



The Y's Women

October 2019

The Y's Women Newsletter

GENERAL MEETINGS

Open to members and their guests

Place: Temple Israel, Westport
10:45 am Coffee and Conversation
11:30 am Meeting and Speaker

We must enter through the doors from the upper parking lot. There are a limited number of parking spaces in the upper lot; please leave them for those who have difficulty walking. Others please park in the lower lot and walk to the upper entrance.

Monday, October 14

Dawn Henry: Climate Reality Project – Environmental Activism



Westport resident Dawn Henry is one of thousands of volunteers around the globe who have been personally trained by former US Vice President Al Gore to educate the public on climate change. She attended Climate

Reality Leadership Training in Seattle in 2017 and has been giving slideshow presentations on climate change to various groups around CT ever since. Her presentation will cover the science of climate change; the impacts being seen today all around the world in terms of extreme weather, droughts, floods, and fires; and impacts on ecosystems, our food supply, and human health. The program will also include the latest information on the shift to clean, renewable energy. The lecture concludes with suggestions on how to take action at the national and local level, as well as in your day-to-day life.

In addition to volunteering with Climate Reality, Dawn is a Marketing Strategist and holds leadership roles in a variety of local sustainability-related organizations including Sustainable Westport, the Electric Vehicle Club of CT, and CT Fund for the Environment/Save the Sound.

Monday, October 28

Sister Maureen Fleming: Human Trafficking and Other Labor Abuses

Sister Maureen Fleming, School Sister of Notre Dame, is coordinator of Pastoral Outreach Activities at Saint Luke's Parish in Westport. Formerly she was Director of Caroline House, an education center for low-income immigrant women and children in Bridgeport.

Sister Maureen joins us again to update us on the status of Human Trafficking in Fairfield County and progress that has been made. She will also discuss a variety of shocking labor abuses that are still in practice today.



Sister Maureen (center) receives an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Fairfield University during the graduate commencement ceremony on May 22.

SATELLITE GROUPS

(Y's Women Members ONLY)

Book Group 2 will meet on Thursday, October 3 from 1:30 to 3:00 pm at Panera Bread, located in Westport at 1860 Post Road East (next to Home Goods). The book to be discussed is *Alice's Network* by Kate Quinn, and the discussion will be led by Sue Harris. Please contact Arlene Bloom at 254-9096 or bloomah@sbcglobal.net to RSVP.

In Memoriam: Phyllis Groner



Phyllis Groner, long-time Y's Women Board member and our beloved photographer for many years, died on August 29 at the age of 90. Phyllis had been living at RidgeCrest in Meadow Ridge, Redding since suffering injuries from a 2017 car crash. An avid amateur photographer, she began contributing photos to *WestportNow* in 2005 and quickly won fans for her variety of subjects, ranging from nature scenes and sunsets to hard news assignments. Her works were exhibited in several locations, including the Westport Library and Westport Center for Senior Activities. In addition to the Y's Women, Phyllis was active in the League of Women Voters of Westport and various other community organizations. A Celebration of Life for both Phyllis and her husband, Stan, who died last December, will be held on Saturday, October 26 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at the Westport Library.

SATELLITE GROUPS (continued)

Book Group 3 will meet on Friday, October 11 at 10:30 am to discuss *The Rothschilds: A Family Portrait* by Frederic Morton. The meeting will take place at Panera Bread in Westport. If you have any questions, please contact Doris Levinson at 227-3371 or drjlevinson@gmail.com.

The **Movie Club** will meet on Wednesday, October 16 at Panera Bread to discuss *Downton Abbey* and *Judy*. We meet informally at 1:00 pm and begin discussion at 1:30.

Downton Abbey, which received an 81% rating on Rotten Tomatoes, opened in theaters on September 20. *Judy*, which received an 88% rating, is expected to open at the end of September or early October.

Television series "*Downton Abbey* becomes a grand

motion picture event, as the beloved Crawleys and their intrepid staff prepare for the most important moment of their lives. A royal visit from the King and Queen of England will unleash scandal, romance and intrigue that will leave the future of Downton hanging in the balance."

Judy is a biopic of Judy Garland. "Thirty years after starring in 'The Wizard of Oz,' beloved actress and singer Judy Garland arrives in London to perform sold-out shows at the Talk of the Town nightclub. While there, she reminisces with friends and fans and begins a whirlwind romance with musician Mickey Deans, her soon-to-be fifth husband."

If you wish to be added to the email list for future events, please contact Margaret Mitchell at 255-9094 or margaret06824@yahoo.com.

Lunch and Trivia will meet on Thursday, October 17 at noon at Blackstone's Steak House in Southport. Please contact Ann Lloyd at aslloyd@optonline.net or Arlene Bloom at bloomah@sbcglobal.net ASAP if you plan to attend.

Wise Investment Group: We invite you to join W.I.G. (the Wise Investment Group). Become a member and co-manage the group's stock portfolio. Our guiding principles are the three E's – education, enjoyment, and earnings. Our next meeting is on Thursday, October 24. Contact our president, Lois Block, for details at loisblock@optonline.net or 761-1177.

Solos will celebrate Halloween with a costume party/brunch on Sunday, October 27 at 12:30 pm. Our hostess is Sue Ehrens at 7 Bittersweet Lane, Westport. Send your \$25 check to Joan Weinstein – Solos, 46 Tannery Lane South, Weston, CT 06883. Please make your reservation in advance as soon as possible, before sending your check.

And don't forget to send Joan your dues for Solos membership for 2019/2020 – \$20 (\$10 for snowbirds). Separate checks, please.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Training for CERT – Citizen Emergency Response Team – is slated for the weekend of October 18. CERT is government funded under the Department of Homeland Security and trains local volunteers to work with EMS, the Police and Fire departments, and emergency responders in other towns in the event of emergencies. To apply for training or to receive more information, contact Mike Vincelli at certwestport@gmail.com.

CARPOOL AND GO

On Thursday, October 17, we will drive to the Stamford Museum and Nature Center for an 11:00 am guided tour of "Fruitfulness," an intriguing new photography exhibit by Nathalia Edenmont. Initially, her images seem to show young women wearing gowns in vibrant colors and decorated with spectacular flowers. When her Russian mother died when Nathalia was 13, the artist took great care to clothe her in a beautiful flowered dress for the funeral. From then on, she believed that "There is no beauty without pain and no pain, without beauty." So flowers have become Nathalia's metaphor to portray beauty and death, to suggest the fragility of life. In other portraits, her elaborate gowns emphasize the importance of women's fertility when she compares women to flowers in full bloom. In still other photos, she creates vegetable-covered garments to suggest the earth's fertility.



We'll meet behind the Wells Fargo Bank in Trader Joe's parking lot at 10:00 am for a 10:15 departure. The fee for our guided tour of the exhibit is \$18 per person. Please contact Jill Meyer at 226-4310 or jill@awayfortheday.net to reserve your place. Mail a check for \$18 payable to Jill to 40 Owenoke Park, Westport, CT 06880. The gas reimbursement for your driver will be \$4 in cash. Please indicate whether or not you can drive, as drivers are always needed and appreciated.

Directions:

To the museum: Drive south on the Merritt Parkway and take exit 35, High Ridge Road, or Rte. 137. At the end of the ramp, turn left onto High Ridge Road. Drive north and take a left at 139 Scofieldtown Road for the entrance to the Stamford Museum and Nature Center.

To the restaurant: We are having lunch at Ching's Table, 64 Main Street in New Canaan, after the museum tour. Turn right out of the museum's drive onto High Ridge Road and return to the Merritt. Drive north on the Merritt to exit 36, or Rte. 106. Drive north on Rte. 106, Old Stamford Road, which becomes Park Street. Turn right on St. John Place and right again onto Main Street. Ching's Table is on your left.

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Don't forget to renew your Y's Women membership for 2019-20. The membership form can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.



TRIPS

LIVE MUSICAL BUS TOUR OF NEW YORK CITY - Monday, November 4

This unique trip will provide a fun-filled day of music, live song, and laughter. We will be joined aboard the bus by an Actors Equity performer who will entertain us with songs and fascinating stories about the stars as we travel through the city visiting the Theater District, Greenwich Village, the Upper West Side, and more. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the show. After stopping for lunch at Puglia's Restaurant, we will continue on our musical journey.

Departure: 7:30 am at Stratford Stop & Shop
8:00 am at Westport Imperial Avenue
upper commuter lot

Estimated Return: 7:00 pm Westport
7:30 pm Stratford

Cost: \$109 per person

For more information and a reservation form, contact Doris Skutch, 247-3656, dskutch@yahoo.com.



SAVE THE DATE

*Y's Women Holiday Luncheon
Thursday, December 12
Birchwood Country Club*



Y's Women Membership Form July 2019 - June 2020

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Cell _____

Email _____

DUES INFORMATION:

- Dues are \$45 a year (July through June).
- Make your check payable to The Y's Women.
- Your dues must be paid by October 31 to be listed in the 2020 Membership Roster.
- If you join after March 31, 2020, your dues are in effect through June 2021.
- Membership is complimentary at age 90. If you qualify, please indicate that on your membership form.

To join Y's Women, send this form and your \$45 check to **Doris Levinson, 6 Beechwood Lane, Westport, CT 06880**. You may also join at a meeting at the membership table.

FOR NEW MEMBERS:

In which of these Y's Women activities do you expect to participate?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General meetings
<input type="checkbox"/> Holiday and spring parties
<input type="checkbox"/> Book group
<input type="checkbox"/> Bridge marathon
<input type="checkbox"/> Investment group
<input type="checkbox"/> Memoir group
<input type="checkbox"/> Movie group | <input type="checkbox"/> Newcomer luncheons
<input type="checkbox"/> Newstalk discussion group
<input type="checkbox"/> Paddle tennis
<input type="checkbox"/> Solos dinner group
<input type="checkbox"/> Lunch & trivia group
<input type="checkbox"/> Travel programs |
|---|---|

Is there a new group activity that you'd like to suggest? Your ideas are welcome.

Membership questions? Please contact Doris Levinson, membership chair, at drjlevinson@gmail.com or 227-3371.