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## NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT BRANCH

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

October/November 2017

Volume 47 No. 2

**“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.”**

### Storytelling Festival

Thursday, October 12  
The Thames Club,  
296 State St. New London  
12:00 – 3:00 pm

The October meeting will feature a noontime luncheon fundraiser at the Thames Club. Nina Lesiga, Catherine Steel, Divi Hall and Linda Sargent will entertain us with a variety of stories.



Nina Lesiga’s passion is Storytelling for empowerment and self-discovery. She tells true stories of uncommon adventures. Nina is a member of the Story City Troupe at the Buttonwood Tree in Middletown, CT. She tells Moth style stories at events and at organizations across CT. She is currently working on a one woman show about the Art of Experience and how she applies it to live her best life.

American history comes to life for audiences as they listen to Catherine Steel’s tales about spies, slaves, sailors, statesmen, or stateswomen. This outstanding, energetic, and award winning storyteller has 30 years of professional experience in spinning tales, although she has told stories her whole life.



*Con't on P 3*

### Student Leadership Conference 2017

Thursday, November 9  
Waterford Public Library

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

For the past few years our branch has sponsored two area students at the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) held at the University of Maryland in June. Miranda Fabre and Chelsea Baker, two Three Rivers Community College students attended this past June. Miranda will speak to us about their experience at this inspirational conference that included Chelsea Clinton as one of the keynote speakers. Join us in November to hear their story.

Miranda is studying to be a Correctional Treatment Specialist so she can rehabilitate those who are incarcerated. Besides classes, she is pretty involved in student life as the Vice President of Student Government, President of the Sexual Identity and Gender Minority Advocates, and the secretary of Students Advocating Gender Equality. Miranda is very passionate about human rights and social justice issues so getting involved is very important to her.

*Con't on P 3*

### October/November at a Glance

- October 12 Branch Meeting
- October 18 Book Discussion Group
- November 9 Branch Meeting
- November 15 Book Discussion Group
- November 16 News & Views Deadline



## President's Message



Greetings to All,  
It has been a shocking summer of environmental destruction and devastation from hurricanes, earthquakes, mud slides, floods and tornadoes both here and abroad, with the resulting suffering of thousands of people trying to survive in the unimaginable conditions in the aftermath. As in the case with ongoing regional wars, a generation of women and girls are being harmed and lost to their and our futures. Please join me in exploring ways we, as individuals and communities, can participate in efforts to help these devastated communities. I am very committed to finding and working with an organization that will collect and ship donated supplies to restore local schools.

I recently received an email from Alison Woods, Vice-President and Chief Development Officer of the Community Foundation of Eastern CT, whom many of you know from awareness of the foundation's Women & Girls Fund. She said she came to one of our meetings a number of years ago to speak about the fund, and would like to do so again.

Alison recently met with a local Soroptimist Club and thinks that we might possibly do some collaborative work together on projects that reflect the common aspects of our related missions to improve the lives of women and girls. I agree! As you know I have been pushing for expanding our community outreach and involvement. I will discuss her suggestion with our Board and if they think this collaboration is something we should explore pursuing, we can invite Alison to a Board meeting for further consideration and possible ideas about a suitable first project.

This collaboration would provide an excellent opportunity to increase awareness of our branch's presence in the community, and could be a vehicle to recruit new members. The foundation has numerous connections and networks in our communities which could help us. I welcome your opinions and ideas about Alison's suggestion.

Alison received an email about our October luncheon, and hopes she can attend. It would be great if she can.

With fond regards to each of you,

Chantal

## Book Discussion Group



The October book is *A Tale For the Time Being* by Ruth Ozeki. Elaine Stattler and Elizabeth Hume 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 October 18, 2017.

The November book is *The Light in the Ruins* by Chris Bohjalian. Elizabeth Hume and Ann Carroll will be the discussion leaders. The afternoon and evening groups will meet at their regular meeting places on November 15, 2017.

Elizabeth Hume and Kathy Shepherd

## Hospitality

The following members signed up for refreshments in November:



- Elizabeth Hume
- Linda Shailor
- Gale Bradbury--cheese and crackers
- Irene Finkelstein--juice
- Edna Gilstad--coffee and fruit

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: Chantal DeArmitt, email: [Chantal.dearmitt@gmail.com](mailto:Chantal.dearmitt@gmail.com).



*Oct. Program Con't from Pg 1*

Divi Hall tells stories. Some are true; some are mostly true, and some wouldn't shake hands with Truth at a birthday party. Divi's fascination is with communication; verbal and non-verbal; the way language can be used as a tool by some and can also double-back and use the user. Divi was awarded a place in the Connecticut College Hempstead House Storytelling Project in 2016. She is an avid anthromorphizer of all things animate and inanimate and has been known to talk to her plants.

Linda Sargent is a Storyteller and long time Early Childhood Teacher and Teacher Coach. She has two grown children and enjoys walks in the Connecticut College Arboretum with her husband, John.



*Nov Program Con't from p. 1*

Chelsea Baker completed her degree at Three Rivers Community College and is now a student at UCONN. She currently has an evening class on Thursdays and is unable to join us.

**Holiday Luncheon**

Although it is only October our holiday luncheon will be here before we know it. Reserve your spot now with the form below. Complete information about the program will be in the December newsletter and on our website at <http://newlondon-ct.aauw.net/>. This festive occasion is sure to get you in the holiday spirit.

**New London Branch AAUW  
Meeting Minutes  
September 14, 2017**

The September meeting opened at 6:45 pm by Gay Clarkson in the absence of President Chantal DeArmit. She welcomed all visitors.

Treasurer's Report

Checking Account: \$3,755.71, Savings Account: \$1,104.52, CD \$1,740.38 for a grand total of \$6,600.61.

Book Group

This month's book is *The Boston Girl* by Anita Diamant. The afternoon group will meet at 2.00 pm at the East Lyme Library and the evening group will meet at 7.00 pm at the Waterford Library on September 20.

Hospitality

Elizabeth passed a sign-up sheet for the monthly refreshments.

October Meeting

Gay announced that our October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held at the Thames Club for a luncheon and the program will be the Storyteller Festival.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda Shailor  
Recording Secretary

**Holiday Luncheon at the Spa at Langley's Restaurant  
Featuring Patty Carver with a Holiday Cabaret  
Saturday December 2, 2017**



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please list initials of each person beside the food choice)

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Entrees: \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon  
          \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken

All meals include a salad of mixed garden greens with house dressing, chef's choice of starch, vegetables of the season, an assortment of warm rolls and sweet butter and dessert. Coffee, decaffeinated coffee, and assorted teas will be available.

Price of meal including tax and gratuity \$40.00

Please return reservation form by Wednesday, November 24, 2017 with your check payable to AAUW New London Branch, to Katharine Shepherd, 18 Compass Ct., Niantic, CT 06357



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