separately.

The proposed State Scholarship would be offered to a resident, within the boundaries of the State of CT, to a woman who has completed two years of academic work towards a degree. One criterion is that the applicant be creative and actively involved in issues promoting the advancement of women. This is a pilot program and the goal is to award this scholarship sometime in the spring of 2023 with an award of \$5,000.00. To that end, the AAUW State treasury can contribute \$2,500.00 and we are reaching out to the eight (8) Branch Leaderships, to petition for your help in attaining that \$5,000.00 goal. We endeavor to make this a yearly award. Whatever amount your Branch is able/willing to contribute would be greatly appreciated. A pledge of \$500.00/Branch would guarantee that we would be secure in pursuing this initiative. Obviously, there is a potpourri of details that

need to be addressed and “worked out” but we need to know whether or not our goal is attainable before finalizing details.

Please consider what amount would be feasible for your Branch to donate and forward that verbal pledge/commitment in an email to me at mmmazur@hotmail.com.

No monies need be transferred at this time --- another detail we will have to work out!

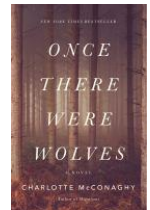
Thank you in advance for your consideration and dedication for helping us achieve this goal.

CT AAUW State Officers: Nana Amos, President; Shannon Smith, Treasurer; Mary Mazur, Secretary.

Please Note: Our branch voted at the January meeting to provide \$250 towards a state scholarship in addition to a \$1000 scholarship to a local return to college student.

Book Discussion Group

The February book is *Once There Were Wolves* by Charlotte McConaghy. Elizabeth Hume will be the discussion leader. The book group will meet on February 15, 2023 at the Waterford Library from 2-4 pm.



The March book is *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah. Gloria Pontious will be the discussion leader. We will meet at our regular place and time on March 15, 2023.

Books are available at the Waterford Library.

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, email: gbradbury292@gmail.com. The deadline for submissions is the third Thursday of the month. Branch President: Vacant Membership VP: Kim Blake, kajblake@gmail.com

Venture Smith con't from Page 1

material culture of museum collections, her first museum job was at the Mystic Seaport Museum where she gave hands- on children's tours. Subsequent positions at the New London County Historical Society, the Connecticut Historical Society, the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center and the Stonington Historical Society. She has worn many different hats -docent, archives, programs, development, and more.

Eleanor Roosevelt con't from Page 1

Practicum Seminar. Carol offers Professional Development Workshops and Tours as well as lectures for children and adults. Doors will open at 6:15 p.m. with refreshments and Eleanor's favorite dessert will be served. Eleanor will arrive at 7 p.m. There will be no Q & A during the presentation but Eleanor will stay to answer individual questions you may have.

Hospitality

The following people signed up to bring refreshments for the following meetings.

February:

- Elizabeth Hume--baked goods
- Elizabeth Rafferty--juice and cheese/crackers

March:



Pink clouds on angel food cake was a favorite dessert of Eleanor Roosevelt. Angel Food cupcakes with whipped cream and strawberries will be baked by members along with our

refreshments.

Elizabeth Hume

Member News

I was saddened to read about the recent passing of Mimi Mountain one of our long time members. She had been active in early years serving as President in the early 80's. She along with her sister Connie Provenzano, were always welcoming and friendly to new members.

New London Branch AAUW Meeting Minutes January 11, 2023

Gale Bradbury opened the meeting with a welcome to all. The deadline for the February-March newsletter is January 19 th . She announced that the February meeting will feature Elizabeth Wood, Executive Director of the Stonington Historical Society who will talk about new research on Venture Smith, a black slave who bought his freedom. The March meeting will feature author and historian Carol Cohen, who will provide a glimpse into the life of Eleanor Roosevelt. These two programs will be co- sponsored with the Waterford Library.

Treasurer's Report

Jeanne O'Connell reported that \$126 for scholarships was collected at the December luncheon. The treasury has \$1,000 designated for scholarships. An application by a return to college individual has been received. The question is whether we keep our funds for local applicants or to support the state scholarship funds or support both efforts. A motion was made to give \$1,000 to the local applicant and \$124 be added to the \$126 already collected so that we could contribute \$250 to the state scholarship fund. The motion passed.

Book Group

Elizabeth reported that the next meeting will be January 18 th at the Waterford Library.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda 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.

800.430.2370/ www.checkvelocity.com



AAUW—New London Branch



Women working together
To advocate for all women



American Association of University Women
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