

UPCOMING 2023 EVENTS

News Update! The CIA Trip Returns Wednesday, March 22

On Wednesday, March 22, fifty YUWO members can visit the Culinary Institute of America's Hyde Park, NY, campus for a tour and lunch. Unfortunately, Covid cancelled the 2020 tour and so we thank Excursions Chair Dana Nelson for her hard work in rescheduling this 2023 visit.

Spring International Bus Charter will transport us to the CIA for lunch at the Bocuse Restaurant and afterwards a visit to the Ecolab Theater for the CIA Experience—To Taste, Learn and Tour.

Here is a summary for the details and deadlines:

- Space is limited to 50 members and guests
- By **February 20**: Members must register, make menu selections and pay the \$109 per person cost of the trip (all expenses are included: lunch, tour, transport, taxes and gratuity).

[Click here for full details and a registration form.](#)

- The trip is a full day: departure from Guilford at 8:15 AM, North Haven at 8:40 AM. Return estimated at 5:30 PM.

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Read YUWO NEWS in BRIEF

beginning on page 3 of this newsletter

SPRING EVENTS NOT TO MISS!

(Watch for a Zoom invitation the day before each Zoom program.)

In FEBRUARY:

- **Monday, February 13 at 12:30 p.m.--2nd** Climate Change Series (Zoom)

Julie Des Champs, of *Waste Free Greenwich*, a grassroots organization to engage, educate and empower Greenwich to waste less through prevention, recycling and diversion, describes local initiatives and her efforts to promote 'zero waste' in Greenwich schools and across the state through "*Re-Think Disposable CT.*"

- **Monday, February 20**: Deadline to Register for CIA tour
- **Tuesday, February 21 at 12:00 p.m.—Lunch & Learn** (*Note date change!*):

Dr. Carolyn Mazure, Director, Women's Health Research at Yale (Zoom)

In MARCH:

- **Monday, March 13 at 12:30 p.m.—3rd** Climate Change Series (Zoom)

Sharon Huttner of the *Town of Branford's Clean Energy Ad Hoc Committee*, responsible for several town-wide initiatives discusses how they have increased clean energy use in Branford.

See pages 2-3 for more!

And as always, let us hear from you! We are eager for your input! Email us at president@yuwowomen.org
With warm regards, Elizabeth, Betsy and Sandra — YUWO's 2022-2023 Leadership Team

Spring 2023 YUWO Events Not to Miss! (continued)

In MARCH (continued):

- **Tuesday, March 21 at 12:00 p.m.—Lunch & Learn:**
Connecticut Women’s Hall of Fame — “*Women Leaders for Social Justice*”
- **Wednesday, March 22 from 8:15-5:00 p.m.**
CIA Tour, Lecture and Lunch

In APRIL:

- **Monday, April 10 at 12:30 p.m.-- 4th Climate Change Series (Zoom)**
Jim Finch, Branford’s Finance Director, discusses how finance officials can promote resilience and sustainability. His background with State Senator Christine Cohen in drafting 2019 PA19-77 “An Act Authorizing Municipal Climate Change and Coastal Resiliency Reserve Funds” offers important opportunities for Shoreline communities.
- **Tuesday, April 4 at 10:00 a.m. (West Campus) Spring Lecture Series BEGINS:**
Sam Chauncey, Yale Icon and Veteran Administrator, begins the Spring Lecture Series discussing his years at Yale and its welcome of women, described in his forthcoming book, *Recollections and Reflections at Yale*. Three YUWO panel members join him to explore these turbulent times in Yale’s history.
- **Wednesday, April 12 at 10:00 a.m. (West Campus) Spring Lecture Series**
Yale’s first woman Head Athletic Trainer *Daphne Benas* discusses the legal changes brought about by Title IX’s guarantee of equal treatment for women; its impact on Yale’s admission of Women; and the lasting changes women created as they entered areas previously reserved for men, notably in sports and Athletics.
- **Wednesday, April 19 at 10:00 a.m. (West Campus) Spring Lecture Series**
Christopher Cole, Executive Director of AIDS Project New Haven (known as “A Place to Nourish Your Health”), and five experts explore discrimination facing the LGBTQ community and ways to overcome the stigmas confronting this group.
- **Wednesday April 26 at 10:00 a.m. (West Campus) Spring Lecture Series**
YUWO Member the Honorable *Gloria Schaffer* (former six-term State Senator and Connecticut’s first woman Secretary of State) shares her pioneering experience as a path-setting woman in government.

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Spring 2023 YUWO Events Not to Miss! (continued)

In April (*continued*):

Thursday, April 27 5:00-7:00 p.m. A Wine Tasting and Lecture
(A ‘no host’ event; wines available for purchase from the Elm City Club)

YUWO Member and international wine historian *Nina Wemyss* shares her expertise and insights on wine and brief highlights of wine’s fascinating 8000-year history.

In MAY:

- **Wednesday, May 3 11:30-2:00 YUWO Annual Meeting**
 - Introduction of 2023 YUWO Scholars
 - YUWO Business Meeting
 - Election of Officers
 - Approval of 2023-2034 Budget
 - Annual Lecture—Speaker to be announced
- **Monday, May 8 at 12:30 p.m.—5th and Final Climate Change Series (Zoom)**

And still to come: Watch for details on these three exciting Spring Tours!

- **The ‘all green’ Hotel Marcel (late February/early March)**
- **The newly renovated Marsh Botanical Garden (May)**
- **The New Haven Botanical Garden of Healing (dedicated to victims of gun violence) (June)**



Membership Directory Updates (as of February 6, 2023)

New Member:

Susan Abramson
1222 Windward Road
Milford, CT 06461
cell phone: 203-641-7482
email: spabramson@gmail.com

Changes in Membership List:

ADD: Isenberg landline. 203-389-0662
REPLACE: Rackliffe. to cell. 203-444-0998
REPLACE: Zuskin. new cell. 561-735-2003
CHANGE: Shepherd, Grethe. New email:
gretheshepherd00@gmail.com

YUWO NEWS in BRIEF

YUWO Member Profile: Judith Lynch In Memoriam

YUWO lost a valued member on January 17 when Judith Lynch died unexpectedly. A devoted Film Group member, Judith's interests were remarkable, as described in her obituary [here](#).

Keeping in touch with Members

YUWO is increasing use of new communications technologies to keep all Members up-to-date.

- Correspondence with YUWO Members is now online, using Constant Contact for Reminders and the 'Headlines' of our periodic Newsletter—**be sure to click the links provided to read the full stories!** If you're having problems, please let us know at president@yuwowomen.org.
- YUWO uses Zoom for convenience and access. Members who miss a recorded Zoom event can now access it [online here](#). One recording of particular interest right now: The [Climate Change January program](#) with Tammy Thornton of *Wilton Go Green*.
- But in-person events are YUWO's strength and hallmark. To be sure YUWO Members don't miss events and presentations, an online calendar will be available soon, supplementing email reminders.

Time for Scholarship Applications!

Scholar's Publication Addresses Important Women's Health Issue

A wave of happiness and pride surged through the Scholarship Committee as 2021-22 Scholar Emily (Hui) Yang, PhD, MPH, shared news of her publication with us. YUWO supported Emily's final semester at the Yale School of Public Health, where she earned an advanced MPH. Don't be intimidated by the title of her publication. [Just take a look](#), read the abstract, and learn about genetic testing during in vitro fertilization. On page 4, you'll see that Emily listed the Sirot Scholarship from YUWO as her funding source.

Dear Scholarship Committee and Carol Lynn Sirot,

Thank you so much for your generous support. I have published a term paper titled "Preimplantation genetic testing for aneuploidy: challenges in clinical practice" in a peer-reviewed journal (*Human Genomics*). This paper addressed knowledge gaps in Preimplantation genetic testing for aneuploidy (PGT-A), summarizing major challenges, current professional guidelines, and calls for FDA to provide more definitive guidelines and regulations that are needed for better practice. I also listed Gustave and Carol Lynn Sirot Scholarship from Yale University Women's Organization as my main funding source.

Thanks again for your support.
Kind regards,
Emily (Hui) Yang, PhD, MPH

You can help us publicize our program!

If you work at Yale or know someone who does, you can share a flyer online or post one on a bulletin board. Virtually all of our applicants are current or former employees of Yale. Most are continuing their studies while working part time, some are full-time employees, and others are leaving the workplace to

study full time. Our flyer is designed to drive readers to our website for details. If you would like printed copies, please let us know at scholarships@yuwowomen.org.

[Take a look](#) at our flyer!

Recent Membership Activities

YUWO Volunteers!

A review of Membership Profile and Interest Forms reveals over 70 local organizations supported by YUWO Members. And likely some weren't even noted. You can see the [list here](#). If you're curious about what these local groups do, or would like to join members in participating, let us know.

President@yuwowomen.org. Periodically, we'll also profile some—like New Haven Reads below.

New Haven Reads: Make 2023 “One for the Books!”

New Haven's children suffered a significant decline in reading ability during the Pandemic. Learning about this in a September Tour of New Haven Reads (NHR), YUWO member Barbara D'Ambruoso volunteered to help.

YUWO members generously responded to her call for books for New Haven Reads, donating 75 at our holiday gathering. And already in just January, one member has contributed an additional 125 more!

But there's more to do. Several YUWO members already act as tutors at New Haven Reads and now we would like to encourage others to join them. By donating as little as one hour a week, it's possible to make a difference in the lives of young people by helping them become confident readers. YUWO members currently volunteering are finding the experience immensely rewarding and are eager for additional members to join them.

NHR provides all the training and support one will need to get involved. For more information, contact Barbara D'Ambruoso, at bdambruoso@gmail.com.

You can learn more about New Haven Reads and an exciting Federal Grant it has just received [here](#).

Activities Update, January 2023: What have YUWO members been doing and planning?

The Film Group

At a wonderful Christmas party at Mary-Jo Warren's home, members nominated a total of 23 films, eventually choosing 12 for viewing and discussion in 2023. But the lovely photo of the group is now a bittersweet memory due to the tragic January 17 death of its remarkably informed and active member Judith Lynch. (See her tribute elsewhere in the Newsletter)

In January, the Group watched “Lust and Caution”, a subtitled Chinese film available on YouTube or Prime Video. The full list of 2023 selections and where to find them streaming is listed below:

February: *Lives of Others* (Prime Video rental)
March: *Jeanne Dielman, 23 Quai du Commerce* (Prime Video)

To be scheduled:

Jane (Prime Video or Apple TV)
Cider House Rules (Prime Video or Apple TV)
The Hours (Prime Video or Apple TV)
Rose Island (Netflix)
Bride Flight (Prime Video)
Le Bonheur (HBO Max or You Tube)
Whose Life Is It Anyway? (Apple TV or Prime Video Lore. Prime Video)

And more: interested members may gather to watch *Copenhagen* and *Tar* on DVD at a member's house or local theatre. Adjustments will also be made when films are no longer available to stream.

Art Afficionados

Working on plans for 2023.

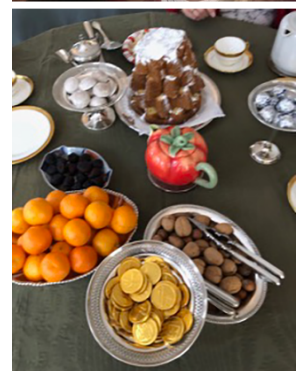
Italian Conversation

At right, members of the Italian Conversation group enjoyed a holiday party at Elena Phillips's home on December 15, discussing treasured past presents received and others, too ...well, not so much! The group meets in person at Elena's home on 2nd Wednesdays and "*i nuovi membri sono i benvenuti!*"



French conversation

Mais, bien sûr! Of course, the French group had a lovely French inspired December luncheon, this year at Mary-Jo's!. *Mais, ou sont les photos?* The group continues to meet on 2nd Tuesdays, both on Zoom and in person.



Excursions

And more exciting plans for spring 2023 (all await finalizing reservations when museums re-open in the spring):

- April, a carpool trip to Philip Johnson's *Glass House* in New Canaan.
- May, a carpool trip to Weir Farm, Wilton (space is limited and will be on a first come basis... very limited parking).
- Mid-June, if there is interest, a visit to the Thankful Arnold House and gardens in Haddam.
- A winter visit to the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, Hartford is also being explored.

Book Groups

2nd Thursday Morning (Audrey DeFronzo)

The Group met in December to choose the books to read and discuss in 2023.

Each member presented a very brief synopsis of a fiction and non-fiction volume and the election of eleven books followed in a very orderly fashion.

- On Thursday the Group discussed *The Other Side of Prospect: A Story of Violence, Injustice, and the American City* by Nicholas Dawidoff, originally from New Haven. (And yes, Prospect is New Haven's.)
- On Thursday, February 9, at 9:30 discussion will be about *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus.

This is a hybrid book group — in person but with one out-of-state member connecting by Zoom.

We are able to accept one additional reader if anyone is interested.

For additional information contact: Audrey DeFronzo at amdefronzo@gmail.com.

3rd Monday Afternoon (Pat Goldstein)

The group discussed *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks, in person. The first three months in 2023 meetings are on Zoom. Books to be discussed:

- Either *Don't Let's Go To The Dogs Tonight*, or *Cocktail Hour Under The Tree of Forgetfulness*, both by Alexandra Fuller.

At this moment the group is full.

3rd Monday Afternoon #2 (Louise Ciulla)

No information.

2nd Tuesday Afternoon (Lyn Howe)

This group has been meeting exclusively on Zoom.

- Last book read: *Profiles in Ignorance*, by Andy Borowitz.
- Next book: *The Corner That Held Them*, by Sylvia Townsend Warner.

At this moment the group is full.

Walkers

A small group had a Winter Solstice walk up East Rock. Hikes are being scheduled as the weather allows.

Leadership Activities

Each January YUWO Bylaws require the creation of a five-member **Nominating Committee**, charged with identifying those officers who will be recommended to the Governing Board and elected by the Membership at YUWO's Annual Meeting. Board Member Peggy Atherton has graciously agreed to chair this year's committee which must propose a slate of four officers (Assistant Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Membership Chair and Scholarship Chair). Fortunately, incumbents have agreed to serve in all but the Assistant Treasurer and Recording Secretary positions.

YUWO's new trial Committee structure is generating excellent ideas. Particularly interesting for Newsletter readers: the **Communications Committee** is exploring how to make the Newsletter even better. Among their ideas about features which might be increased or added to the Newsletter:

- Promotion of upcoming events
- Review of past events
- Member profiles
- Member Memorials
- Yale exhibits (there's an excellent one at the Beinecke now on slavery)
- Periodic Book and Film Group reports—even a "scorecard" on Members' reactions
- Reports on Members' volunteer activities (e.g., New Haven Reads or the Climate Change Series)
- An Event Calendar

An ad hoc **Strategic Planning Committee** made up of YUWO Governing Board members is looking at challenges and opportunities YUWO faces in the future. The Committee will meet several times before providing the Governing Board with its observations. The Committee is also considering surveying Members about their ideas—we hope that all Members will respond!

And special thanks to Susan Anderson, YUWO Recording Secretary, who created a Board Book, an updated and expanded version of YUWO Basics, which she presented to Governing Board members at the January 9 Board Meeting.

And a final word on YUWO history! Since its creation in 1965, YUWO has been a remarkable organization. Countless documents attest to all YUWO has done over the last 68 years. But not every document is equally important. The time has come to separate meaningful records from those no longer useful. To that end, we are creating a "Records Retention" project—to make sure we don't lose valuable documents like this of the YUWO Tercentennial Quilt.

At right, YUWO President Ewing Eva with Yale Provost Alison Richard at a reception in December 2002 honoring YUWO's donation to the University of the Tercentennial Quilt, created by YUWO members to honor Yale's 300th birthday. Applied squares depict buildings and memorabilia of Yale's 17th and 18th centuries. A border of seals for the professional schools and the twelve colleges complete the design. [For a larger image of the quilt, [click here.](#)]

