



AAUW

# *Sound Waves*

*April ---*

*May 2011*

*Issue 5 / Volume 11*

## **COME TO THE STATE MEETING**

(SEE PAGE 4)

### **OUR FUTURE LEADERS**

Two students from Southern Connecticut State University will be attending AAUW's 2011 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders thanks to Shoreline sponsorship and to Ann Gordon who launched our annual NCCWSL support in 2010.. They are Ebony McCleave, whose studies focus on government and public policy, and Tiara Willie who has her sights on a science career specializing in biology.



At the conference, to be held June 2-4 on the University of Maryland campus, Ebony and Tiara will hear from renowned speakers who will talk about their experiences in helping women achieve front and center status as leaders. Additionally, they will be able to choose from approximately fifty skill-building workshops designed to help them become change agents on their own campus and to ultimately become influential forces in the workplace enriching their professional lives as well as the lives of people around them. We look forward to learning about the Conference and their experiences in September at our Pot Luck Supper..

**APRIL THOUGHTS....**

I want to extend a special thanks to the Officers, Committee Chairs, and Interest Group Coordinators who participated in the April Board Meeting devoted to a brainstorming session on membership.

Identifying our strengths and challenges is an important first step towards the goal of maintaining Branch vitality, member satisfaction and membership growth. There was a strong consensus that the quality of our interest groups is a core reason for involvement in our Branch. It was proposed that an Interest Group Coordinator position be established to help develop and advance the many fine ideas about new and existing interest groups. A Philanthropy/Fundraising Coordinator position was also proposed to address current and future needs that pertain to the Educational Foundation, the Legal Advocacy Fund, scholarships, the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders and Branch operations.

Please feel free to contact Board members with your thoughts. Your participation and input are greatly appreciated.

*Alice Reitz*

## **BOARD MEETING (Open to all members)**

May 5—10AM--Location: Clinton Public Library. Please RSVP to Alice Reitz (203) 245-9208..

## **BOARD-COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Pres: Alice Reitz

Membership: Joan Filbey, Carolyn Johns

Program: Shelley Pelletier, Ann Gordon

Treas: Melissa Lamoreaux, Janet Holmes

Public Policy: Jeanette Olchowski

Sec: Elizabeth Goss, Nancy Day

Advertising: Marsha Brunelle

B&A Lunch: Marcia Myhre, Carolyn Dugan

Book Awards: Denise Bryan, Virginia Triola

Corresponding Sec: Kay Conover

Directory: Cathy Briggs

E.F/L.A.: Marilyn Kennedy, Barbara

Dunham

E-mail Communicator: Gene St. Paul

Historian: Gwen Waldo

Hospitality: Sonja Gibbs, Jane West

Newsletter: Jan Jones

Parliamentarian: Carol Geiser

Public Policy: Jeanette Olchowski

Publicity: Helen Green, Elaine Quayle

Rides Coordinator: Nancy Chalker, Kay

Conover

Scholarship: Andrea Osburne, Marcia

Myhre

Web Site: Marie Morch

Nominating Chair: Marsha Brunelle

## **INTEREST GROUP CONTACTS**

Art: Mary Ann McAvoy 203-421-3451

Bridge I: Eloise Brady 203-245-8114

Bridge II: Carolyn Johns 203-453-3325

Finance: Shelley Pelletier 203-245-4822

Gourmet: Ann Ward 203-245-2527 and

Melissa Lamoreaux 203-458-0857

Great Adventures: Nancy Chalker 203-

245-4485; Helena Heath 860-399-0136

Hiking: Bobbie Shildneck 203-245-3130

Internat. I: Gene. St. Paul 203-453-3054

Internat II: Mary Lee. Duff 203-453-0014

Literature I: J.oyce Hirschhorn 860-663-1070

Literature II: Jane Ann Miller 203-421-3061

Literature III: Marilyn Kennedy 203-421-8490

## CONNECTICUT AAUW PRESIDENT PRO-TEM: LORETTA JAMES



When State President/Administrator Audrey Brown moved to Alaska, Loretta James raised her hand and volunteered to complete the term of the vacated office. Loretta, a long-time member of the Shoreline Chapter, will be in office until June 30. It makes her one of the two people who maintain the State organization. The other half of the team is the Finance Officer, a position held by Laurel Anderson of AAUW's Bridgeport Chapter.

The downsized State structure (as of September 2010) continues its mission-based ends with a limited focus. The College and University Partner Program is the only State program. Retired Professor Lin Rising is the Program Representative who maintains AAUW's connections with academic institutions.

At the upcoming State Annual Meeting (see p. 4) new officers will be elected. Bridgeport member Judi Polizzoti ( [judypoli@hotmail.com](mailto:judy poli@hotmail.com) ), the Transition Team Leader, is the Nominating Committee Chair. She is requesting nominations for the two executive offices and for the college and university representative role. Contact her for details on the duties of these positions. Nominations can be submitted now and from the floor during the State Annual Meeting.

**SUPPORT OUR CHAPTER AND PUBLICIZE YOUR BUSINESS**  
**It's not too early to plan your advertising in the 2011-12**  
**SHORELINE BRANCH MEMBERSHIP BOOKLET. Send your**  
**business card to Marsha Brunelle, 68 Flintrock Road,**  
**Madison CT. 06443. Enclose a \$40 check payable to**  
**Shoreline AAUW.**

## **YOU'RE WANTED AT CONNECTICUT STATE'S 2011 MEETING----CELEBRATING 130 YEARS**

April 30, 10AM, Madison Winter Club, 251 Boston Post Road

April 30 is a big day for the Shoreline Chapter. Our branch is home base for AAUW's State President Pro-tem Loretta James as well as the featured speaker, Deb Heinrich, Non-Profit Liaison on Governor Dan Malloy's team. Whatsmore, the event which celebrates AAUW's 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, will be held in our own neighborhood. Reserve the date. Take this opportunity to gain insights on State activities, to meet AAUW members from other chapters and to enjoy an anniversary lunch.... .

The business portion of the meeting will seek approval of the minutes from the annual meeting 2010 followed by a vote on the Bylaws and State Budget and the election of the President/Administrator, the Finance Officer and the College and University Partner Representative. It will wind up with reports on College/University Partnerships, Legal Advocacy activities and Branch operations.



The celebratory portion of the meeting will include lunch followed by a talk from former State Representative Deb Heinrich, recently appointed Non-Profit Liaison, a newly created cabinet-level position in Governor Malloy's administration. In this role, she helps government and community agencies find ways to continue offering needed services while holding down costs.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **RESERVE FOR LUNCH AT NOON—GUESTS ARE WELCOME.**

Please send reservation checks for \$12, made out to Loretta James, 18 Waterbury Avenue, Madison 06443. (The State subsidizes lunch costs for AAUW members---reservation checks for nonmembers should be \$30.) :Please circle your entree choice:

(1) lemon or (2) grilled salmon

## ANNUAL MEETING AND POTLUCK SUPPER

May 18—5:30PM—First Congregational Church,, 700 N. Bluff Blvd—Clinton

Once again, it is time to vote for next year's officers, renew memberships and give book awards to three Guilford ABC girls. ....

The Annual Meeting, hosted by the Board, will follow the tradition of feasting on carry-in suppers. Members will be contacted by phone or email to talk about food details so we are sure to have a fine assortment of homemade specialties. Find your favorite recipe--- don't forget to bring your place setting (plate and utensils)---come prepared for an evening of pleasure. There will be a \$3 charge to cover expenses and a door prize that will go to one of the people who renews her membership during the meeting

## PROPOSED BOARD MEMBERS .

Nominating Committee: Marsha Brunelle, Kay Conover, Barbara Dunham,  
Ginny Passero and Gene St. Paul

Marsha Brunelle and a dedicated team of cohorts are finalizing their list of candidates for the 2011-2012 term of office. It took many hours of phone calls, emails and discussions to assemble a terrific slate of candidates. In Marsha's words, "Five heads are definitely better than one and so I send special thanks to my Virtual Nominating Committee which includes Gene St. Paul, Ginny Passero, Kay Conover and Barbara Dunham who went beyond the call of duty to assist me in accomplishing my goals."

The list will be distributed by email and U.S. post. Please look it over and pay special attention to two vacancies: Co-President and Co-Treasurer ---and two new positions: Coordinator of Fundraising/Philanthropy and Coordinator of Interest Groups. If you would like to join the Board please tell Marsha. Call her today at 203-318-0177. (Note When you receive the list of Proposed Board members, please tuck it in your pocket and bring it to the Annual Meeting on May 18. Elections will take place at that event.).

### IN MEMORY

Helen 'Pom' Borchert, a long-time member of AAUW, passed away on April 4 at Essex Meadows. Born October 17, 1923, she was the daughter of the late Harlan Dickinson (cousin of the poet Emily Dickinson) and Margaret Hoyer Pomeroy. Among friends she was particularly remembered as a passionate sportswoman who derived great joy from competing in golf and tennis. She brought her love of games to volunteer work and to coaching and refereeing young women who also thrived on the playing field.



## Morning of Wellness!

The AAUW Shoreline Branch, Friends of Scranton Library and Connecticut Chapter of the Cancer Education Foundation (CEF) Presents:

### **Complementary and Alternative Therapies Workshop**

For everyone !!! Learn about stress management and other therapies to be healthy and stay healthy.

Interactive Workshop that explores the health benefits of Meditation, Yoga, Massage, Art, Music and Laughter Therapies.

Bring a friend! Bring your health complaints or bring your good health and desire to stay that way! Bring questions! Bring your desire to learn and experience!

**Date:** Saturday, June 4

**Time:** 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

**Where:** Scranton Memorial Library, Madison, CT

**RSVP:** Bethanie Wilkinson at: [CEFcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:CEFcommunity@gmail.com)

Elizabeth LaBella at: [Elizabeth\\_LaBella@midhosp.org](mailto:Elizabeth_LaBella@midhosp.org)

Or call Bethanie Wilkinson for more information:

860-908-1045

## MEN TO THE LEFT---WOMEN TO THE RIGHT

100%	76%	<i>Average earnings</i>
444	91	<i>U.S. Congress members</i>
100%	200%	<i>Insurance cost/ages 25-50</i>
151 MM.	155 MM	<i>Population in the U.S..</i>

April 11 Meeting—Women and Family Life Center—Guilford  
**48<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY OF THE EQUAL PAY ACT**



Teresa Younger, Nancy Wyman, Rosa DeLauro ,

The disparity in salaries of men and women for equivalent jobs is old news.....and we know that pensions, social security and poverty statistics follow suit. We know that women under age fifty pay twice as much for health insurance and that there are more women than men in the country---and despite that a paltry 17% of the members of our Congress are women. It is a grim picture. The rate of change---in salaries, for instance—puts a snail to shame. In 1963, when the Equal Pay Act was signed, women earned 59 cents for every dollar earned by men. Today, forty-eight years later,, they have improved their status by 17 cents The number of women in Congress are barely holding the line. Health insurance costs for pre-menopausal women (twice the cost of men's insurance) are not likely to change and women, given longevity factors, are likely to continue tilting the population scale in their direction. “Activists Wanted”.

This was the salient point of the highly charged meeting which observed ‘Pay Equity Day’ at the Women and Family Life Center in Guilford. An impressive line-up of speakers included Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro.... Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman....Secretary of State Denise Merrill.... Executive Director of the Women & Family Life Center Liza Petra..... and Executive Director of the Connecticut Permanent Commission on the Status of Women Teresa Younger. Their messages were delivered

to an audience of representatives from most major women's organizations in the area with an expectation that their words will echo beyond the Guilford event.

## **~FOLLOWING-UP ON RECENT EVENTS~**

**THE LOWER CONNECTICUT VALLEY AND SHORELINE BRANCHES** combined forces on April 13 when they met at Clinton Town Hall and celebrated women in science. The evening was introduced by Sheila McPharlin, president of the Connecticut Valley Chapter which draws members from Connecticut River towns.

Sheila began the evening with a brief overview of the representation of women in STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). Increasing numbers of women have been going into the sciences, particularly biology, but comparative percentages, with respect to male counterparts, remain low notably in engineering and mathematics. Evening presentations included recorded statements by Carol Greider, winner of the 2009 Nobel Prize for Outstanding work in Physiology and Medicine. She spoke about kinds of awareness that might help bring women into the scientific mainstream. (Dr. Greider's work relates to chromosome aging during the dividing process). A scripted slide show addressed studies made of environmental conditions under which women are more or less likely to enter the sciences. Discussion wrapped up with energizing words from Dr. Sara Rockwell, recently honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award from Penn State, the highest honor bestowed by that University on prominent graduates. (A future issue of Sound Waves will feature an interview with Dr. Rockwell, professor in the Departments of Therapeutic Radiology and Pharmacology and the associate dean for scientific affairs at Yale University School of Medicine.)

~~~~~

**VISITING THE LYMAN ALLYN ART MUSEUM** was a unique outing arranged by the Art Association Group. Visitors followed the Museum's guest curator Douglas Bjorn along the road of art collecting. "The Thrill of the Chase" was the title of a temporary collection that offered a rare viewing treat---art on loan from private homes. Works included paintings, sculpture, photographs and mixed media. The curator continued the tour with illuminating stories about the Museum's permanent collection of 19<sup>th</sup> century paintings, furniture and exquisite Tiffany glass. After the visit, the group extended their pleasure with a delicious lunch at the nearby Jasmine Thai Restaurant.

Note: To pass along news about past events, send item to [jeanettejones2001@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanettejones2001@yahoo.com)

## COMMUNITY NOTES

From Ann Gordon: Is anyone interested in joining a new book group? We can meet at the Clinton Library in the large conference room upstairs on the last Tuesday of the month at 12:00. We can start on April 26 for a planning session, bringing a sandwich and ideas for books you think the group will enjoy. If you are interested, please contact Ann Gordon (860-434-8608) or e-mail [gordonann@att.net](mailto:gordonann@att.net).

## MEETINGS

International Interest Group—May 2—Rita Wtorkowski—“Global Governance”

International Interest Group---June 6---planning lunch

Literature Group (third Monday)—May 16—“The Big Short: Inside the Doomsday Machine” by Michael Lewis—Mary Lienhard

Literature Group (third Monday) June 20—“The Things They Carried” by Tim O’Brien—Linda Smith-Criddle

Annual Meeting and Potluck Supper—May 18—First Congregational Church, Clinton

“Morning of Wellness”—June 4, 10:30AM—Madison Library

End of Year Picnic—June 15—Hammonasset State Park, Madison

\*\*\*