

**BRANCH MEETING MINUTES
AAUW BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD
FEBRUARY 9, 2012**

The meeting was called to order and led by Co-President, Marian Bauer, at 9:30 AM. The AAUW Mission Statement was recited by all.

The February Hostesses were acknowledged and thanked.

OPERATIONAL REPORTS

A. Quorum: There is a quorum present at this meeting.

B. Minutes: The minutes of the February Board Meeting have been read, approved, and are available from Secretary, Judy Stagoski. They are posted on the website under "Meeting Reports."

C. Treasurer's Report:

1. Asset Report: Leslie Wier, Treasurer, reviewed the Branch's six month (7/11-1/12) Asset Report. The ending balance is **\$23,643**.

2. Dues: Dues for the coming year are payable beginning in March. \$46 of the \$49 which are allocated to National are tax-deductible.

D. Membership: Joan Lunt and Barb Schillhahn

1. Current membership: 252

2. New members: One

3. Guests: Two

4. New Members Coffee: April 25, 2012 at the home of Barb Smoltz

AAUW PRIORITIES

A. Educational Opportunities Fund: Mary Kay Wolfe and Jan Horner
The second annual used book sale to benefit Dollars for Scholars was held at this meeting. Members were encouraged to support the sale.

B. Legal Advocacy Fund: Ruth Griffin and Barbara Butchart
Annual Giving: Barb Butchart stated that in the last year, Ballwin-Chesterfield was Number One in Missouri in LAF Giving. A total of \$5576 was raised. "Crossing the Line" research and a newly filed WalMart Class Action lawsuit for qualified plaintiffs are two of the beneficiaries of the members' generosity. The annual collection was held at the meeting, and members were encouraged to donate.

C. Public Policy

Sandy Camillo spoke of the newest initiative, "It's My Vote: I will Be Heard", which is to be launched in the week of February 13, 2012. Go to aauwaction.org to learn of

additional activities being organized by AAUW in Public Policy.

BRANCH PRIORITIES

A. DIRECTORY

Today, February 9, is the final day to have a new photo or corrected information submitted for the March Directory supplement.

B. DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS Judy Green and Barb Tackitt

Future events were highlighted, specifically, the tour of the Peabody Opera House and the "Irish" event at McGurk's. Consult the Newsletter for specifics.

C. IBC

Yvonne Morrison reported on the 2012 Spring Fling on March 24, 2012. Ballwin-Chesterfield is in charge of fundraising this year. There will be a raffle of several different items. Tickets are sold at \$2 each or three for \$5. Members will place their tickets in a basket in front of the item(s) they choose.

INTEREST GROUPS

A. Expressions: Becky Kruse

Roseann Swaringham reported for Becky Kruse on a recent activity at which members produced greeting cards that were sent to our Military in Afghanistan for their personal use. Ballwin-Chesterfield received a thank-you from the contact person.

B. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Karen Francis highlighted the topics of the next two presentations: February, "Arab Spring" and March, "Privatization of Space". See the Newsletter for more information.

C. MISSOURI STATE MEETING

1. Ballwin-Chesterfield History

Julie Triplett reported that the History of the Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch of AAUW is now published and will be for sale at the State Meeting in May. The cost is \$10.

2. MO State meeting

The annual State Meeting will take place on May 4 and May 5, 2012. MO has received a Grant which will fund a Public Policy Forum on Friday, May 4. See the Newsletter for specific details.

D. NAMED GIFT

Bette Bude is chairing this committee for the 2012 awards. She encouraged all members to "look around" to identify the people who, by their service and actions, carry forward the tenets of our Mission. Consider nominating them for the Named Gift Award. March 10 is the deadline for submission of candidate names.

E. SPRING LUNCHEON

Diane Siegel presented an update on the progress of the Spring Luncheon. Reservations (\$24) will be accepted until April 27. Details are in the Newsletter.

F. TECHNOLOGY

Reporting for Joyce Katz, Marcia Block spoke about the new website for our Branch. The official web address appears in the Newsletter. Members are encouraged to visit the new site and "click on it" frequently as the more times it is visited, the faster it will be picked up by Google and other search engines.

G. TRIVIA NIGHT

Doris Nistler reported that plans are in motions to make this year's Trivia Night the success that it has been in the past. Approximately \$4500 was donated to LAF from each of the two previous Trivia events. There will be many prizes and a raffle. Again, consult the Newsletter for details.

H. HOSPITALITY

Carol LeBegue reported that there are no volunteers to be hostesses for the April Branch meeting. Please consider signing up.

Marian Bauer reminded members to check the newsletter and weekly email for coming events. Marian also announced that the board had passed a motion that the Mission Statement be recited at each board and branch meeting.

The business portion of the meeting adjourned for a fifteen minute break after which the group was reconvened for the program portion of the meeting:

Is the Economic Crisis Over? Will it Return?

Jack K. Strauss, Ph.D

Simon Chair of Economics and Director of Simon Center for Regional Forecasting, St. Louis University

Adjournment was at 11:30 AM.

Submitted by
Judy Stagoski

Secretary