

AAUW Advances Gender Equity for Women and Girls Through Research, Education, and Advocacy.

Vol. 41 No. 8 40th Anniversary Year

Branching Out

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield (MO) Branch National and State Award-Winning Branch

March 2021

Ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net



Presidents' Corner

Jan Horner



Sage Taber

Do you remember our branch meeting in March 2020? There was an exceedingly small group in attendance. The room was filled with apprehension and concern for the future. You could hear a pin drop. We did not realize how long it would be until we could gather in person at Trinity, but one year later, we are still waiting. Thanks to the technology of Zoom and our magnificent communication teams we have been able to accomplish most of our goals.

Our Directory committee, under the leadership of Ann Patrice O'Shaughnessy and Joan Hewitt, prepared an excellent online directory to give essential data on each member, a yearly calendar, plus much more. With input from board officers, our newsletter editors, Sandy Brody, Joan Davis, Jean Light, and Mary Jermak, provide us with monthly committee reports and events to fill our personal Zoom calendars. The Friday Reminder team, Mary Kay Wolfe and Bette Bude, email the important weekly information regarding the branch, state, and national news. Let us not forget, if you want up to the minute local branch information, check our website or Facebook page. Joyce Katz posts everything we need to know. Check out www.ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net or Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch of AAUW on Facebook.

Be sure to visit the national website, www.aauw.org. You can explore the issues such as gender bias in schools and pay equity or become involved as a two-minute activist. Upcoming webinars on various topics of interest, as well as talking points regarding the proposed new membership requirement, are also available on this site. We miss you. But we are grateful to be able to use technology and communication tools to stay informed. We hope to see you via Zoom, or maybe in person, real soon.

~Jan Horner, Co-president

The next board meeting will be March 4 at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom. All elected and appointed directors are expected to attend. Please contact Sage Taber (sagemo@aol.com) if you are unable to attend.

March Branch Meeting Via Zoom, March 11, 2021 9:30 a.m. – Business Meeting 10:30 a.m. – Program

COVID – 19 and its Impact on **Cancer Health Disparities**



Lannis Hall M.D. is the Director of Radiation Oncology, Siteman Cancer Center at Barnes-Jewish St. Peters Hospital and Associate Professor of Clinical Radiation Oncology at Washington University School of Medicine. Since 2006, she has been a member of the Siteman Cancer Center Program to Eliminate Cancer

Disparities Leadership Committee and the leader of the Clinical Trial Outreach Core. Dr. Hall has been a member of the Disparities Elimination Advisory Committee for Washington University since 2008 and a member of the Siteman Cancer Senior Leadership Clinical Research Subcommittee since 2010. She is the chair of the Cancer Oncology Conference at Barnes-Jewish St Peters.

Dr. Hall developed the clinical trials video and brochure used throughout the Siteman Cancer Center and featured on the Clinical Trials Web Page. She helped develop the Health Connections Radio Partnership with Gospel 1600 and 100.3 the Beat, delivering cancer awareness, screening/early detection, and clinical trials information for the St. Louis Community.

With the help of other dedicated community members, Dr. Hall is working to dispel common cancer myths and educate communities on cancer risk and prevention and ultimately change and save lives.

Meeting During COVID-19

It is highly encouraged that all AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield committees and interest groups meet by Zoom or other electronic methods when conducting business. Those choosing to conduct in person gatherings do so at their own risk and should review and adhere to local and state government advisories.

Renewing Your Membership: How and Why The 2021–22 dues will increase by \$3

The AAUW Board of Directors voted in October to increase the individual member dues over the next three years. Dues for 2022 will be \$62 for national (previous \$59 plus \$3 increase), \$10 for state, and \$22 for Ballwin-Chesterfield for a **grand total of \$94** which is \$3 more than last year's total. Fifty-nine dollars of the national dues will be tax deductible. For more information see the October 30, 2020 *Notice of Dues Adjustment* document from AAUW Board Chair Julia Brown.

The AAUW year begins anew on July 1, 2021, thus your current membership expires on June 30. The preferred method to renew is online. B-C members will each receive a personalized renewal email on March 16 from <u>memberinfo@aauw.org</u>. 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 \$94 check to Pat Shores. Write your check to AAUW.

The finance officer and the membership vice presidents are offering an early dues payment incentive. Members who renew from March 16–April 30 will get three chances to win a \$30 Panera gift card. Members who renew from May 1–31 will get two chances to win the gift card. Members who renew from June 1–30 will have one chance to win.

~Pat Shores, Finance Officer & Judy Stagoski & Pat White, VP Membership

Membership

As you read above, you know that it is time to plan to renew one's AAUW membership for 2021–22. We've been advised by National AAUW that our national dues will increase \$3 and will continue to increase incrementally for the next two years. So, why join or rejoin? AAUW: Empowering Women Since 1881.

The National AAUW website's membership section presents the following in answer to that question:

"AAUW has been transforming women's lives for more than a century. And now that we've won the fight to give women equal access to education, we're taking on one of the most defining issues of our time: gender equity. But we can't do it alone."

"Your AAUW membership will help close the gender pay gap by 2030, ensure schools and workplaces are free of discrimination and harassment, and create more opportunities for women to lead. It will also connect you to a powerful network of more than 170,000 women and men across the country who are as passionate as you are about building a fairer future – with a few other perks to boot."

Has your attention been piqued? In the next few newsletters, the membership column will continue to expand on the reasons and benefits of joining or renewing one's membership. We look forward to you returning for the April addition.

~Judy Stagoski and Pat White, Co-VP Membership



A Thursday in the Park Picnic May 13 at the Paul Schroeder Park Shelter 11:30 a.m. Lunch – Reservations Required



AAUW B-C has replaced the Spring Luncheon this year with a spring picnic lunch at Paul Schroeder Park, 359 Old Meramec Station Road, Manchester. The reserved shelter is handicapped accessible.

Box lunches will be catered by Gioia's Deli at no cost to members. For reservations, email Michele Mangnall at bmmags@yahoo.com with your name and menu selection. Reservation deadline is May 5. Menu selections are:

A.) Hot Salami sandwich garnished with pepperoncinis, onions and spicy mustard (Gioia's award-winning sandwich)

B.) Turkey and Beef Club sandwich served on white bun and garnished with lettuce, tomato and pickles (mayo/mustard packets included)

C.) Veggie sandwich on wheat bun full of Gioia's veggies with spicy mustard and oil and vinegar

D.) Giola's Salad includes Romaine lettuce, black olives, shredded provel and parmesan cheeses, and pepperoncinis with oil and vinegar dressing on the side

Chips and a cookie are included with each. Water and iced tea will be available.

This is AAUW B-C's opportunity to not only celebrate spring but to join other members, in person, once again. Of course, masks and social distancing are mandatory. We hope to see you at the *Thursday in the Park Picnic*.

~Jane Hemer and Michele Mangnall, Spring Luncheon Co-Chairs

Directory Deadline for submissions: March 20

Planning has begun for the March Directory Supplement, which will contain contact information for new members since the publication of the December Supplement, and needed updates for existing members.

If you do not have a photo in the Directory, please email one to Ann Patrice O'Shaughnessy. Please send all updates to Ann Patrice (annpatriceo@gmail.com) and to Joan Hewitt (joanhewitt@sbcglobal.net)

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

International Relations Lecture Series

IBC and AAUW B-C join with TWA (Tuesday Women's Association of the Ethical Society) on the second Tuesday of each month, 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 <u>https://zoom.us/j/3844225785</u>. No Zoom knowledge is required to use this link: 1-click and you're in the event!

March 9: Dr. Anshuman Singh, UMSL Associate Professor of Information Systems and Technology *Artificial Intelligence: An Ethics Perspective*

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has given birth to technologies like autonomous weapon systems, face recognition surveillance cameras, and recommender systems for online shopping and entertainment. The same technologies have also been applied for developing lethal autonomous weapon systems, cameras for racial and ethnic profiling, and attention manipulation recommenders. This talk will explore promises and challenges of some of the most impactful AI technologies as we enter a new decade and will also provide an overview of the security and privacy implications of AI in cyberspace.

Save the Date, April 13: Dr. Akiko Tsuchiya, Professor of Spanish and of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Topic: *Historical Heritage and Art*

Nominating Committee Officer Slate for 2021–22

The year 2020 has been an unusual one. The pandemic has precluded normal activity and work in the AAUW B-C branch. While much of the work is continues to be done, it is not at the personal level to which we are accustomed, as in-person activities have been suspended in almost every area.

Because of the above, the nominating committee, in conference with the current co-presidents, has recommended the following slate to keep activities as normal as possible. Governance Director Marsha Weppelman has been consulted and concured that there is a valid reason to present this particular slate. Per branch by-laws: Article X, Section d. Terms. Elected officers and elected and appointed directors shall serve a term of two (2) years or until their successors have been elected or appointed and assumed office. The term of each officer or director shall begin on July 1.

Therefore, the following slate is submitted by the AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Nominating Committee for the year 2021–22.

~ Nominating Committee Chair Barbara McQuitty, Linda Roberson & Judy Stagoski

Co-President: Jan Horner * Finance Officer: Pat Shores * VP Membership: Linda Roberson* VP Membership: Judy Stagoski* VP Program: Marcia Block* AAUW Fund Director: Marian Bauer * Public Policy: one position to be filled * indicates person who would permally be replaced or one stepping in far semagene pet semi

* indicates person who would normally be replaced or one stepping in for someone not continuing

AAUW Fund: More Women Serving in Non-Traditional Roles

We must be doing something right, as more and more women are embracing roles and jobs in areas not previously open to them. Examples of this were abundantly clear at the recent Super Bowl. For the introduction, a woman pilot led the Stealth Bomber flyover. Then a 22 year-old woman of color, National Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman, was spotlighted and read her original poem, *Chorus of the Captains,* about three honorary captains. She wants "... to bring poetry to places that we least expect it, so we can fully grapple with the ways in which we can heal." Gorman finds poetry a political art and an instrument of social change. She is an amazing young woman.

Sarah Thomas and Maral Javadifar were the first women to be assistant coaches at a NFL game. Thomas was given high praise by her team, the Buccaneers, for her elite performance and commitment to excellence. Women have always had to work harder and better to break into the male employment world. Obviously, these women have done their homework, and are not just survivors in the world of sports, but are being given full credit for their success.

In yet another example, First Lady Jill Biden, wife of President Joe Biden, has no intention of occupying the White House as just the First Lady, which she will do most adequately. She is also going to continue her career of teaching children in school, representing the epitome of woman's ability to multi-task.

~ Barb McQuitty, AAUW Fund Committee

Public Policy

March is National Women's History Month. Did you know it began as a local celebration in Santa Rosa, California in 1978 to correspond with International Women's Day on March 8? The movement continued to spread each year and in 1980, a consortium of women's groups and historians, led by the National Women's History Project, successfully lobbied for national recognition. President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the week of March 8, 1980 as National Women's History Week. In 1987, Congress passed Public Law 100-9, designating March as Women's History Month. Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the president to proclaim each March as Women's History Month. Since 1995, each president has issued a proclamation designating the month of March as Women's History Month.

The National Women's History Alliance selects and publishes the yearly theme. The theme selected for 2020, *Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to be Silenced*, will extend into March 2021. Take time this month to explore the National Women's History Museum website, <u>womenshistory.org</u>, and the online exhibits, articles and resources chronicling American women who have made history.

Keep up to date on the Missouri Legislature through the League of Women Voters Legislative Advocacy Committee bulletin at <u>https://lwvmissouri.org/legislative-bulletin</u>. Key Missouri issues include voter photo ID mandate, tax credit vouchers and charter school expansion, local control of public health measures, Medicaid expansion and Missouri budget and tax issues. Get involved in national legislative issues by becoming an AAUW Two-Minute Activist. Visit <u>aauw.org</u> to sign up!

~Karen Frances and Angie Janik, Co-Directors, Public Policy

Keeping Safe Digitally

To remember: 1. If it's digital it can be hacked. 2. Anything based on trust can be invaded.

Data thieves most often go after those you deal with and hope to find banks or contacts with money or information they can steal. To that end, they invade your online contacts and your email inbox. They look for likely targets who might control money, or who have access to special information. They gain access to your data in several ways.

Possibility 1. Any Public Wi-Fi is a boulevard for hackers.

Using hotel-supplied Wi Fi? If left on, your tablet and phone intercept Wi-Fi that is broadcast into your room. These semipublic Wi-Fi systems can host data mining contaminants. Friday evenings seem to be the worst time. Turn your devices OFF when not in use and use them sparingly.

Possibility 2. Have you been "offered" information, coupons, special access and other goodies, but don't recognize the sender? Right! Guaranteed it's not someone you want to know. Just delete it, or if you opened it, don't click on any links or respond to special offers. Lately some senders imitate familiar stores or businesses. Take a quick look at their email address. It won't look genuine. No risk if you don't respond. After all, your day was fine without the offer! Safety first!

~Joyce Katz, Webmaster



AAUW St. Louis Metro Interbranch Council (IBC) "Zoom to Spring Fling"

Saturday March 13, 10:30 a.m.-noon Attending the event is free and guests are welcome. Zoom meeting link will be sent

Join your AAUW friends from throughout the St. Louis area. The program is "Zooming to the Classroom" and we will honor Mary Jermak as the Barb Lackritz awardee from 2020.

"Zooming to the Classroom," by presenters Jeanine York Garesche and Daniel Shavers, shares how two different teachers were able to find ways to teach music virtually, using compassion and encouragement to inspire their students. Jeanine York Garesche, a clarinetist, is known throughout the Midwest as a private instructor, chamber music coach, and clinician. Her students have won top honors at Missouri district and state competitions and honor bands. She also serves on the faculties of UMSL and Webster University.

Daniel Shavers is currently a band director at Brittany Woods Middle School and has been teaching instrumental music in the University City School District since 2001. He regularly adjudicates at events including Missouri All-State Auditions and several area concerto competitions. In addition, Daniel has been the coordinator of the Florence Frager Young Artist Concerto Competition for the St. Louis Civic Orchestra for the past twelve years. He is an active freelance musician on both the bassoon and contrabassoon and performs regularly with a number of ensembles in the St. Louis area.

Although the event is free, we are encouraging members to give donations regardless of whether or not they enter the raffle (see below). The suggested amount is \$20 if possible, but any amount is appreciated. This is the only fundraiser for IBC this year... please be generous!

The fundraiser is a raffle for one of six \$50 Gift Cards, each \$50. Winning names will be drawn at the event. Tickets are available in lots of three. Use the form below; please send form with your check to Carol Davis McDonald by March 8. You need not attend the meeting to be a winner. Gift cards will be sent in the mail the following week.

Print this page and return the bottom half to Carol Davis McDonald to enter the raffle.

- ✓ For help with using Zoom or for more information, contact Deb McWard (debmcward@earthlink.net).
- ✓ Raffle for Gift Card Tree Purchase chances on form below. Contact Jean Elliott (elliotts01@sbcglobal.net).
- ✓ Make raffle or donation check payable to **AAUW Metro St. Louis IBC.**
- ✓ Mail form and check no later than March 8 to Carol Davis McDonald at her address in the directory.

Name	Branch	
Address		
Email (required)	Phone	
Gift Card Tree Raffle Chances or Donation		
I plan to attend " Zoom to Spring Fling " and am purchasing:		
3 chances for \$10 \$ 6 chances for \$20 \$ _	9 chances for \$30 \$	
12 chances for \$40 \$ 15 chances for \$50 \$_	TOTAL \$	
I plan to attend, will not enter the raffle, but will make a donation of \$		
I am unable to attend, but will make a donation or purchase chances \$\$		

All of your chances will automatically be entered into the Spring Fling drawing to win one of six gift card(s). All gift card prizes will be \$50 value. You do not need to attend to win.



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 Reminder and on the branch website. Contact Susie Teicher (svteicher@gmail.com) and Janet Sloey (jegs115@gmail.com) Co-directors, Dollars for Scholars for more information. ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/dollars-for-scholars-fundraisers/

Dear AAUW B-C members,

Your DFS co-directors encourage your continued support of Dollars for Scholars by attending the virtual events posted in the Friday Reminders and updated on the branch website (above). After doing so, it would be helpful to let Janet Sloey know which events you are most enjoying. As you did before Covid restrictions, you might invite friends who are not AAUW members to participate as well! You might also consider what you were accustomed to spending each month before Covid (including lunch?) and send a check for that amount to Finance Officer Pat Shores; put DFS on the subject line. If we all do this, our scholarship fund, and our scholars, will be very happy!

Cheers to all - think Spring! Janet Sloey and Susie Teicher, Co-directors, DFS

Movie Group Will Host a Special DFS Zoom Event!

Tuesday, February 23 6:30–8 p.m.

All AAUW B-C members are invited to join Movie Group for a unique Dollars for Scholars event.

Speaker Kelli Marshall from Chicago Movie Tours will show movie clips and discuss *Gender in Hollywood* in this lighthearted virtual ZOOM event. Kelli will focus on how women, especially, have been portrayed in film through the years. There will be time for questions and comments at the end of the presentation.

The event is free, but donations to Dollars for Scholars are welcome! Interested members should email Lizbeth Maher for the link to the event. Please consult your Directory for contact information.

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/

Golf Genealogy Book Groups Out to Lunch Social and Duplicate Bridge Groups Play Readers Munching Matters Movie Group Expressions



Movie Group

4th Thursday, 10 a.m. March 25: Via Zoom Contact Liz Maher (lizIbm@sbcglobal.net).

Out to Lunch

3rd Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. March 17: Fallon's Bar & Grill 15850 Manchester Rd. Ellisville, MO 63011 Contact LindaSeibert,(lindajbseibert63@gmail.com).

Book Groups ~ Welcome All Readers	Activities Calendar
Download the 2020–21 book lists at <u>ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/interest-groups/.</u>	23 February Movie Group DFS Event 6:30 p.m.
Literature I 3 rd Thursday, 9:30 a.m.	March
March 18: Via Zoom	04 Board Meeting 9:30 a.m.
Book: Red at the Bone by Jacqueline Woodson	09 International Relations
Facilitator: Mary Jermak	Lecture 10:45 a.m.
Contact Alice Crippen (jccripp@sbcglobal.net).	Reading Reality 1 p.m.
Literature II 4 th Monday, 10 a.m.	11 Branch Meeting 9:30 a.m.
March 22: Via Zoom	12 Deadline for March newsletter submissions
Book: Summer of '69 by Elin Hilderbrand	
Facilitator: Susie Teicher	13 Spring Fling 10:30 a.m noon
Contact Joyce Katz (joycekatz44@gmail.com) or	17 Out to Lunch 11:30 a.m.
Erlaine Eltomi (erlaine.eltomi@att.net).	18 Literature I 9:30 a.m.
Reading Reality 2 nd Tuesday, 1:00 p.m.	20 Deadline for Directory submissions
March 9: Via Zoom	22 Literature II 10 a.m.
Book: I Was Told to Come Alone: My Journey Behind the	25 Movie Group 10 a.m.
Lines of Jihad by Souad Mekhennet	· ·
Facilitator: Elaine Eltomi	Coming in April
This group reads non-fiction selections.	01 Board Meeting 9:30 a.m.
For more information, contact Marcia Block	11 Branch Meeting 9:30 a.m.
(mhblock@sbcglobal.net)	12 Deadline for May/June newsletter submissions
or <i>Mary Kay Wolfe</i> (mkwolfe@hotmail.com).	13 International Relations Lecture 10:45 a.m.
AAUW ¡Adelante!	Please be aware that all events are subject to change
This group is an hold. More information	i lease de aware mar an events are subject to change

This group is on hold. More information will follow at a later date in 2021.

AAUW Art Contest

Ballwin-Chesterfield is pleased to announce that artworks from **Susan Fenwick** and **Pickett Lema** are entered in the AAUW annual art contest. Susan's photographs are *Flying Jewels of the Natural World* and *Mad About Orchids*, and Pickett's water paintings are *White Camellia Blooms* and *Lessons Learned*. Look for (and vote for!) Susan's and Pickett's entries and enjoy the submissions of all the talented and creative artists.

From St Charles AAUW Artist **Joyce Rothermich**: "Just a note to let everyone know that I did submit two paintings to the AAUW Art contest this year. They are both flowers. One is called *Morning Rain with Lilies with Raindrops*. The other is called *Best of Show*. It is pink orchids. I would appreciate your vote. Thanks."

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Members may vote one time for their favorite 10 images. Six winning entries will appear on note cards that are mailed to tens of thousands of AAUW members across the country. More information is available at Art Contest – AAUW: Empowering Women Since 1881.

to be in accordance with current restrictions. Check

with the sponsor to confirm the event will be held.

AAUW Art Contest Voting is February 10 to March 3.

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

To join the AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch, 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 \$62 to AAUW national; \$59 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 April newsletter is March 12, unless otherwise specified by the department co-editor.

Please submit newsletter items as follows:

- news items to Sandy Brody (sandybrody163@gmail.com),
- DFS notices to Joan Davis (jmdavis@pstcc.edu),
- Interest Group information to Jean Light (jhl1234@charter.net).

Visit <u>Ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net</u>, the branch website.

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).

