



# Branching Out

## AAUW Ballwin–Chesterfield (MO) Branch

National and State Award-Winning Branch

### May–June 2020

Vol. 40 No. 10 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year

**Please be aware that all events are subject to change to be in accordance with current restrictions. Check with the sponsor to determine if the event will be held.**

#### Presidents' Corner



Jean Elliott



Jan Horner

Usually this month's column would be fun to write. I'd be reflecting on the IBC Spring Fling, and how much I enjoyed the event, the food, and Mary Jermak's speech accepting the Barbara Lackritz Award. I'd be urging you to sign up for the Spring Luncheon at Whitmoor Country Club. Maybe I'd be asking if you had a favorite Dollars for Scholars event that you'd attended this Spring, or if you looked forward to an upcoming one. Maybe I'd mention golf, bridge groups, reading and movie groups. Alas! We've had to cancel all this. But keeping everything in perspective, there are a few items left to discuss.

#### Spring Luncheon Whitmoor Country Club May 14, 2020

**This event is canceled.**

By now you are probably aware that the May 14, 2020, Spring Luncheon has been cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. Carol Derington emailed all members on April 10 to state that the plan was to shred all luncheon checks, unless you wish to have yours returned to you. Please contact Carol if you have any questions about this. Don't forget to void your check stubs to keep your account orderly.

- ✓ A big thank you to all who voted electronically for our new slate of officers. Jan Horner reported over 100 members had voted in the first two days. Congratulations to our new officers. May you have a normal two years of service.
- ✓ Our public policy committee, under the leadership of Karen Francis, continues to find ways to voice our concerns and advocate for our mission. Email Karen to find out how you can help.
- ✓ We are continuing to make plans for the Celebration Tea. Our committees have come up with some wonderful ideas for the day. Keep your fingers crossed.
- ✓ Our regular April B-C Board Meeting was held on Zoom. How wonderful to see friends and catch up on news, activities, and ways to make quarantining manageable. We did miss the coffee and snacks, although I saw a few mugs on the desks next to the computers.

I know that this self-distancing has made me miss hugs, chats over lunch, going to the movies with friends, playing golf with my league, and, yes, even going to the gym. I know all of you could come up with your own lists. Hopefully, you are in touch with AAUW friends or are reaching out to a few you don't know so well.

This is my last column as President. It has been an honor to serve you. They have been memorable years. I have come to know B-C as a group of loving and caring women. Thank you all.

**Jean Elliott,  
Co-president**

**The next board meeting will be May 7 at 9:30 a.m. All elected and appointed officers should attend. Contact Jean Elliott ([elliotts01@sbcglobal.net](mailto:elliotts01@sbcglobal.net)) if you cannot attend.**

**Inside**  
p.2 General Information, ¡Adelante!  
Membership Renewal, Upcoming Events  
p.3 AAUW Fund, Public Policy  
p.4-5 DFS, Interest Groups, Calendar

- The *Branching Out* newsletter is published ten times annually. The deadline for submissions to the July/August newsletter is June 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 Krahnman & 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 Equity: Reading for Results)  
**4th Thursday, 1:30 p.m.**  
 Barnes & Noble, 1600 Clarkson Rd. Chesterfield

**May 28:** *Because of Sex: One Law, Ten Cases and Fifty Years That Changed American Women's Lives at Work* by Gillian Thomas

**Discussion leader:** Debbie McWard (Check with Debbie about possible event cancellation.)

## Membership Renewal for 2020-21

The AAUW year begins anew on July 1, 2020, thus your current membership expires on June 30. The national annual dues are \$59. AAUW MO dues are \$10 and Ballwin-Chesterfield branch dues are \$22, which totals \$91 for the upcoming year. Fifty-six dollars of the national dues is tax deductible.

**The preferred method to renew is online.** B-C members should have received a personalized renewal email on April 16 from [memberinfo@aauw.org](mailto:memberinfo@aauw.org). Open the message and click on "click here to renew." With one click, pay dues with your credit card. It's simple, safe, and efficient. The alternate method is to send your \$91 check to Pat Shores. Write your check to AAUW. Do not put B-C on the memo line.

The Finance Officer and the Membership Vice Presidents are offering an early dues payment incentive. Members who renewed before April 30 will get three chances to win a \$30 Panera gift card. Members who renew in May will get two chances to win the gift card. Members who renew in June will have one chance to win a Panera gift card.

Contact Finance Officer Pat Shores with any questions about dues renewal.

## Upcoming Events

### Celebration Tea

It is our hope to have a Celebration Tea on Thursday, July 9th at Trinity Lutheran Church. Details to follow.

### Winter Fundraiser

Most of us are thinking about when life will get back to normal. It will, and we hope by December 10 this will all be a distant memory. We are planning changes to the fundraiser. The focus will be to celebrate and enjoy the company of our friends. There will be lunch, entertainment, the wine and mimosa bar, Elegant Edibles, raffles, and other fun opportunities, but we will eliminate the silent auction and boutique. We hope you will attend and help us raise money to support branch activities while having a good time. Meanwhile, stay safe.

**AAUW Fund****STEM Report**

Although it was not possible to hold our STEM Girls of Promise award ceremonies this year, AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield is still committed to recognizing eight high school juniors who have shown promise in science, technology, engineering, and/or mathematics. Each girl, from either Maplewood-Richmond Heights High School or Valley Park High School, will receive a medal, a certificate, a monetary gift for her college fund, and a personal letter of congratulations from our branch as soon as it is possible to distribute the award gift boxes. Thank you to the STEM Committee volunteers who were prepared to honor these deserving girls with their presence and their breakfast contributions.

In the midst of the many event cancellations in our community, it was a pleasure to learn that the Academy of Science - St. Louis Science Fair, for which AAUW B-C provides judges and awards, is going forward. This year, instead of evaluating physical projects at Queeny Park, the judges will view the students' projects and record the awardees online. The e-fair is a creative solution that will allow students to participate in the Science Fair despite being out of school.

**Susan Fenwick & Barb McQuitty,  
Co-directors, STEM**

**NCCWSL**

We're all living the new normal. Everything is canceled due to COVID-19. This includes NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) which is financially funded by our members and supporters. This is an event to which AAUW invites hundreds of college women from around the nation for three days of leadership training, inspiration and networking. It is unfortunate that it had to be canceled, but there is good news. The young women who were to attend will have the same opportunity next year, as will women from the class of 2021. The Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch sponsors a young woman and we also contribute to our St. Louis Inter Branch Council (IBC) to sponsor another. We can do this because of your generous contributions and support of AAUW's mission. Thank you for this support.

**Karen Francis,  
AAUW Fund Committee**

**Public Policy**

While we are all respecting stay-at-home directives, this is the perfect time to advocate for AAUW issues. The *2019-21 AAUW Public Policy Priorities* states, "The work of AAUW builds upon responsible public participation and the priorities provide the basis for AAUW members' actions at the local, state, national, and international levels. Each of these priorities provides support for government agencies administering the programs, including adequate appropriations, effective and accountable administration, and provisions for citizen participation."

AAUW MO is one of over 50 organizations in the Missouri Voter Protection Coalition, a nonpartisan statewide network of voting advocates. On April 6, the Coalition released *Measures to Ensure Voting in Missouri Amid the COVID-19 Crisis*. Five specific issues were addressed:

1. Expanded absentee voting by mail
2. Bolster online voter registration
3. Advance voting before Election Day
4. Polling place accommodations
5. Robust voter assistance and education

Currently, Missouri is one (1) of twelve (12) states that still require an excuse to cast an absentee ballot even during the pandemic. AAUW MO asks you to contact:

- Governor Parsons at 573-751-3222 or [governor.mo.gov](http://governor.mo.gov) asking him to use his executive authority to waive the excuse and notary requirements for absentee ballots.
- Secretary of State Ashcroft at 573-751-4936 or [sos.mo.gov](http://sos.mo.gov) asking him to issue an advisory opinion to all Missouri election authorities that the COVID-19 pandemic justifies the "confined due to illness" absentee excuse (notary not required) for all Missourians due to the mandatory stay-at-home order.

**Karen Francis, Director, Public Policy**

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*.

## Dollars for Scholars

### A Message from Marilyn Fletcher and Susan Teicher

We are disappointed that all our scheduled events this spring had to be cancelled. We are counting on everyone to step up and plan an outing or event for next year. Thanks, Marilyn and Susie.

### 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.

**May 21:** Hostess, Mary McFarland

**Book:** *Unsheltered* by Barbara Kingsolver

**Facilitator:** Mary McFarland

**June 18:** Book Selection for 2020–21

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

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

**May 25:** No Meeting

**June 22:** Book selection for 2020–21. Details for book selection will be updated by email as our options are determined.

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.

**May 12:** Meeting via Zoom

**Book:** *Furious Hours* by Vasey Cep

**June 9:** Book Selection for 2020–21

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

### Play Readers

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

No meeting in May or June.

For more information about this group, contact Judy Stagoski ([jms4331@gmail.com](mailto:jms4331@gmail.com)).

### Expressions

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

13014 Olive Blvd. Creve Coeur, MO 63141

No meeting in May or June.

For more information, contact Nance Roth ([nance.roth@yahoo.com](mailto:nance.roth@yahoo.com)) or Pat White ([pgwhit02@gmail.com](mailto:pgwhit02@gmail.com)).

### Genealogy Group 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 1 p.m.

Check out the currently free access to [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com) and [MyHeritage.com](http://MyHeritage.com).

Genealogy meetings and field trips will resume in the fall.

For more information, contact Roz Marx, ([rozsie3@gmail.com](mailto:rozsie3@gmail.com)) or Pam Kulp, ([kulp10@gmail.com](mailto:kulp10@gmail.com))

### Golf

Every Monday, April through October

**Golf is canceled until further notice.**

If you are interested in playing golf, contact Bev Wait ([wait89@aol.com](mailto:wait89@aol.com)) or Elaine Frost ([elfrost7@charter.net](mailto:elfrost7@charter.net)).

### Movie Group

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

To Be Determined.

Contact Liz Maher ([lizlbm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lizlbm@sbcglobal.net)).

## Bridge Calendar

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

### Basic Bridge and Beyond

3rd Thursday 10 a.m. Hearth Room

May 21: Canceled

June 18: Contact Susan Zerjav

### Bridge Buddies 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 11 a.m.

Sunny Street Café Des Peres

May 27 & June 24: Contact Marilyn Fletcher

### Bridge Friends 3rd Thursday, 10 a.m.

Hearth Room: Lunch and Bridge

May 21: Linda Magre

June 18: Joanne Nelson

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

Hearth Room

May 6 & June 3: Contact Janet Ludewig

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

Walnut Grill

May 19: Carolyn Baker

June 16: Judy Green

### Bridge III 4th Wednesday 10 a.m.

Hearth Room

May 27: Marianne West

June 24: Susan Sheppard

### Bridge V 2nd Tuesday, 10 a.m.

Kaldi's at Schnucks Woods Mill

May & June: Contact Joanne Nelson

### Bridge VI 3rd Monday, 10 a.m.

Hearth Room

May 18: Jeanne Neuner

June 15: Mary Pinney

### Duplicate Bridge I 1st Tuesday, 9:50 a.m.

May 5: Alice Crippen - TBA

June 2: Jean Light

### Duplicate Bridge II 4th Tuesday, 10 a.m.

Walnut Grill

May 26: Diane Correll

June 23: Alice Crippen

### Duplicate Bridge III 4th Tuesday, 10:15 a.m.

Hearth Room

May 26: Joanne Nelson

June 23: Kathy Childers

## Out to Lunch

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

May 20: If you've attended lunches this year, you will be notified by email -- if stay-at-home order is lifted.

June 17: Aya Sofia, 6671 Chippewa, 63109

Contact Linda Seibert ([lindajseibert63@gmail.com](mailto:lindajseibert63@gmail.com))

For more information, contact Linda Seibert ([lindajseibert63@gmail.com](mailto:lindajseibert63@gmail.com)) or Liz Maher ([lizlbm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lizlbm@sbcglobal.net)).

## Membership Renewal Through June 30

### Activities Calendar



#### May

07 Board Meeting 9:30 a.m.

12 Reading Reality 1 p.m.

20 Out to Lunch 11:30 a.m.

21 Literature I 9:30 a.m.

28 AAUW ¡Adelante! 1:30 p.m.

#### June

09 Reading Reality tbd

12 **Deadline for July/August newsletter submissions**

17 Out to Lunch 11:30 a.m.

18 Literature I 9:30 a.m.

22 Literature II 10 a.m.

30 Current membership expires

**Please be aware that all events are subject to change to be in accordance with current restrictions. Check with the sponsor to determine if the event will be held. At the time of this publication, we are all in flux until health concerns are removed.**

