

**AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch Meeting**  
**April 9, 2015**

- Call to order /Welcome: Karen Francis called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
  - The meeting opened with the reading of our Mission Statement: "AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research."
  - Karen thanked coordinating hostess Joanne Nelson, and hostesses Nancy Beckman, Bette Bude, Sally Eaton, Joyce Katz, Becky Kruse, Mary LaRuffa, Barbara McQuitty, Judy Stagoski, and Mary Kay Wolfe.
  - It was announced that several new people joined the B-C branch today.
  
- Officer Reports:
  1. Minutes of the March branch meeting are available from Susan Fenwick and are on our website. Karen asked for additions or corrections. With none heard, a motion to approve the minutes as posted PASSED.
  
  2. Financial Officer: Rita Hawkins-Page  
Dollars for Scholars, \$6027. Schnuck's (please keep using your card), \$1626. Leadership, \$8429. Operating fund, \$25,845. Rita is collecting dues today.  
Dues are \$81; please make out checks to 'AAUW.'
  
  3. Membership – Marilyn Fletcher  
Three people joined as they walked in this morning! Welcome to them and to Joan Wendt, who is visiting from Arizona.
  
- AAUW Priorities
  1. Public Policy: Pat Shores/Barb Butchart  
  
Pat Shores: Coming up next Tuesday is our trip to Jefferson City for Equality Day, and we need more people for the bus. Let Pat know today if you can join in. Fourteen other organizations will be at the rally with AAUW. Economic sufficiency for women is an AAUW priority. This year there are two bills associated with pay equity, one in the Senate and one in the House.  
  
Two other exciting things are happening: (1) Work on installing Maya Angelou in the state capitol. (2) Putting a woman on the \$20 bill. Information on these initiatives will be in the newsletter. Please send emails in support of them. The traditional Equality Day brunch will be held in August in Clayton.  
  
Barb Butchart: On April 15 we'll find out if the human trafficking grant we seek is awarded. The Galaxy award nomination is our branch's work on

human trafficking. A branch committee wrote a model sexual harassment policy for schools.

Karen Francis reports: Title IX is for "equal access," not just in sports. Karen met with Don Senti of Education Plus. Since following a policy against harassment can protect schools against litigation, our committee made this point to the school administrators. Karen recognized the people in our branch who worked on the model policy. They put together a checklist for schools that is broad, covering such topics as individuals who are transgendering, false reports, anonymous reporting, training of staff, discipline and remediation, etc. The next step: meet with the COO again and look at what the Missouri School Boards Association policy says. Then we'll take the model policy on the road, to conferences, to H.R. people and others, to inform them that schools can be held liable. We also are going to send a copy of the model policy to National.

2. Educational Opportunity Fund/Named Gift: Marian Bauer (report presented by Linda Roberson).  
Three students we have been sponsoring are graduating from UMSL, and two from Maryville. That leaves us with one at each school. Once we know next year's budget, we'll have a proposal for how many we can take on.
  3. Legal Advocacy Fund: Linda Evans  
Good news and thank you for the LAF money from Individual Giving. \$1675 was collected at the March B-C branch meeting. AAUW is a top-rated charity.
- Branch Priorities
    1. Communications: Joyce Katz  
Joyce wants to generate interest in voting in the (national) AAUW election. It's important that our voices be heard. She hopes everyone got the brochure that gives instructions for voting. You need your member number and the PIN from your issue of Outlook. You will pick 10 out of 13 directors. Also you will vote on recommendations for changing AAUW bylaws and policy.

Karen Francis introduced one of the candidates for the AAUW Board of Directors, Sue Barley. (This is informational, not an endorsement). Sue is running because of her experience. She has been a member of the B-C branch since 1984. Voting begins on Wednesday, April 15.

2. Dollars for Scholars – Erlaine Eltomi  
Erlaine ran through upcoming Dollars events, including the Art Museum trip for the George Caleb Bingham exhibit, Frederick Bates historic home tour, Bedazzled Garden Party, and guided tour of the Hill.

Thank you to those who have signed up for the Victorian Tea. They've added a cake raffle. 59 attendees are lined up, so there is one opening left.

3. Newsletter: Bette Bude and Mary Jermak

Special thanks to those who read the newsletter to keep informed about this active branch, and to those who contribute to the newsletter. Also, thanks to those of you who use email to get the newsletter, which is kind to our branch budget. An idea for putting money in the budget: Instead of posting paper newsletters, if a few members would switch to email, it would save on expense. The Office Depot Work/Life Rewards program returns have dwindled. Please consider participating in this program. On branch website has a card you can use. If you might be interested in helping with the newsletter going forward, please let Mary or Betty know.

4. Spring Luncheon: Judy Stagoski

86 members/guests have registered and paid for Spring Luncheon. If you have signed up but not paid, you are not in the count. Cost is \$25, and you can pay today or send a check by mail to the committee by April 23. The theme is "And we all shine on like the sun, and the moon, and the stars." At the luncheon, we acknowledge those who work on behalf of the branch.

5. STEM: Sandra Murdock and Marcia Block

Sandra: AAUW B-C sponsored two schools at Expanding Your Horizons. The girls participated in career panels and hands-on workshops. Next up is judging the honors science fair. We will pick two projects that fit our mission and we'll give them \$100 each and a certificate.

Marcia: STEM Girls of Promise -- last year we chose five girls and recognized them at a celebration breakfast. This year we added a second school, to recognize five additional girls. The girls get \$25, a certificate, and a medal. If you would like to attend these celebrations, you are welcome.

6. International Relations: Susie Teicher

The last meeting is next Tuesday, on "How 3D printing can change our world," at the Ethical Society. On the list of volunteer opportunities (on your seat), you may write in International Relations. The committee meets only one time, with the Tuesday Women's Association of the Ethical Society. Attendees bring ideas for speakers, and four topics are selected.

7. Leadership - state meeting: Julie Triplett

Julie has just submitted an application for ten-star award, which recognizes all of the things our branch does. Also we are going for the Galaxy Award, above the ten stars, based on public policy our branch has been working on. Awards will be presented at the State Leadership Meeting. Anyone who wants to go is reimbursed. It's a great opportunity to meet people from national and from all over the state and hear about what other branches are doing.

Julie added that Ruth Griffin, a longtime member of branch, is in her new place in Rochester, NY. She's getting settled.

- New Business

1. Election of 2015-2016

Karen listed the candidates for various committee directors and asked for any nominations from the floor. The results are:

EOF Co-directors: Marian Bauer and Linda Roberson elected.

LAF Co-directors: Linda Evans and Julia Triplett elected.

Public Policy Co-directors: Barb Butchart, Pat Shores elected.

Finance Officer: Rita Hawkins-Page elected.

Co-VP Membership: Jo Ann Black elected.

Co-VP Program: Judy Stagoski elected.

Co-President: Barbara McQuitty elected.

2. Suzanne Couch: You should have found a volunteer form at your seat. Please think about what you can do to help. It's important to get all of the jobs covered. Please fill out the form and give it to Suzanne.

- Unfinished Business

None.

- President's Comments

- Karen reiterated that women continue to suffer more from more poverty and from lower pay than men.
- Karen pointed out ten words girls should practice:  
"Stop interrupting me." "I just said that." "No explanation needed."

- Adjournment: The business meeting was adjourned by Karen at 10:28 a.m.
- Program: "Chasing the Dream: Understanding What Shapes Our Fortunes," presented by Dr. Mark Rank.
- Next Branch Meeting: May 14, 2015 - Spring Luncheon

Susan Fenwick, Secretary