



# Branching Out

## AAUW Ballwin–Chesterfield (MO) Branch

National and State Award-Winning Branch

# December 2019

Vol. 40 No. 5 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year

**\*\*Ballwin-Chesterfield board/branch meetings are cancelled when the Parkway or Rockwood districts have an inclement weather closing.\*\***

### *Please Join us for Winter Belles, the 2019 Winter Fundraiser*

**December 12 (snow date, December 13)**

Trinity Lutheran Church, 14088 Clayton Road at Woods Mill Road, Chesterfield, MO 63017

*Limited reservations are available*

**Mail your \$25 check to Sage Taber no later than December 2.**



Your reservation includes a delicious box lunch, entertainment, and a chance to bid on items and gift certificates at the Silent Auction tables. You will also have the opportunity to purchase home-baked items at the Elegant Edibles table and a variety of items will be at the Boutique to tempt you. Include your luncheon choice with reservation (see page 3). Bring small bills for raffles and games. Cash and checks are accepted for all other purchases.

- **10 a.m. Doors open, check-in, socialize, shop, & enjoy mimosas and wine and complimentary coffee**
- **11:30 a.m. Lunch is served**
- **Noon Parkway South High School a cappella choirs**
- **12:45 p.m. Drawings & Checkout**

*If you cannot attend, please help make the event a success by making a monetary donation. You may send your check, payable to AAUW B-C, to Finance Officer Pat Shores.*

### **President's Corner**

December is a time to reflect on the past year, to determine what we can do with the few weeks remaining, and to decide how we are going to use our time and talents in 2020.



Jean Elliott

Since the AAUW Branch year started, we have had a successful brunch in September. Our annual Eleanor Roosevelt Walk in October was another opportunity to gather for fellowship. In November branch members, as always, took the opportunity to give generously to AAUW Fund so that our national organization can continue to advance gender equity for women and girls everywhere.

Make plans to attend the branch fundraiser, *Winter Belles* on December 12. Be sure to get your ticket while there are still seats available. Bring your friends, bid on the many auction items, and have a fantastic time while supporting the local branch. (Additional *Winter Belles* details are on page three.)

As you think about the future, maybe 2020 is your year to take that leap and join a new interest group, sponsor a Dollars for Scholars event, or possibly even consider taking a leadership position on our board. The nominating committee is looking for dynamic women to serve on our Executive Board. Think about the new friends you can make and the talents you will be able to share with the organization. If this isn't your year to lead, think of which member would be an outstanding addition to the board and ask her if she would be willing to be considered for nomination.

We have lots of exciting ideas for 2020. We hope you plan to be a part of our organizational team. Be assured that your volunteer service for women and girls is very much appreciated. My very best wishes to you during this holiday season.

**~Jan Horner, Co-president**



Jan Horner

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- The *Branching Out* newsletter is published ten times annually. The deadline for submissions to the January newsletter is December 12, unless otherwise specified by the department co-editor. Send news items to Sandy Brody ([sandybrody163@gmail.com](mailto:sandybrody163@gmail.com)). Send DFS notices to Joan Davis ([jmdavis@pstcc.edu](mailto:jmdavis@pstcc.edu)) and send Interest Group information to Jean Light ([jhl1234@charter.net](mailto:jhl1234@charter.net)).
- The branch website is [Ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net](http://Ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net). Web Manager Joyce Katz posts announcements on Facebook at Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch of AAUW. “Like” the page to receive updates.
- Contact Membership Vice-Presidents Angela Janik ([amjanik53@gmail.com](mailto:amjanik53@gmail.com)) and Willeyne Berger ([bobwilleyne@gmail.com](mailto:bobwilleyne@gmail.com)) for membership information.
- To submit an item to Care Notes, contact Joan Reed ([j6a8r1@aol.com](mailto:j6a8r1@aol.com)) or Joyce Katz ([joycekatz44@gmail.com](mailto:joycekatz44@gmail.com)).

### AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Board

#### ELECTED OFFICERS

Co-Presidents: Jean Elliott & Jan Horner

VP Program: Mary Jermak & Sage Taber

VP Membership: Angela Janik & Willeyne Berger

Finance Officer: Pat Shores

Secretary/Archivist: Sue Lancaster

Ex-Officio Immediate Past President: Marcia Block

#### ELECTED DIRECTORS

AAUW Fund: Marian Bauer & Judy Stagoski

Public Policy: Karen Francis

#### APPOINTED DIRECTORS

Branch Fundraising: Marcia Block & Jan Buckhold

Directory: Joan Hewitt & Ann Patrice O'Shaughnessy

Dollars for Scholars: Susie Teicher & Marilyn Fletcher

Governance: Marsha Weppelman

Hospitality: Linda Roberson & Carol Anthony

Newsletter Editors: Sandy Brody, Joan Davis, & Jean Light

University Liaison: Carol Greenaway & Susan Shriver

#### Special Events

Fall Brunch: Eileen Krahman & Marilyn Schatteman

Spring Luncheon: Jane Hemer & Michele Mangnall

STEM: Barb McQuitty & Susan Fenwick

Web Managers: Joyce Katz & Patricia Bishop

Standing committee chairs are listed in the *Directory*.

### AAUW ¡Adelante!

(aka Operation Equality: Reading for Results)

4th Thursday, 1:30 p.m

Barnes & Noble, 1600 Clarkson Rd. Chesterfield

**Next Meeting: January 23**—Kay Meyer will lead the discussion of *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stephenson

### Missouri Women's Network Legislative Retreat

**Saturday, January 18, 2020**

If this date is cancelled due to weather, the retreat will take place the following Saturday, January 25.

**Location:** Hyvee, 25 Conley Road, Columbia, MO

Plan to be a part of the gathering of representatives from Missouri's women's organizations who will develop a list of priorities for the 2020 legislative session. Be trained in *Fast Democracy*, a new and easier way to track the Missouri House and Senate bills. Don't miss this opportunity to help decide which bills we will support and which bills we will work to defeat during the spring session.

Contact Pat Shores ([apatriciashores@att.net](mailto:apatriciashores@att.net)) for more information.

### A Note from the Finance Officer

*Winter Belles* is the name of our annual winter fundraiser this year, and is critically important to the financial health of our branch operating fund. The \$22 portion of AAUW annual dues that Ballwin-Chesterfield retains does not cover all the wonderful things we do. The winter fundraiser is the way we raise the additional monies we need to maintain our high-quality programs and activities, and is an every-member participation event.

Whether or not you can attend this year's event, *Winter Belles*, you can contribute \$50 and become a belle of the branch. Your name will be featured on a poster and in the program. All you need do is write a check, made payable to AAUW B-C, and give it to Pat Shores at the December meeting. If you prefer, you can mail your check to Pat at the address found in the Directory.

~Pat Shores, Finance Officer

*Winter Belles*

December 12, 10 a.m.

To assure your place at the table, contact Sage Taber for reservations and your choice of lunch menu.

- A. Chicken salad on croissant with salad and dessert
- B. Roast beef and Swiss sandwich with salad and dessert
- C. Veggie sandwich with salad and dessert
- D. Gluten free: Chicken salad with fruit and veggies



For your shopping enjoyment, bring a check book or cash—either will be graciously accepted.

**Silent Auction:** Create your own basket or bring a donated item(s); see suggestions in the November newsletter. Themed baskets will be assembled or you may donate to the shopping fund used to complete and assemble baskets.

**December 4<sup>th</sup>** is the requested final day for donations toward baskets. In the spirit of the season, if you find that perfect basket addition after this date, call Denise McKibben, Diana Huey, Marcia Block, or Jan Buckhold. They will hitch the reindeer to the sleigh and pick up your donation.

**Elegant Edibles ~ utter decadence:** If you've never tried an elegant edible, you've missed out on the gourmet culinary skills of some of our members. Erlaine Eltomi requests you let her know of your contribution by December 6.

**Boutique:** Past best sellers, along with new items, are sure to please. Find that perfect something in the \$5–\$15 range. Marilyn Beiter is your contact for contributions to stock the boutique.

**BELLES of the Branch:** Ladies, who doesn't want to be a Belle? A \$50, or more donation, places a bell inscribed with your name on the event program and the event poster listing Belles. To be a *Belle of the Branch*, contact Pat Shores.

Join us, invite a friend, and kick off the season with raffles (someone is sure to win) with entertainment and with the famous wine and mimosa bar.

See you there.

~ Marcia Block & Janice Buckhold,  
Co-chairs, *Winter Belles*

**AAUW Fund—STEM****Legislative Support for STEM Research**

The Building Blocks of STEM Act, a bipartisan bill supported by AAUW, instructs the National Science Foundation (NSF) to more equitably allocate funding for research with a focus on early childhood. It also directs NSF to support research on the factors that discourage or encourage girls to engage in STEM activities, including computer science.

On July 23, 2019, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 1665, the Building Blocks of STEM Act. On September 29, 2019, the Senate passed S.737-Building Blocks of Stem Act with an amendment by voice vote. The bill has returned to the House for concurrence. Ultimately, the bill must be signed by the President to become law.

~Submitted by Susan Fenwick,  
Co-director, STEM Committee

**Directory**

The Directory Committee is in the process of preparing the December supplement which will be emailed to the entire membership. Changes to directory information should be sent as soon as possible to Ann Patrice O'Shaughnessy and Joan Hewitt so it can be included in the new supplement. It is very important that the information is sent to both co-directors.

For those who have not yet picked up their 2019–20 directory, please do so at any branch meeting. They will be available at the directory table in January and each month thereafter.

~Joan Hewitt & Ann Patrice O'Shaughnessy,  
Co-directors, Directory

**AAUW Fund—Annual Giving****Congratulations, Ballwin-Chesterfield!!!**

Once again Ballwin-Chesterfield has responded generously in supporting AAUW's Mission. Donations received through November 14 total \$4,160. Many thanks to all who contributed! If you were unable to be at the November branch meeting and would like to add your contribution, mail a check payable to **AAUW Fund** to Judy Stagoski (address found in the Directory). If you prefer to donate online, please email or text Judy the information in order that our Branch gets full credit for all donations to AAUW Fund. Thanks, again!

~ Judy Stagoski & Marian Bauer,  
Co-directors, AAUW Fund

**Century Club**

At the AAUW annual meeting in May, members who contribute \$100 in a calendar year are recognized in the Century Club. Members who contribute \$250 achieve Century Club Plus distinction. The contributions made to any AAUW Fund through December 31 are credited for the total donated in 2019.

**Donate to AAUW On-line****Member Services Database (MSD)**

Go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) and select the MSD tab at the top of the home page. Log in with your member number, found in the Directory, and special password. If you do not have a password, create one by following the prompts. Your donations this year and last will be listed. From here, you may make a contribution by clicking on "Individual Contributions" on the left. You may donate by credit card to the unrestricted AAUW Fund or select a specific fund.

**Donate from the AAUW home page**

Click on "Donate" on the AAUW home page at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org). Follow the prompts to designate your donation and give your donor information. You must pay by credit card.

**Public Policy**

Thanks to everyone who participated in the November 5 election by being informed, voting, working the polls, and encouraging friends to vote. AAUW MO is now involved with gathering signatures to place Medicaid Expansion on the 2020 ballot as a resolution. As stated in AAUW's 2019–21 Public Policies Priorities, "We support robust and strong Medicare and Medicaid systems and oppose any efforts to undermine them." If you have not yet signed the petition, you will have the opportunity at any of our upcoming events.

As you're reading this, we have just honored our veterans on Veteran's Day. Did you know that one in ten veterans is a woman? Back in 2012 the film *The Invisible War* was released. It showed the efforts that were underway to address and prevent sexual violence in the military. One initiative was to use the justice system to change the legal precedent that deemed rape as an occupational hazard. AAUW, through our case support program, supported the veterans in three lawsuits against the Department of Defense. Every two years the Department of Defense compiles a report on military sexual assaults. In the recent 2018 report, 13,000 active duty women across the military reported they were sexually assaulted in 2018. That is a four-year high. As a reminder, Violence Against Women and Closing the Gender Pay Gap are the highest priorities of AAUW's Public Policy Programs.

~Karen Francis,  
Director, Public Policy





**ER Walk** (L to R): Carol Derington (organizer), Barb McQuitty, Carol Davis McDonald, Eve LaJeunesse, Jan Horner, Marcia Block, Eileen Krahan (organizer), Jean Elliot, Roz Marx, Donna Ross. Not pictured: Karen Francis, Susan Fenwick (photographer).

### Eleanor Roosevelt Walk

The Ballwin-Chesterfield branch annual Eleanor Roosevelt Walk was held on October 15 in Des Peres Park. Registrants were encouraged to donate during the November AAUW Fund Drive, with the option of designating their donation for the ER Fund to support research on topics important to AAUW's goals and mission.

A great big thank you to all the wonderful ladies who participated in this year's Eleanor Roosevelt Walk. Your supportiveness, kindness, and generosity are to be commended. Together, we raised \$755 for educational research. Even though the weather wasn't the best, we had a great time walking, talking, and enjoying a delicious lunch.

~ **Carol Derington & Eileen Krahan,**  
Co-chairs, Eleanor Roosevelt Walk

### International Relations Series

This series of four lectures on international relations is beginning again in January 2020. AAUW collaborates with the TWA (Tuesday Women's Association) to present four free lectures to the public. These are given on the second Tuesday of the first four months of the year. They are held at the Ethical Society on Clayton Road, and begin promptly at 10:45 a.m. in the main auditorium. The general topics for 2020 are as follows:

#### January 14

*Organized Voter Suppression Tactics: The International Perspective*, Denise Lieberman, J.D.

#### February 11

*Triple Threat of Global Warming: Ecological, Environmental, and Humanitarian Crises*, Dr. Thomas E. Lovejoy

#### March 10

*Cyber Un-security*, Joseph Scherrer

#### April 14

*The New Populism: Identity Politics & the Rise of Us-Against-Them Leadership*, Dr. Debra Leiter

Come early for refreshments on the lower level of the building (enter from the back), and bring a bag lunch for afterwards if you wish more conversation with the speaker. Bring husbands and friends-- all are welcome!

~ **Patricia Burroughs Bishop,**  
Chair, International Relations Committee

### Nominations Requested for 2020-22 Elected Officers

The nominating committee is accepting nominations for the 2020-22 elected officers. These positions are Co-President, Co-VP Program, Co-VP Membership, Secretary/Archivist, Co-director AAUW Fund, and Co-director Public Policy.

For job descriptions for any of these positions, please look on the AAUW B-C website, or contact Barb McQuitty. The committee needs your help in finding members ready and able to be part of our branch's leadership.

#### Please follow these steps to nominate a person:

1. Receive permission from the person you are nominating.
2. Use the nomination form on the branch website under FLYERS & FORMS. Nomination forms will also be available at the December branch meeting.
3. Send the completed form to Nominating Committee Chair, Barbara McQuitty, at her email or her home address in the branch directory.

The nominating committee is Bette Bude, Judy Stagoski, Linda Roberson and Barbara McQuitty. They will review the nominees and prepare the slate of officers. Please send your nomination form in by Saturday, January 25.

Members: If you are asked to take a position, please seriously consider accepting the nomination. It is an honor to be asked to serve. You will make many new friends, and make a valued contribution to AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield.

~ **Barbara McQuitty,**  
Chair, Nominating Committee



**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 and educational experiences, and introduce AAUW to non-members.

**Proceeds from Dollars for Scholars events support scholarships for local nontraditional women students.**

Contact Marilyn Fletcher ([marilynletcher597@gmail.com](mailto:marilynletcher597@gmail.com)) and Susan Teicher ([svteicher@gmail.com](mailto:svteicher@gmail.com))  
Co-directors, Dollars for Scholars

**Make Dollars for Scholars checks payable to AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield and indicate event name on memo line. Be sure to bring enough checks to each meeting, so that you can sign up for several events and not miss out on any of the fun!**

### A Message from Marilyn Fletcher and Susan Teicher

**Members:** Please help us make money for our scholarships by sponsoring a DFS event. Contact Susie Teicher or Marilyn Fletcher for event ideas and/or more information. We have plenty of ideas but need sponsors.

### Soulard Holiday Parlor Tour

Cost: \$38

Saturday, December 7,  
Carpool from Trinity at 9:45 a.m. or go directly to the starting point  
Gene Slay's Girls and Boy's Club of St. Louis, 2524 S. 11<sup>th</sup> St. 63104

Join other members of our branch on the 44th Soulard Holiday Parlor Tour. You will visit and learn about the historic homes in the oldest neighborhood in St. Louis. Heated buses will take you from one locale to another while you are informed and entertained by the knowledgeable tour guides. Homeowners will tell you the unique story of their homes and some even offer cookies and hot chocolate.

Sponsor: Sage Taber ([sagemo@aol.com](mailto:sagemo@aol.com))

### Used Book Sale **All proceeds will go to Dollars for Scholars.**

The Used Book Sale will return in January. Keep saving those books, CD's, and puzzles!



Questions? Contact Mary Kay Wolfe ([mkwolfe@hotmail.com](mailto:mkwolfe@hotmail.com)) or Linda Kridel ([lykmo65@gmail.com](mailto:lykmo65@gmail.com)).

Branch Interest Groups are primarily social and bring members with similar interests together. Try one! Contact an Interest Group Chair today. Interest Group Chairs are listed in the front of your *Directory*.

## Book Groups ~ Welcome All Readers

Please RSVP to the hostess by the Friday before the meeting. Download the 2019–20 book lists from the **Interest Groups** page on the branch website.

### Literature I 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 9:30 a.m.

**December 19:** Host, Terri Ciccolella

**Book:** *Warlight* by Michael Ondaatje

**Facilitator:** Jane Miller

Contact Alice Crippen ([jccripp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jccripp@sbcglobal.net)).

### Literature II 4<sup>th</sup> Monday, 10 a.m.

**No meeting in December.**

Contact Joyce Katz ([joycekatz44@gmail.com](mailto:joycekatz44@gmail.com)) or

Erlaine Eltomi ([erlaine.eltomi@att.net](mailto:erlaine.eltomi@att.net)).

### Reading Reality 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 1 p.m.

**December 10:** Host, Abby Roessler

**Book:** *Men We Reaped* by Jesmyn Ward

**Facilitator:** Jan Horner

*This group reads non-fiction selections. For more information, contact Marcia Block ([mhblock@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mhblock@sbcglobal.net)) or Mary Kay Wolfe ([mkwolfe@hotmail.com](mailto:mkwolfe@hotmail.com)).*

## Play Readers

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 12:30 p.m.

**December 16:** Hostess, Marilyn Fletcher

For more information about this group, contact Julie Triplett ([julietrip@att.net](mailto:julietrip@att.net))

## Expressions

### No meeting in December

Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 7 at 1 p.m.  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
13014 Olive Blvd., Creve Coeur, MO 63141

We will be designing wrapping paper and note cards using Gelli pad printing. Please bring an apron, scissors, and brayer, if you have one, and plastic gloves to keep hands free from paint. There's a \$5 charge for the class.

For more information, contact Nance Roth ([nance.roth@yahoo.com](mailto:nance.roth@yahoo.com)) or Pat White.

## Genealogy Group

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 1–4 p.m.

Meetings will resume in March 2020.

Contact Roz Marx ([Rozsie3@gmail.com](mailto:Rozsie3@gmail.com)) or Pam Kulp ([kulpp10@gmail.com](mailto:kulpp10@gmail.com)).

## Movie Group

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 10 a.m.

**December 26**

Annual Holiday Luncheon, TBA.

New members are welcomed.

For more information about this group, contact Liz Maher ([lizlbm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lizlbm@sbcglobal.net)).

## MUNCHING MATTERS, LUNCH WITH FOOD FOR THOUGHT

New Season Features Exciting and Informative Speakers

Walnut Grill 11 a.m.—1 p.m. on Clayton Rd. just west of Clarkson Road.

There is no charge to attend, but lunch will be on your own.

Wednesday, January 8, Barbara McQuitty will share her experiences as director of a nonprofit.

Next events: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday on February 12 and March 11

Sign-up sheets will be available at the next AAUW B-C branch meeting.

You MUST register to attend with Julie Triplett ([julietrip@att.net](mailto:julietrip@att.net)). Karen Francis and Julie Triplett, Coordinators

## Bridge Calendar

To participate, contact Bridge Chairs that are listed in the *Directory*.

### Basic Bridge and Beyond

Holiday Lunch at Tucker's at 11 a.m.

December 19: Susan Zerjav

Bridge Buddies 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, 11 a.m.

The Shack at 14810 Clayton Rd.

Lunch and Bridge

December 11: Kathy Skiles

December 25: No meeting

Bridge Friends 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 10 a.m.

Hearth Room: Lunch and Bridge

December 19: Mary LaRuffa

Bridge I 1st Wednesday, 10:30 a.m.

Hearth Room

December 4: Contact Janet Ludewig

Bridge II 3rd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.

Walnut Grill

December 17: Diane Correll

Bridge III 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 10 a.m.

Hearth Room

December 18: Marilyn Morton (note date change)

Bridge V 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 10 a.m.

Kaldi's at Schnucks Woods Mill

December 10: Joanne Nelson

Bridge VI 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 10 a.m.

Hearth Room

December 16: Diane Correll

Duplicate Bridge I 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 9:50 a.m.

December 3: Marilyn Morton

Duplicate Bridge II 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 10 a.m.

Walnut Grill

No meeting in December.

Duplicate Bridge III 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 10:15 a.m.

Hearth Room

No meeting in December.

## Out to Lunch

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.

December 18: Hostess, Linda Seibert  
Provinces Bar & Grill at the Frontenac Hilton

1335 South Lindbergh Blvd.

Enter from Lindbergh or Clayton Rd.

RSVP to Linda Seibert [lindajbseibert63@gmail.com](mailto:lindajbseibert63@gmail.com).

No carpool planned.

For more information, contact Linda Seibert ([lindajbseibert63@gmail.com](mailto:lindajbseibert63@gmail.com)) or Liz Maher ([lizlbm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lizlbm@sbcglobal.net)).

## December Activities Calendar



### December

7 \$ Soulard Holiday Parlor Tour

10 Reading Reality 1 p.m.

12 Winter Belles 10 a.m.

**Deadline for January newsletter submissions**

16 Play Readers 12:30 p.m.

18 Out to Lunch 11:30 a.m.

19 Literature I 9:30 a.m.

26 Movie Group 10 a.m.

### Coming in January

07 Expressions 1 p.m.

08 Munching Matters 11 a.m.

09 Branch Meeting 8:45 a.m.

**12 Deadline for February newsletter submissions**

14 International Relations Series 10:45 a.m.

18 Missouri Women's Network Legislative Retreat

23 ¡Adelante! 1:30 p.m.

25 Deadline for Elected Officer Nominations



We are **FANS** of  
**WOMEN FIRST**