



Mission Statement: AAUW advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

Value Promise: By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

SEPTEMBER 2012 NEWSLETTER AAUW Bridgeport Area Branch
www.aauwbridgeport.org

“2012 Olympics: Year of the Woman”

For the first time in history, each competing nation throughout the world has sent at least one woman athlete to the Olympics. This year, the U.S. has sent more female than male competitors: 269 to 261. A slim margin, true, but by the final day, women’s medal achievement has been significant – 58 to 46 with 29 of them gold! The U.S. men competing achieved 17 gold medals.*

*broadcast on NPR on 13 August 2012, David Greene host; Howard Berkes, byline.

Many, including Billie Jean King, former tennis professional and one of the world's leading voices for women's sports believes the strides made by American female athletes stem directly from Title IX, the 1972 U.S. law that banned sex discrimination in educational programs — including sports — that receive federal funds.

“What we are seeing with the London Olympics is a reflection of the growth and impact of Title IX,” King said, adding . . . “we need to remain committed to sustaining this movement and the progress we are making, here in the USA and globally.”

“2012 Olympics: Year of the Woman” article submitted by Christine Bonosky, Communications V.P.

President’s Message

How about those Olympics?

We are ready for a great year of AAUW general meetings and board meetings - it would be great if more people attended the general meetings - a lot of preparation goes into these meetings, and sometimes they are poorly attended. Call another member and offer them a ride or bring a potential member to the meetings . . . and speaking of meetings – Linda DeLeon, Program V.P. has arranged for some very interesting programs this year, but would appreciate having suggestions for speakers from our membership. She can be reached at (203) 362-1844.

Our first meeting this fall will be on Saturday, Sept. 22 from 11 – 2:00 p.m. *with setup prior to that*, (see “. . . General Meetings” article). Light lunch to be provided. The meeting will be at the Trumbull Library, Quality St., Trumbull and the subject is STEM. *Let’s fill the community room at the Library for this first meeting of the new year!*

Other dates for your calendar include:

- Saturday, Sept. 15 – “CT Women: Be the Change You Want to See” a conference for women to be held at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford – workshops and opportunities to network - an event for CT AAUW members. (we can carpool)
- Thurs., Oct. 25 – 7 p.m. at the Discovery Museum – STEM with focus on women and medical science
- Holiday gathering – t/b/a

Other dates for 2013 include general meetings: March 14th at Trumbull Library, Women’s History Month; and Thurs., April 25th.

Special thanks to those of you who supported the Theater fundraiser in May - \$1240 was realized from this event for our scholarship fund.

I hope to see many of you at the Sept. 22th general meeting – any questions, please contact me at (203) 375-1284 or email: fanslow@juno.com.

We value each and every member. If you know of anyone in need of a little “sunshine” drop an email or call me, Carole Fanslow. That’s all that’s needed on your part.

This year I am going it alone, thank you to Judi Polizzotti for all her hard work as Co-President – she will be missed.

Carole J. Fanslow, President
AAUW Bridgeport Area Branch

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Bridgeport Area Branch AAUW General Meetings

Our Saturday **September 22nd** meeting will be based on forgotten women, like the WASPS (Women Air Service Pilots of WW II), only this time we will acknowledge those women who worked on the first computer but were not included in the historic photograph of said computer which shows only the male members of the team: the women were asked/told not to be in the photo! Other stories include the WASP from Greenwich who is responsible for the black boxes on our airplanes!

Dr. Janie Palis is the tentative speaker, schedule permitting. She was recommended by AAUW member Laurel Anderson as Dr. Palis has been working with NASA and teaches at the U. of Bridgeport. As summer is vacation time and many university people are traveling, all the speakers are not set yet but we will have several women who range from computer scientists to engineers who will discuss their varied and interesting experiences in a field traditionally occupied by men. The program being held at the Main Trumbull Library runs from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM. Light lunch included. Please *plan on coming (early) between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. or staying late (up to 1/2 hour -2:00 pm), to gather new member info, do kitchen 'setup' or 'cleanup' and make or renew friendships!* And don't forget, share the agenda information with your local schools and other organizations: in the past, it has brought our branch new members!

Note: Members are kindly asked to contribute some good edibles to the light lunch.

On **Thursday, October 25th** we will be meeting at the Discovery Museum at 7pm for an evening which will focus on the fascinating history of women who have contributed to the medical field in surprising ways such as the recent newspaper article about a nurse who made a major contribution to the field of pain management and hospice care. We will also learn about the myriad careers for women in medical science and health fields and the sometimes surprising backgrounds of women who go into medicine. This meeting is especially timely due to the upcoming elections which have serious implications for women's health care. Speakers will be announced soon.

Linda DeLeon, Program V.P. <lindeleon@optonline.net>
(H) (203) 334-6882; (W) (203) 761-7308; or (203) 362-1844

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Branch Programs, 2012-2013

SAVE THE DATE...PLAN TO ATTENDSeptember 15, 2012, Saturday, website for details <www.ctpsw.com> "CT Women: Be the Change You Want to See" a conference for women to be held at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford – workshops and opportunities to network - an event for a coalition of women's groups incl. CT AAUW members. *(We can carpool)*
September 22, 2012, Saturday, 11 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (see ". . . General Meetings" article)
Trumbull Library, Quality St., Trumbull. STEM (Science; Technology; Engineering; Math). A light lunch will be provided. Come early, stay late – all welcome.
Let's fill the community room at the Library for this first meeting of the new year!

October 25, 2012 Thursday, 7:00 p.m. Discovery Museum, Park Ave., Bridgeport. STEM focus on women and medical science.

Holiday Gathering ; details TBAMarch 14, 2013, Thursday; time TBA Trumbull Library, Quality St., Trumbull. Women's History Month. leadership\philanthropy\arts - details TBA

April 25, 2013, Thursday, general meeting; details TBA

Annual Scholarship Fundraiser; details TBA

Annual Awards Dinner and Board Meeting; details TBA

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Community Action Projects

* Read to a Student at Wilbur Cross School, Grades K-3. Mornings.

Looking for a small way to make a big difference? Looking for a way to feel useful and needed by someone else? Please decide to read with a young student at Wilbur Cross School. Students return to their own building at 1775 Reservoir Avenue this year so they are very easy to reach.

We have a group of readers, some from AAUW, and others who are friends of our members. Most are returning to read another year. We need more members to become readers and encourage children to excel in learning.

One hour. One child or two children. Most of the time, the student will read to you. You can help her pronounce words she doesn't know, ask her questions to encourage comprehension and in general help her learn the pleasure that reading brings.

You can team up with another AAUW member and go together. Team up with a friend and split the year. Go as many weeks as you can. No absence slips required for weeks that you are unable to go!

Wilbur Cross School teachers care deeply about their students' futures. They are grateful for the help that readers provide and will make you feel welcome in their classrooms. Gloria Manning, Jean Weicker, MaryAnn Matthews- all read at Wilbur Cross School. Ask us about it.

Contact MaryAnn Matthews @ 203-261-3212, <mammatthews@gmail.com> to say YES.

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*Women Build: Habitat for Humanity

Amy Gillis, an active member of the AAUW Bridgeport Area Branch has applied to UBS, her employer, for a team grant of \$1000 for *Habitat for Humanity, Coastal Fairfield County*. Provided that the hours anticipated are worked and logged, individuals/groups may re-apply for a new grant each year.

Habitat for Humanity also has volunteer hours every day except Sunday. The website will show availability, as many days are taken by groups (for example GE has 2 weeks in Oct.).

The *Women Build* days of *Habitat for Humanity* are scheduled for 8/18, 9/15, 10/20, 11/3, 11/17, 12/1 and 12/17. Contact <womenbuild@habitatcfc.org> or call 203-333-2642.

Other events co-ordinated by UBS to benefit housing in the Greater Bridgeport area:

- *Run for Home* on Oct. 6 at Seaside park is a 5K (and 1 mile ‘fun run’) to raise money for the *Women Build* home on Whittier St. < <http://habitatcfc.kintera.org/5K>>
- *The Gourmet Expo and Wine Tasting* on Nov. 15 at 6:00 at Aitoro in Norwalk. Always a feast and fun time, (including an auction)! There are still sponsorship and supporter opportunities available.

Amy Gillis, AAUW Advisor, Finance Committee, <amy.gillis@ubs.com> , (H)(203) 255-3008

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The national organization AAUW began in 1881. In 2016, the AAUW **Bridgeport Area Branch** will celebrate its 100th year of promoting equity and helping to fulfill the promise of women and girls in our community!

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For archival purposes, please send any clipped newspaper/magazine or printed digital article or memorabilia regarding the Bridgeport Area AAUW Branch to **Norma Albertal** at 1517 Dunbar Hill Rd, Hamden, CT 06514-1206. Or call at (H) (203) 804-1147 to arrange pick-up/delivery.

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AAUW Bridgeport Branch Calendar, 2012 – 2013

August 21th - Branch Board and Committee Chair Meeting – home of Carole Fanslow, 6 p.m.

September 4th - Evening Book Group - home of Phyllis Mankowitz, 7:30 p.m. RSVP: 261-4971

September 11th -- Contemporary Global Issues, Bayview, 920 Sylvan Ave. Bridgeport, 9:30 a.m.

September 15th – “CT Women: Be the Change You Want to See” Legislative Offices, Hartford

September 22nd – “STEM”, AAUW General Meeting, Trumbull Library, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

September 25th – Morning Book Group – Watermark, 9:30 a.m.

October 2nd - Evening Book Group – home of Chris Bonosky, 7:30 p.m., RSVP: 261-1241

October 9th - Contemporary Global Issues, Bayview, 920 Sylvan Ave. Bridgeport, 9:30 a.m.

October 16th –Board Meeting – Unity Hill UCC, 364 White Plains Rd. Trumbull, 7:00 p.m.

October 23rd - Morning Book Group – Watermark, 9:30 a.m.

October 25th – “STEM”, focus on women and medical science, Discovery Museum, 7:00 p.m.

November 6th - Evening Book Group – home of Sue Flemming, 7:30 p.m. RSVP 268-9024

November 13th - Contemporary Global Issues, Bayview, 920 Sylvan Ave. Bridgeport, 9:30 a.m.

November 27th - Morning Book Group – Watermark, 9:30 a.m.

December 11th – Contemporary Global Issues, Bayview, 920 Sylvan Ave. Bridgeport, 9:30 a.m.

January 8th – Contemporary Global Issues, Bayview, 920 Sylvan Ave. Bridgeport, 9:30 a.m.

January 22nd - Morning Book Group – Watermark, 9:30 a.m.

February 5th - Evening Book Group – home of Gretchen Goethner, 7:30 p.m. RSVP 254-8481

February 19th –Board Meeting – Unity Hill UCC, 364 White Plains Rd., Trumbull, 9:30 a.m.

February 12th - Contemporary Global Issues, Bayview, 920 Sylvan Ave. Bridgeport, 9:30 a.m.

February 26th - Morning Book Group – Watermark, 9:30 a.m.

March 5th - Evening Book Group – home of Louise MacCormack, 7:30 p.m. RSVP 259-0625

March 12th - Contemporary Global Issues, Bayview, 920 Sylvan Ave. Bridgeport, 9:30 a.m.

March 14th – Women’s History Month, Trumbull Library.

March 26th - Morning Book Group – Watermark, 9:30 a.m.

April 2nd - Evening Book Group – home of Mary Misevich, 7:30 p.m. RSVP 255-3804

April 9th – Contemporary Global Issues, Bayview, 920 Sylvan Ave. Bridgeport, 9:30 a.m.

April 16th –Board Meeting - Unity Hill, UCC, 364 White Plains Rd. Trum. 7:00 p.m

April 23rd - Morning Book Group – Watermark, 9:30 a.m.

April 25th – general meeting, Program TBA

May 7th - Evening Book Group – Watermark, Barbara Szepesi, reviewer, 7:30 p.m.

May – Annual Fundraiser – Date and details TBA

May 14th – Contemporary Global Issues, Bayview, 920 Sylvan Ave. Bridgeport, 9:30 a.m.

May 28th - Morning Book Group – Watermark, 9:30 a.m.

May – Annual Awards Dinner & Board Meeting – Date and Location TBA

June 4th - Evening Book Group – planning meeting, location TBA

June 11th – Contemporary Global Issues, Bayview, 920 Sylvan Ave. Bridgeport, 9:30 a.m.

Christine Bonosky, cbonosky@gmail.com, (203) 261-1241
Communications V.P.

Scholarship

At the annual dinner, AAUW members met three of our five scholarship winners for 2012-2013:

Sloane Milstein, Doctoral Program SCSU

Sports Management, Marketing and Equine and Horse Show Management

Sloane is the author of *The High School Equestrian's Guide to College Riding*.

Ivette Konopka, Quinnipiac University Law School

Ivette has been chosen as Research Symposium Editor for the Quinnipiac Law Review 2012-13.

Mami Ngombabu, St. Vincent's School of Nursing

Starting in 2002 at the Mercy Learning Center, Mami passed the GED in 2009, continued on to college at Housatonic and became a certified nurse's aide. Now her husband and three children cheer her on as she begins her studies at St. Vincent's School of Nursing.

Although unable to attend the dinner we also honored

Ajibike Olaosebikan, Public Health Major SCSU

Ajibike hopes to gain employment In Community Public health and educate people about choosing a healthy lifestyle

Alison Cotter, Sacred Heart University Master's Program - Teaching (Focus: Science Education in the Classroom)

In addition to science education, Alison embraces every opportunity for professional development. This summer she participated in a summer writing program for teachers at Columbia University.

Evelyn Balamaci	ealamaci@gmail.com	
Marli Cole	cell 203-394-2464	
Jacqueline Heneage	phjph2@gmail.com	
Johanna Malinowski	home 203-261-0857	
	office 203-268-8600	
Ruth Powell	- - - - -	46 Gate Ridge Road #46 Fairfield, CT 06825-1164
Linda Suhr	203-690-2923	PO Box 904 Monroe, CT 06468
Joyce Sweeney	joycesween@att.net	
Jean Weicker	203-916-8305	155 Peace Acre Lane Stratford, CT 06614
	j.weicker@att.net	

Sylvia Dahl, Membership Treasurer, <sylviadahl@sbcglobal.net>. (H)(203) 374-6526
Give a Grad a Gift

AAUW members can give a recent grad — **a friend, daughter, son, granddaughter, grandson, niece, or nephew** — a free AAUW membership within two years of graduation. At no cost to you or them!

Expose the grad to the power that comes from belonging to a national women-led organization of more than 100,000 members who believe in and advance equity and education for women and girls.

Expand their networking opportunities through career development opportunities and community action projects. They will experience the rewards of working with and learning from successful AAUW mentors.

Keep them current on the events and people that affect their life as they receive *Mission & Action*, AAUW Outlook, Action Network alerts, and more.

Best of all, she/he will receive a free one-year AAUW membership at no cost to you or them! So send no money! Remember, only members can take advantage of this offer.

[Complete the online membership application now!](#)

or

[Download the application \(PDF\)](#)

Your grad will receive a one-year member-at-large membership — a \$49 value. They can join a branch at any time but will be responsible for paying branch and state dues.

AAUW may share members' contact information with affiliated groups and like-minded organizations. To prevent the sharing of your information, notify AAUW at 800/326-2289 or records@aauw.org.

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Contemporary Global Issues

Wish you were better informed about contemporary global issues? You will be if you join our discussion group. The group meets the **second Tuesday of each month** at 9:30 am. Location: Bayview, a hedge-hidden, trustee-run, resource for educators at 920 Sylvan Ave., Bridgeport.

One of our members acts as a discussion leader at each meeting. We use a briefing book published by the Foreign Policy Association called *Great Decisions* to focus our discussions.

On September 11th this year, we will discuss “Cybersecurity”. How do we balance privacy with security? Are messages we send ever secure? Facilitator will be Chris Ehlers.

At our meeting on October 9th, Bobbie Schlig will lead a discussion on “Energy Geopolitics”. How can we promote a reasonable energy future in light of global warming?

On November 13th will be a general discussion of the election results with future anticipation.

December 11th will be a discussion featuring “Mexico”. Phyllis Wing will be the facilitator.

In the past year this group has discussed Multilateralism, State of the Oceans, the Horn of Africa, Exit from Afghanistan and Iraq, and Germany’s Ascendancy. If you are interested in joining the group, contact

Merrilyn Decker, Chairwoman, (H) (203) 268-5013 or <merrdeck@aol.com>.

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Morning Book Study Program
Book Selections for 2012 – 2013

Book	Author	Date	Discussion
Leader			
<u>The Greater Journey: Americans in Paris</u>	David McCullough	Sept. 25	Joyce Sweeney
<u>The Heart is a Lonely Hunter</u>	Carson McCullers	Oct. 23	Karl Decker
<u>Stories I Only Tell My Friends</u>	Rob Lowe	Nov. 27	Sylvia Dahl
<u>The Warmth of Other Suns</u>	Isabel Wilkerson	Jan. 22	Nathalie Taranto
<u>Catherine the Great</u>	Robert Massie	Feb. 26	Elaine Matto
<u>In the Garden of the Beasts</u>	Erik Larson	March 26	Linda Vaughn
<u>The Marriage Plot</u>	Jeffrey Eugenides	April 23	Merrilyn Decker
<i>Pre-selection committee meeting</i>		<i>April 23</i>	<i>all interested</i>
<i>Final selection of books for 2013 - 2014</i>		<i>May 28</i>	<i>all members</i>

Morning book study meets the fourth Tuesday of the month from September through May, 9:30 a.m. at Watermark, 3030 Park Ave., Bridgeport, CT, (203) 373-6195. Any Bridgeport Area

Branch member is eligible to join a study group. Come to a meeting as a visitor, perhaps you'll like the experience and decide to join us. For further/more information, please contact:

Jean Weicker, home (203) 916-8305, <j.weicker@att.net>
Chairwoman, AAUW Morning Book Group ++++++
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Vacancies on the board and for chair of established committees:

Finance VP: after many years, Gloria Francesconi seeks her replacement

Membership VP: currently vacant

Public Relations: currently vacant

Public Policy: currently vacant

Hospitality Chair: currently vacant; fill this position for one event, seasonally, or the year.

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We extend sincere sympathy to both Carole Marbury and Phyllis Mankowitz on the loss of their husbands over the summer; and a speedy recovery to Louise Hine and Virginia Loch. p.s. Virginia would love company.

AAUW EVENING BOOK GROUP, 2012 – 2013

1ST Tuesday Evenings @ 7:30 P.M.

Note: The meetings are changed to the 1st Tues. in order to avoid conflict with General Meetings of AAUW held on Thurs. evenings. Please call the hostess if you're coming.

Sept. 4 Buddha in the Attic by Julie Otsuka Phyllis Mankowitz, Reviewer
(women coming from Japan to US by boat)
at Phyllis' house 91 Fieldcrest Dr., Trumbull (261-4971)

Oct. 2 Please Look After Mom by Kyung-Sook Shin (set in
Korea)
and The Housekeeper and the Professor by Oka Ogawa
(both relating to dementia and older age) Chris Bonosky, Reviewer
at Chris' house 68 Saxony Dr., Trumbull (261-1241)

Nov. 6 Claude and Camille by Stephanie Cowell Sue Flemming, Reviewer
(story of Monet in Paris at the time of Renoir)
at Sue's house 39 Newton Lane, Trumbull (268-9024)

