



# Branching Out

## AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield (MO) Branch

National and State Award-Winning Branch

### January 2021

[Ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net](http://Ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net)

Vol. 41 No. 6 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year



Jan Horner

### Presidents' Corner



Sage Taber

Sage and I hope your holiday season brings enjoyment, and we all look forward to 2021. As we close out the old year, we look back on a successful fall, despite unusual conditions. A huge thank you to Jean Elliott and Eileen Krahman for organizing our very first Oktoberfest and then chairing the Eleanor Roosevelt Walk with the assistance of Carol Derington. Karen Francis and Angela Janik kept us current on public policy issues right up until the election, while Marian Bauer and Eileen Krahman informed the branch of the importance of support to AAUW Funds and led the Individual Giving Campaign. The winter fundraising event, which supports the branch operating fund, was creatively planned by Marcia Block and Linda Kridel. Members of the board and their committees have really stepped forward to make the final months of 2020 entertaining and successful.

During the next few months, as we shelter in place, there are many ways that you can enjoy time with other AAUW members and be involved in interesting activities. Did you ever want to be a part of one of our book discussion groups? Now is your chance to be a book club attendee. The branch website (see header) lists the book clubs' selections. To participate, get in touch with the group leader for the ZOOM information. The discussion may be very enlightening, and some of the women present could become your new friends. Is there a committee that you think you might be interested in, but never felt that you had the time to commit to joining? Maybe now you have time, so contact the chair to find out what the committee is doing and ways that you can get involved.

Ballwin-Chesterfield has outstanding committees and activities, but the support and assistance of branch members is essential. Make 2021 the year you try something new and make that something be with AAUW. Until we meet again on ZOOM, stay safe.

~Jan Horner, Co-president

**January Branch Meeting**  
**Via Zoom, January 14, 2021**  
**9:30 a.m. – Business Meeting**  
**10:30 a.m. – Program**

### The Dreadful Dred Scott Decision and Coverture

#### Sandy Davidson



Sandy Davidson will discuss Supreme Court decisions on Native Americans, African Americans (Dred Scott) and women (Virginia Minor on the right to vote and Myra Bradwell

on the right to practice law). The background issue for women was "coverture", a doctrine denying married women basic rights, such as owning property or entering into contracts.

Dr. Davidson taught Media Law at the University of Missouri School of Journalism for 30 years. She also taught Media Law at the University of Missouri School of Law. She was a Curators' Distinguished Teaching Professor at the Missouri School of Journalism, until her retirement in August 2019 and is now a Professor Emerita.

Davidson earned her Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Connecticut-Storrs and her J.D. from the University of Missouri, graduating Order of the Coif. Her international work included a semester in London in the School of Journalism and work at the *Beijing Review* in Beijing, China.

#### Meeting During COVID-19

All AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield committees and interest groups are highly encouraged to meet by ZOOM or other electronic method until further notice. **Check with the sponsor of the activity if you have questions.**

The next board meeting will be February 4 at 9:30 a.m. All elected and appointed directors are expected to attend.

## Nominations Requested for 2021–22 Elected Officers

The nominating committee is accepting your nominations for the 2021–22 elected officers. These positions are: Co-President, Co-VP Program, Co-VP Membership, Finance Officer, the lead position of 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 by email from Barb McQuitty or by postal mail at her address in the directory.

The nominating committee is Linda Roberson, Judy Stagoski and Barb McQuitty. The committee will review the nominees and prepare the slate of officers. Please send your nomination form in by January 25, 2021.

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

~ Barbara McQuitty, Chair, Nominating Committee

## International Relations Lecture Series

AAUW B-C joins with TWA (Tuesday Women's Association of the Ethical Society) on the second Tuesday of each month, from January through April, to present four free lectures to the community on aspects of international relations.

All 2021 events will be on Zoom. Meetings will begin promptly at 10:45 a.m. To join the meeting, use the one-click link in the Friday Reminder and insert the meeting ID 384 422 5785.

### January 12 *Freedom of the Press*

Dr. Yong Volz, University of Missouri School of Journalism, Faculty Group Chair, Journalism Studies

Dr. Volz's research centers on journalists and their place in society and history. Working primarily in the tradition of historical and comparative sociology, her research explores the formation of journalists as a distinctive occupational group, especially concerning gender and social stratification, accumulation of symbolic capital, career path and professional mobility social movements and the construction of collective identity. She has examined empirical cases spanning three centuries from both the United States and China. Her published work addresses the elite formation of U.S. foreign correspondents, gender disparities among Pulitzer Prize winners, American women journalists in the post-feminist era, pioneers in U.S. journalism education and their transcultural practices, Western missionary journalists in late nineteenth-century China, and the first generation of Chinese women journalists in the early twentieth century, among other topics.

### Save the Date

#### February 9 *Pros & Cons of Reparations for Historical Injustices*

Dr. Stephen Graves, UMSL Department of Political Science

#### MO Women's Network Annual Legislative Retreat

Saturday, January 16  
9:30–12:30  
Via Zoom

Participating organizations will share their legislative priorities and the legislation they'll be following.

For information, contact Karen Francis  
(karenbitzafrancis@yahoo.com).

#### Save the Date IBC Spring Fling 2021

Saturday, March 13  
10:30–noon  
Via Zoom

- ✓ This annual event is the sole fundraiser for IBC and an opportunity for members of all branches to get together.
- ✓ The Barbara Lackritz Service Award will be presented to Mary Jermak at this event.
- ✓ Watch your email for details.

## Note from the Finance Officer

Ballwin-Chesterfield included a donation to the national AAUW Greatest Needs Fund in our Operating Fund budget of \$2,000 for the fall. Please read the note from Kim Churches. **Pat Shores, Finance Officer**

Dear AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield (MO) Branch leaders and members,

With Thanksgiving just last week, I hope this note finds you and all your branch members safe and well.

All of us at AAUW National continue to work safely from home during the pandemic, but I did just learn from our team that the AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield (MO) Branch recently made a generous gift to our Greatest Needs Fund. Please share my personal thanks with all those whose passion for AAUW's mission made this gift possible.

Your Greatest Needs gift provides flexible support, which is especially important now as we've faced challenges on every front. The pandemic has exacerbated and highlighted inequities that run deep, and your generosity is helping ensure we meet the moment. Just recently, I wrote an op-ed for *Newsweek* about how COVID19 is so tough on working moms, and what policies and actions we can take towards economic recovery. But it's a long road ahead. I'm proud to report that your national staff is as hard at work and as motivated as we've ever been to secure equity for all women and girls.

Thank you, thank you, thank you—and I hope to “see” many of you on a Zoom AAUW webinar soon!

With gratitude,  
Kim Churches

## Communications/WEB Tax Information for 2020

It's the time of year when we need to organize for 2020 taxes. Here's information you'll find useful regarding AAUW:

- \$56 of your annual dues are tax-deductible.
- Contributions to the AAUW Fund or other national AAUW sponsored funds **are** tax-deductible. To review your 2020 contributions, go to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org), click on Membership (top), then on Member Services Database.
- Fees for Dollars events, branch special events (i.e., Winter Party, Spring Luncheon), and admissions to concerts or events are **not** tax deductible.
- Materials you have purchased for branch use that were not reimbursed **may** be tax deductible. Check with your tax advisor.

~Joyce Katz, Web Manager and Pat Shores, Finance Officer

## The Intersection of COVID 19 on Human Trafficking

January 11, 2021 is National Human Trafficking Awareness Day. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected human trafficking in the U.S and globally. We know communities are more vulnerable to violence, abuse, and exploitation during this worldwide humanitarian crisis. In times of disasters, such as COVID-19, social distancing and disruptions to local services, such as housing and food, means that many more people are vulnerable to trafficking and exploitation.

In normal times, traffickers are actively recruiting vulnerable children and teens to exploit. Pandemic school closings and virtual learning became the perfect setting for kids to be targeted by traffickers. School closures have blocked access to education and have removed a source of shelter and food for millions of children. The United Nations Office of Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) reported that because of the pandemic, more children are being forced onto the streets in search of food and money, increasing their risk for exploitation.

As layoffs continue in this economic devastation, many people become vulnerable to labor trafficking. Unable to provide for their families, they may decide to do anything—take jobs that may be exploitative, off-the-books, less than minimum wage, with no legal or health protections—to help their families through the crisis. Unfortunately, the reality is that traffickers will find ways to keep vulnerable people trapped, even past the COVID-19 pandemic.

Human trafficking victims and survivors should not be “punished” due to a lack of access to help during the COVID-19 crisis. For additional information, contact Shima Rostami, Executive Director, Gateway Human Trafficking ([srostami@gatewayhumantrafficking.org](mailto:srostami@gatewayhumantrafficking.org)), or the National Human Trafficking Hotline 1-888-373-7888.

**Resource: Shima Rostami**

~Barbara Butchart

## Reframing & Refocusing For Impact

In the midst of a global health pandemic, the worst economic downturn in almost a century and the beginning of our nation's reckoning with hundreds of years of structural racism in every fabric of our society, AAUW works side by side with our 170,000 members and advocates, partners in industry and partners in education to affect meaningful and lasting change.

### AAUW's Commitment to Inclusion & Equity Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Toolkit Launched in Fall 2020

AAUW puts forth a bold future vision with the AAUW Strategic Plan 2.0. The AAUW Strategic Plan (2018) provided the foundation and vision to advance gender equity for women and girls. Since then, we've achieved many milestones toward our goals and honed in on key areas where AAUW can continue to lead with an improved set of strategic objectives. These align with the enormous social, political and organizational changes seen in the past two years. The 2.0 plan includes actionable goals and tactics aimed towards achieving equity.

The Inclusion & Equity Committee—made up of member leaders dedicated to AAUW's mission, vision and values—launched the [Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Toolkit](#) this fall. DEI resources identify best practices for promoting diversity, equity and inclusion within AAUW with guidelines for how branches, national members, student members and individual members can demonstrate an understanding of the mission, values, goals and strategic plan. AAUW encourages ongoing dialogue that will inspire all members to bring these values to their personal and professional interactions. The goal is to turn conversations into actionable goals and strategies for each branch. AAUW hopes to bring inclusion to the workplace, including transparent advancement and opportunities for development. The DEI resources are designed to show others how to bring together differences for positive change through inclusive practices.

Wherever you (or your branch) are in the journey to build cultural competence, AAUW encourages you to carefully read through this toolkit, access the resources and have group discussions to explore the content thoughtfully and respectfully. AAUW MO's active Inclusion and Equity Committee (see fall *Missouri in Motion*, p.3) welcomes your participation.

Excerpted from [aauw.org](http://aauw.org).

**Nancy Hutchins, AAUW of Missouri Inclusion and Equity Committee Chair**

### Public Policy

As discussed in the previous article, AAUW seeks to promote inclusion and awareness of all members to create an equitable, sustainable and inclusive membership reflective of today's world. The AAUW Diversity, Equity and Inclusion resource, [Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Toolkit](#), aims to identify best practices for promoting diversity, equity and inclusion within AAUW. The tool kit is divided into five sections:

1. Our Commitment
2. Getting Started with Difficult Conversations
3. Key Terms and Concepts
4. Dimensions of Diversity and Identity
5. What's Next

Each section provides resources from a reading list, websites and videos to offer suggestions for students and the workplace. The Public Policy Committee looks forward to working with all of you in the new year to seek ways we can build capacity and cultural competence.

As we move into 2021, the Public Policy Committee will work to keep members informed and engaged in local, state and national issues pertinent to AAUW's mission.

**~Karen Francis & Angela Janik, Co-directors, Public Policy**

## Winter Party Wrap-up



Nancy Pierson  
First Prize Raffle  
Winner

On December 10, we found a way to celebrate together, even if it was by Zoom. If you were unable to join us, be sure to wander over to the branch website to see video of our speaker, Dennis Stroughmatt, fiddle, sing old folk tunes from the colonial French days of the area, and tell tales of the French-dialect-speaking people he got to know in the small communities near Old Mines, MO. Unfortunately, you will miss the fascinating information in the question-and-answer session. Ask someone to tell you about it. You can also see the video of members' holiday photos assembled by Jean Elliott's son-in-law, Rich Witzofsky, assembled. Don't miss it. Many thanks to him.

- Thanks to the Missouri Humanities Council for bringing us this speaker.
- Thanks to Sage Taber for handling the technical aspects.
- The following people comprised the raffle committee: Marian Bauer, Suzanne Couch, Karen Francis, Barb McQuitty and Pat Shores. Many thanks.
- Thanks to those of you who contributed to Belles of the Branch and the raffle. Forty people contributed a total of \$2600 to Belles, and the raffle raised \$2550. Especially in this strange year, we are grateful to our members for their participation.

### Best of St. Louis Raffle Winners

First Prize: Nancy Pierson (Value \$500 included two gift certificates, three memberships, lunch for six)  
Bonus Drawing: Linda Bader (Value \$40 included gift certificates to Dierbergs and Schnucks)

Thanks to the Belles, whose names are listed below. It's not too late to send a check to Pat Shores and be added to the list for next month.

**Belles of the Branch:** Lorna Anderson, Sue Barley, Marcia Block, Sandy Brody, Kathy Brown, Bette Bude, Gloria Campion, Terri Ciccolella, Carol Derington, Jean Elliott, Susan Fenwick, Elaine Frost, Betty Hartman, Joan Hewitt, Jan Horner, Angela Janik, Sandy Kalin, Jayne Kasten, Barb Kellams, Eileen Krahman, Michele Mangnall, Mary McFarland, Yvonne Morrison, Doris Nistler, Judy Piet, Ann Riley, Linda Roberson, Linda Seibert, Janet Sloey, Arlene Spector, Julie Triplett, Mary Kay Wolfe, and two members who remain anonymous.

~**Marcia Block and Linda Kridel, Co-directors, Branch Fundraising Committee**

## University Liaison

The four scholarship recipients, who are supported by AAUW B-C at UMSL and Maryville, are still working on their undergraduate degrees this semester. Thank you to all who have made donations to the Dollars for Scholars account over the last few months. Dollars for Scholars events, including the used book sale, would normally be providing the funds for scholarship recipients. Please continue to collect used books, jigsaw puzzles and DVDs until we can hold a book sale. If you must get rid of your items, consider taking them to a re-sale shop yourself and donating the proceeds by sending a check to Pat Shores. Indicate DFS in the memo line. Thank you.

~ **Carol Greenaway and Susan Shriver, UL Co-Directors**



### 2020 Vision: Marking a Momentous Year

AAUW Empowering

[www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/2020-convening/](http://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/2020-convening/)

The 2020 Convening Series provides learning opportunities with access to free online sessions for members across the United States to have a direct connection with AAUW National. Online webinars presented by national staff, along with guest speakers, offer up-to-date information on AAUW issues and priorities. The recorded webinars are available online and could be used as a branch program. You are encouraged to look at the possibilities by visiting 2020 Convening Series.



## Dollars for Scholars events raise funds for tuition support for local non-traditional women students.

DFS member-planned events give members opportunities to meet in small groups for enriching and educational experiences and introduce AAUW to non-members. *DFS events are listed in the weekly Friday Note.* Contact Susie Teicher (svteicher@gmail.com) and Janet Sloey (jlegs115@gmail.com) Co-directors, Dollars for Scholars for more information.

[AAUW Dollars for Scholars Fundraisers | Ballwin-Chesterfield \(MO\) Branch](#)

**Branch Interest Groups** are primarily social and bring members with similar interests together. Try one! Contact an Interest Group Chair. Consult the front of your Directory for information for all groups and check the Interest Groups section on the branch website:

[ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/interest-groups/](http://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/interest-groups/)

Golf  
Genealogy  
Book Groups  
Out to Lunch  
Social and Duplicate Bridge Groups

Play Readers  
Munching Matters  
Movie Group  
Expressions



**Movie Group**  
4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 10 a.m.  
January 28: Via Zoom  
Contact Liz Maher  
(lizlbm@sbcglobal.net).

**Out to Lunch**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.  
January 20: TBA  
Contact Linda Seibert,  
(lindajbseibert63@gmail.com)

### Book Groups ~ Welcome All Readers

Download the 2020–21 book lists at [ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/interest-groups/](http://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/interest-groups/).

**Literature I 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 9:30 a.m.**  
January 21: Via Zoom  
**Book:** *Olive, Again* by Elizabeth Strout  
**Facilitator:** Mary Kay Wolfe  
Contact Alice Crippen (jccripp@sbcglobal.net).

**Literature II 4<sup>th</sup> Monday, 10 a.m.**  
January 25: Via Zoom  
**Book:** *No Man's Land* by Wendy Moore  
**Facilitator:** Doris Nistler  
Contact Joyce Katz (joycekatz44@gmail.com) or Erlaine Eltomi (erlaine.eltomi@att.net).

**Reading Reality 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 1:00 p.m.**  
January 12: Via Zoom  
**Book:** *The Five: The Untold Lives of the Women Killed by Jack the Ripper* by Hallie Rubenhold  
**Facilitator:** Marcia Block  
*This group reads non-fiction selections. For more information, contact Marcia Block (mhblock@sbcglobal.net) or Mary Kay Wolfe (mkwolfe@hotmail.com).*

**AAUW ¡Adelante!**  
This group is on hold until 2021. More information will follow at a later date.

### Activities Calendar January



#### 12 Deadline for February newsletter submissions

Reading Reality 1 p.m.

International Relations Lecture 10:45 a.m.

14 Branch Meeting 9:30 a.m.

16 MO Women's Retreat 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

20 Out to Lunch 11:30 a.m.

21 Literature I 9:30 a.m.

25 Literature II 10 a.m.

Deadline for Officer Nominations

28 Movie Group 10 a.m.

#### Coming in February

04 Board Meeting 9:30 a.m.

09 International Relations Lecture 10:45 a.m.

11 Branch Meeting 9:30 a.m.

#### 12 Deadline for March newsletter submissions

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

## AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Board

### Elected Officers

Co-Presidents: Jan Horner & Sage Taber  
VP Program: Carol Anthony & Yvonne Ward  
VP Membership: Judy Stagoski & Pat White  
Finance Officer: Pat Shores  
Secretary/Archivist: Leslie Weir  
Ex-Officio Immediate Past President: Jean Elliott

### Elected Directors

AAUW Fund: Marian Bauer & Eileen Krahman  
Public Policy: Karen Francis & Angela Janik

### Appointed Directors

Branch Fundraising: Marcia Block & Linda Kridel  
Directory: Ann Patrice O'Shaughnessy & Joan Hewitt  
Dollars for Scholars: Susie Teicher & Janet Sloey  
Governance: Marsha Weppelman  
Hospitality: TBA  
Newsletter Editors: Sandy Brody, Joan Davis,  
Mary Jermak & Jean Light  
University Liaison: Carol Greenaway & Susan Shriver

### Special Events

Fall Brunch: Eileen Krahman & Jean Elliott  
Spring Luncheon: Jane Hemer & Michele Mangnall

STEM: Barb McQuitty & Susan Fenwick

Web Manager: Joyce Katz

Standing committee chairs are listed in the *Directory*.

## New Members Welcome

o join the AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield89-0Branch, contact Membership Vice-Presidents Judy Stagoski (jms4331@gmail.com) and Pat White (pgwhite02@gmail.com) for membership information.

Annual dues are \$22 for the branch, \$10 for AAUW MO, and \$59 to AAUW national; \$56 of national dues are tax-deductible.

AAUW has been transforming women's lives for more than a century.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/why-join/>

The *Branching Out* newsletter is published ten times annually. The deadline for submissions to the February newsletter is January 12, unless otherwise specified by the department co-editor.

Send news items to Sandy Brody (sandybrody163@gmail.com), Send DFS notices to Joan Davis (jmdavis@pstcc.edu) and, Send Interest Group information to Jean Light (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.

To submit an item to Care Notes, contact Joan Reed (j6a8r1@aol.com) or Joyce Katz (joycekatz44@gmail.com).

