

Branching Out

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield
National and State Award-Winning Branch

May/June, 2016

Vol. 36 No. 10 35th Anniversary Year



Karen Francis

PRESIDENTS' CORNER



Barbara McQuitty

What are you going to do this spring and summer? I hope plans include attending our Spring Luncheon, *Plant Your Dreams and Watch Them Grow*. That really describes AAUW. I'm going to throw out a few ideas: renew your membership; join one of our branch committees; and plan and/or attend a Dollars for Scholars event that funds our local scholarships. Your support of DFS events also funds AAUW Education Foundation projects, including the branch's community action grant on human trafficking and sending local women to NCCWSL. Join AAUW friends at the Ten State Regional in Kansas City, read the newest research *Barriers and Bias-The Status of Women in Leadership*, and take the AAUW Implicit Association Test on Gender and Leadership. It takes ten minutes, and you'll receive information on the level and direction of any bias—ask me about my results. Oh yes—relax and have fun—we have a full schedule of great events coming in 2016-17.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 3, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. for *Celebrate the Vote Festival* to commemorate the *Walkless, Talkless Parade* (page 4). AAUW joins with four major St. Louis organizations as a named sponsor of this event which was organized by the League of Women Voters.

We'll be active in **Get Out the Vote—It's My Voice, I Will Be Heard** (GOTV) that will include voter registration and voter education. Voting is taken for granted; not everyone has that opportunity; that's why our efforts are vital!

This is my last article after four years as your co-president. It has been a privilege and honor. I wish I could personally thank each of you. Through two personal challenges of surgery and rehab for a broken leg and moving from my home because of a fire, you were there for me and my family. We talk about how we support each other, but until you have personally experienced it, you have no idea what it means to be part of Ballwin-Chesterfield! The outpouring of love and support . . . I have no words for what it meant.

See you at the Summer Picnic on July 14! ~ **Karen Francis**

BOARD MEETING: May 5, 9:30 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church. All Elected and Appointed Officers should attend. Contact Karen Francis (karenbitzafrancis@yahoo.com) if you cannot be there.

SPRING LUNCHEON & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS May 12, 2016

WHITMOOR COUNTRY CLUB, 11:15 a.m.
Reservations: \$26
Last date for reservations is May 5.
No refunds after April 29.

*Plant Your Dreams and
Watch Them Grow*

There's still time to make your reservation for the annual Spring Luncheon. We anticipate an enjoyable day, celebrating this year's many accomplishments, honoring members for their dedication and hard work, saying good-bye to retiring officers, and installing new officers.

For reservations, contact Reservations Co-chairs Carol Anthony (Canthony70@att.net) or Kay Meyer (kicmeyer@yahoo.com). Make checks to AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield.

Guests are most welcome. Please include names of guests, any food requirements, and table requests when registering.

Valet parking is not available, but guests may be dropped off at the door with greeters available to assist. Please be aware that denim is not allowed.

Directions: Whitmoor Country Club is located on Wolfrum Road between Hwy 40/94 to the south and Hwy 364 Page Extension/94 to the north.

Questions: please contact Carol Derington by phone or carol.derington@sbcglobal.net.

INSIDE

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL for 2016-17

The AAUW year begins July 1; renew prior to June 30.

Your membership expires June 30, 2016. AAUW accepts online payment of annual \$81 dues renewals for national, state, and branch dues. Online payment is preferred. Go to aauw.org/join/ and select JOIN/RENEW. Enter your Member ID or Member Information to enter the Member Services area. Then reenter your Member ID and personal password and follow the prompts through the Membership Payment Program (MPP) to renew by credit card. Help is available from national by email or by calling the national office at 800-326-2289. Joyce Katz is also available for assistance. AAUW electronically deposits AAUW MO and branch dues into the respective accounts.

If you renew by check, please write your \$81 check to AAUW. **Do not** add Ballwin-Chesterfield on the payable line of your check. I will collect annual dues at the May Spring Luncheon. You may also mail your check to me, Rita Hawkins-Page.

~ Rita Hawkins-Page, Finance Officer

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Welcome our new member to the AAUW B-C branch.



Amelia Neely

Email: neelyabedelia@att.net

St Louis, MO 63139

Amelia completed her bachelor's degree in animal science at the University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri.

She is currently employed by Forest Park Forever, but still has time to enjoy exploring the world with her daughter, reading, and doing some sewing. She was referred by her mother Margaret Taber.

~ Linda Seibert & Marilyn Fletcher, V-P Membership

eScrip AND OD REWARDS PROGRAMS

Thank-you to each branch member who has utilized the Office Depot program! Newsletter recently received Rewards Certificates used to help defray printing/mailing costs.

When you shop at Office Depot, just show the branch card to participate in the Worklife Rewards program. You may recycle used ink jet cartridges through the OD/OM loyalty plan. Just give your used cartridges to Bette or Mary, and we'll take it from there!

When you or a family member shops at Schnucks and shows your eScrip card for any purchase, including pharmacy, the branch gets free money to support Ballwin-Chesterfield work!

To participate in these programs, visit the Members Only section on the branch website. Questions: contact Mary Jermak, Bette Bude, or Joyce Katz.

MIDWEST TEN STATE AAUW BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

June 3-4, 2016 (Noon Friday to Saturday Late Afternoon)

Great Wolf Lodge, Kansas City, Kansas

Conference Registration \$45, Saturday American Buffet \$26.

Deadline May 28. Make checks to AAUW Midwest Regional Conference and mail to Carol Davis-McDonald.

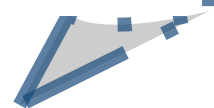
The event flyer with registration form is on the state and branch websites.

As spring arrives, we are awaiting new flowers and also awaiting new ideas from our AAUW Regional Conference presenters. Breakout sessions will include new ideas on membership recruitment and fundraising, plus a review of the new research report, *Barriers and Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership*. Another scheduled session, *The Relationship Between Sexism and Racism: AAUW Public Policy Issues at Risk*, is an in-depth look at the status of AAUW's policies. Sessions on voter discrimination and human trafficking are also scheduled. Several other sessions are in the planning stage.

AAUW Director of Research Dr. Catherine Hill will be featured. Other AAUW staff members will be in attendance.

LAF plaintiff Paul Thein will be the featured speaker at the Gala Luncheon. His case is the longest running case AAUW has supported, and he has some interesting views on the system.

For room reservations, call 1-866-944-9653. Use block code 1 606AAUW. Suite rooms are \$176.86 plus tax and fees and sleep six people. For more information, contact sbreeze@mindspring.com or apatriciashores@att.net.



PUBLIC POLICY

Equity Action Day

Eighty advocates from 13 Missouri organizations spent a productive day in the Capitol on April 12. The group was trained in how to lobby; heard from a variety of legislators about the issues we requested; enjoyed a box lunch; sat in on some hearings; and talked to 35 House and Senate legislators.

A sincere thank you to the Ballwin-Chesterfield members Marian Bauer, Suzanne Couch, Karen Francis, Barb McQuitty, Sandra Murdock, Pat Shores, and Julie Triplett who gave up a day in their busy lives to talk to their representatives about what we want them to support or not support.

AAUW members talked mainly about pay equity and asked for movement of one of the seven pay equity bills that have been filed. This was a state-wide effort, and we received remarkable support from the national AAUW staff in the form of bill watching, pay equity talking points, a state-wide notice, and a virtual state-wide call to legislators which allowed 30 people who could not be in Jeff City to make virtual contact with their legislators.

~ *Pat Shores & Barbara Butchart, Public Policy Co-Directors*

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND

Wrapping Up a Most Successful Year!

Spring is graduation time, and we at Ballwin-Chesterfield are happy to congratulate Hannah Merrick and Colleen Milne who will be graduating from UMSL this May. These two women were recipients of our local scholarships. We share in their success and wish them all the best in their future. Your constant support of *Dollars for Scholars* has helped make this success possible. Each woman will receive a one year free membership to AAUW National through the Give a Grad a Gift program.

Do you have a granddaughter, great-niece, or family friend graduating from a college or university this spring? Send her free membership to AAUW; go to (aauw.org) and search *Give a Grad a Gift*. This program will expand the new grad's networking opportunities and provide programs that are available to members. Your thoughtfulness will be greatly appreciated.

EOF has had a most successful year; our book sale has netted well over \$1,000, and our Panera Card sale was most successful. We look forward to continuing these programs in the future.

~ *Marian Bauer & Linda Roberson, EOF Co-Directors*

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

The case of **Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt** was argued before the U.S. Supreme Court on March 2, 2016, and has the potential of being the most important abortion case the court has decided in 25 years. The case challenges an extremely restrictive Texas law that would reduce the number of clinics offering abortions, limiting accessibility and seriously harming the health and reproductive rights of millions of women. Also, if the law is upheld, it could become enacted in other states as well.

The Court's decisions are usually issued the last week in June, and the decision in this case will most likely turn on the vote of Justice Kennedy. There are three possible outcomes:

- If Justice Kennedy thinks the regulations have gone too far, they will likely be struck down by a 5-3 vote, which will make it harder for states to pass abortion regulations that interfere with women's ability to obtain abortion.
- If he votes in favor of the Texas law, the court will likely divide 4-4, leaving the Texas law in effect.
- The third possibility is that Chief Justice Roberts will hold the case over for re-argument sometime next year, making the identity of the justice who replaces Scalia critical to the future of women's reproductive rights.

~ *Doris Nistler, LAF Committee*



CELEBRATE THE VOTE FESTIVAL

Parade....Music....Speakers

On Saturday, September 3, women from all around the state will recreate an event staged by 3000 women 100 years ago in St. Louis. On a sweltering day, suffragists lined the street where delegates to the Democratic convention would walk to re-nominate Woodrow Wilson. Their sole demand was a plank in the party platform in support of women's suffrage—they accomplished their goal. Now in 2016, AAUW and other civic organizations want 3000 women to congregate in honor of our right to vote.

AAUW is a named event sponsor, but as a non-profit organization, AAUW's financial guidelines do not allow us to raise money for other organizations. Therefore our branch or state organizations cannot provide funds for the project.

We hope that individual AAUW members will make a donation to this event just as we did to get the bust of Virginia Minor installed in the MO State Capitol Building. We would like to raise \$1000 for *Celebrate the Vote*—a donation in any amount will be appreciated.

Talk to Pat Shores to learn how you can participate.

Facebook.com/CelebratethevoteFestival/

Check your email beginning at 8:15 a.m. the day of the event for updates or cancellation.



DFS events raise funds for scholarships, give members opportunities to meet in small groups for enriching & educational experiences, and introduce AAUW to non-members.

ALL PROCEEDS FROM DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS EVENTS SUPPORT WOMEN'S EDUCATION.

Make Dollars for Scholars Checks Payable to AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield.

**TO SPONSOR AN EVENT, contact Barb Jowett (brjowett@yahoo.com) or Barb Tackitt (harvibarb@charter.net).
Please Remember - Take Pictures At Your Event!**

Thanks to all who attended the 2016 Dollars for Scholars High Tea

Late in the afternoon of March 31, seventy ladies gathered at the Hearth Room for *Tea around the World*, a three-course, traditional high tea. Each table was decorated with flags, teapots, and other reflections of the country it represented. Attendees had time to circulate and enjoy conversations before sitting down to the formal tea. When all courses had been served, each table hostess presented to the whole group the tea traditions of the country portrayed by her table. The audience learned about tea traditions from China, England, Germany, India, Ireland, Japan, Morocco, Russia, Turkey, and the U.S.A. As a reminder of a lovely afternoon, each lady left with a tea sample and a bound booklet *Around the World there is Always Time for Tea* which contained the traditions from each of the highlighted countries.

Some early attendees are shown below.



Your support helps more women break through educational barriers.

Coordinator Mary LaRuffa especially thanks Mary Buck, Susan Heigel, and Ginger Johnson for their creativity and hard work. Appreciation also goes to the hostesses Jane Arneson, Charmaine Scott (for Laqueta Barstow), Barb Jowett, Joanne Nelson, and Barb Tackitt.



Our Interest Groups are primarily social and bring members with similar interests together. Try one! Contact an Interest Group chair today. Interest Groups and their chairs are listed in the front of your *Directory*. Marilyn Fletcher (marilynletcher597@gmail.com) coordinates all Interest Groups and can help with the information you need.

BOOK CLUBS ~ WE WELCOME ALL READERS

Please RSVP to the hostess by the Friday before the meeting. All addresses are listed in the branch *Directory*.

Download the 2015–16 book lists from the **Interest Groups** page on the branch website. Questions? Check with the contact name listed for the book group.

LITERATURE I 3rd Thursday, 9:30 a.m.

May 19: Hostess, Mary McFarland

A discussion of *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr will be led by Mary McFarland.

June 16: Hostess, Linda Stark, Meadowbrook Country Club, 10:30 a.m. Book Selection Luncheon. Send checks to Linda.

Contact Alice Crippen (jccripp@sbcglobal.net).

LITERATURE II 4th Monday, 10 a.m.

Please note: Our previously scheduled April meeting has been moved to May.

May 23: Hostess, Pam Valentine. Please telephone Pam to RSVP. A Discussion of *Hissing Cousins* by Marc Peyser & Timothy Dwyer will be led by Jayne Kasten.

June 27: Book selection meeting will be held at *Bishops Post* restaurant at 11 a.m. Please send book selections to Joyce prior to the meeting.

Contact Joyce Katz (joyka234@aol.com) or Erlaine Eltomi (erlaine.eltomi@att.net).

READING REALITY 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m.

May 10: Hostess, Erlaine Eltomi

A discussion of *Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania* by Erik Larson will be led by Bette Bude.

June 14: Book Selection Luncheon: Bishop's Post, 11:15 a.m. This group reads non-fiction selections. For more information, contact Mary Kay Wolfe (mkwolfe@hotmail.com).

BIOGRAPHY BOOK CLUB (BBC) 1st Monday, 10 a.m.

May 2: Hostess, Brenda Ernst

A discussion of *The Road to Little Dribbling* by Bill Bryson will be led by Susan Sheppard.

June 6: Hostess, contact Brenda Ernst

A discussion of *Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania* by Erik Larson will be led by Linda Kridel.

This group reads and discusses nonfiction, especially biographies, memoirs, and autobiographies. Contact Brenda Ernst (ernst2@charter.net) for more information.

GENEALOGY

This interest group is appropriate for all—from those who are just starting to research their family history to the most serious genealogists among us. We welcome new members. We will continue our researching this summer and meet again in the fall.

For more information, please contact Fran Reiland (fgreiland@sbcglobal.net) for upcoming events.

GOLF Mondays

All skill levels above beginner are welcome! Play for fun—9 or 18 holes—and come as often as you can. If you are interested in playing golf, contact Bev Wait (wait89@aol.com) or Elaine Frost (elfrost7@charter.net).

OUT TO LUNCH GROUP

3rd Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.

All members and friends are welcome.

May 18:

Benedettos on Main, 1672 Main Street, Wildwood

Enjoy authentic Sicilian cuisine in a casual but refined setting. Meet at the restaurant at 11:30 a.m. **Directions:** Go west on Manchester (Hwy 100), turn south on Taylor Road, turn west on Main Street. Benedetto's is on the opposite side of the street from the B & B Movie.

June 15:

The Hawthorne Inn, 123 Front Street, Labadie

Join us for our semi-annual lunch at one of our favorite Out to Lunch spots. The extensive menu with award winning food caters to many tastes, and the scenic drive to Labadie only adds to the pleasure. Carpool from the church at 10:45 a.m. or meet at the restaurant at 11:30 a.m.

Directions: Go west on Manchester (Hwy 100) into Grey Summit. Turn right on Hwy MM and stay on it until the end. Turn right again and you will be on Front Street. (Highway T is closed for repair).

Sign up at the May Spring Luncheon or contact Harriett Hirschfeld by email (hhirschfe@aol.com) or by phone.

MOVIE GROUP 4th Thursday, 10 a.m.

April 28: Hostess, Mary Lou Wilson

(rwilson5510@charter.net). We will discuss these movies: *Eye in the Sky*, *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, *I Saw the Light*, *Dark Horse*, *10 Cloverfield Lane*, *The Meddler*, and *Miracles from Heaven*.

May 26: Hostess, Mary Kay Wolfe (mkwolfe@hotmail.com)

June 30: Hostess, Diane Correll (dcorrell01@gmail.com)

Movie and Salad Luncheon

For more information about this group, contact Doris Nistler (dnistler14@att.net) or Mersine Kallaos (mkallaos@prodigy.net).

PLAY READERS 3rd Monday, 12:30 p.m.

May 16: Hostess, Susie Teicher (svteicher@gmail.com)

June 20: Hostess, Yvonne Morrison (ydmorrison@msn.com)

For more information, check with Julie Triplett (julietrip@charter.net).

NOTE: Beginning Bridge & Beyond is looking for a few fun players that enjoy a good game of bridge, low stress levels, and a lovely lunch. Please contact Susan Zerjav (szervav@yahoo.com) or call by phone.

EXPRESSIONS 1st Tuesday, 1–3 p.m.

Meet at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 13014 Olive Blvd., Creve Coeur, 63141

May 3: ZENTANGLE

The cost is \$10.

Anyone can do Zentangle. You don't need any special artistic or creative talent, and you can't make a mistake. You do Zentangle any place you have a pen, a piece of paper, and a place to write. The benefits of Zentangle are a peace of mind and an awareness of patterns around you. Come and learn a new way to relax and focus on the beauty around you. Contact Kay Meyer (kicmeyer51@gmail.com) for more information.

Expressions will not meet in June.



BRIDGE CALENDAR

To play or sub in a group, contact Marilyn Fletcher (marilynfletcher5107@gmail.com).

BASIC BRIDGE and BEYOND

3rd Thursday, 9:30 a.m. Hearth Room

May 19: Char Scott

June 16: Sheila Kalman

BRIDGE BUDDIES 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 11 a.m.

Hearth Room: lunch and bridge

May 11: Nancy Hughes

May 25: Nancy Hughes

June 8: Kathy Childers

June 22: Barb Jowett

BRIDGE FRIENDS 3rd Thursday, 10 a.m.

Hearth Room: lunch and bridge

May 19: Carol Reed

June 16: Joanne Nelson

BRIDGE I 1st Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. Hearth Room

May 4 and June 1: Contact Janet Ludewig.

BRIDGE II 3rd Tuesday, 11 a.m. Walnut Grill

May 17: Nancy Russell

June 21: Arlene Weise

BRIDGE III 4th Wednesday 10 a.m. Hearth Room

May 25: Teri Steinberg

June 22: Harriett Hirschfeld

BRIDGE IV 1st Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.

Kaldi's at Schnucks Woods Mill

May 3: Sheila Kalman

June 7: Teresa Reeves

BRIDGE V 2nd Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.

May 10: Carol Berry

June 14: Sally Goodman

BRIDGE VI 3rd Monday, 10 a.m. Hearth Room

May 16: Brenda Ernst

June 20: Joan Lunt

DUPLICATE BRIDGE I 1st Tuesday, 9:50 a.m.

May 3: Sande Mawhinney

June 7: Chris Magilligan

DUPLICATE BRIDGE II 4th Tuesday, 9:45 a.m.

Hearth Room

May 24: Chris Magilligan

June 28: Jane Miller

BEGINNERS' DUPLICATE BRIDGE 4th Tuesday,

10:15 a.m. Hearth Room

May 24: Nancy Hughes

June 28: Barb Tackitt

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

4/28 Movie Group, 10 a.m.

4/29 STEM Girls of Promise ceremony 7 a.m.

Last day for Spring Luncheon refunds

MAY Golf on Mondays

Week 1

2 Bio Book Club 10 a.m.

3 Expressions 1 p.m.

5 Board of Directors 9:30 a.m.; Spring Luncheon deadline

Week 2

10 Reading Reality 1 p.m.

12 Branch Spring Luncheon 11:15 a.m.

Week 3

16 Play Readers 12:30 p.m.

17 IBC Lunch 11:45 a.m.

18 Out To Lunch 11:30 a.m.

19 Lit I 10:30 a.m.

Week 4

23 Lit II 10 a.m.

24 Summer Picnic Planning Meeting 10 a.m.

26 Movie Group 10 a.m.;

¡ADELANTE! 1:30 p.m.

28 Midwest Conference deadline



JUNE Golf on Mondays

Week 1

2-4 NCWSSL Conference

3-4 Ten State AAUW

Biennial Conference

Week 2

6 Bio Book Club 10 a.m.

Week 3

14 Reading Reality 11:15 a.m.

15 Out to Lunch 11:45 a.m.

16 Lit I 9:30 a.m.

Week 4

20 Play Readers 12:30 p.m.

21 IBC Lunch 11:45 a.m.

Week 5

27 Lit II 11 a.m.

30 Movie Group 10 a.m.; AAUW Membership expires

Coming in July

July 1 New AAUW year begins

July 14 Summer Picnic

Directory Deadline

