



Branching Out

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield (MO) Branch

National and State Award-Winning Branch

April 2021

Ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net

Vol. 41 No. 9 40th Anniversary Year



Jan Horner

Presidents' Corner



Sage Taber

As you read this column, we are hopefully beginning to enjoy spring weather. We appreciate all of you who spent the winter together with us virtually and continued to support AAUW's mission of equity for women and girls through our branch, IBC, state and national actions and events.

Beginning on April 7, we will have the opportunity to vote in the AAUW national election for an important bylaw amendment and to select Public Policy Priorities for the next two years. I urge you to consider the reasons why the entire National Board is supporting the change in membership requirements:

- AAUW needs to include members with diverse backgrounds and perspectives to meet our mission of advancing gender equity and today's societal needs.
- Simply put, this is about inclusion. AAUW's vision is Equity for All. Membership practices should align with this vision.
- Times have changed. Younger feminists care about our mission but don't join because they see us as an exclusionary or elitist organization, one that hasn't evolved into modern thinking about equity and inclusion.
- Corporations and foundations prefer to work with and/or fund organizations that adhere to their diversity, inclusion, and equity policies and practices. We lose out on dollars that could help us move forward with our mission and vision which puts a bigger burden on members to contribute to AAUW.

For more information on this and the AAUW Public Policy Priorities, go to AAUW.org.

~Sage Taber Co-President

The next board meeting will be April 1 at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom. All elected and appointed directors are expected to attend. Please contact Jan Horner (janethorner@yahoo.com) if you are unable to attend.

April Branch Meeting
Via Zoom, April 8, 2021
9:30 a.m. – Business Meeting
10:30 a.m. – Program



Mary Jo Gorman, MD, MBA
Advancing the Cause:
Strategies for Different Stages of Life

Dr. Gorman brings a unique combination of medical training, entrepreneurial vision and operational excellence. She is currently the CEO of Healthy Bytes, a company that connects registered dietitians to providers and employers.

Dr. Gorman was a founder and Lead Managing Partner at Prosper Capital in St. Louis. This venture fund increased women entrepreneurs' access to early growth capital and mentorship resources and invested in 29 women-led companies. She founded and built the largest national telemedicine company in the Intensive Care Unit space, Advanced ICU Care. Dr. Gorman started one of the first hospitalist groups in the United States, grew this into the largest provider in St. Louis, and later sold the company to IPC-The Hospitalist Co.

Dr. Gorman serves on the board at Check-Cap (CHEK). Her non-profit board service includes membership on BioGenerator and she is a member and past board chair of Marian Middle School. She received the 2013 Distinguished Alumni Award from Washington University's Olin School of Business, the 2011 Ernst & Young Entrepreneurial Winning Women Class of 2011 and was named to the 2009 Top Influential Women in Healthcare by *Modern Healthcare Magazine*. She earned her master's degree from Washington University, her medical degree from Southern Illinois University, and a bachelor's degree in chemistry/biology from St. Louis University.

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

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 should have received a personalized renewal email on March 20 from 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 \$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 and Pat White, Co-VP's Membership

Why be a Member?

Are you aware that by becoming a member of AAUW, or renewing your existing membership, you're joining a community which is committed to AAUW's mission, and you are directly providing funds to carry out that mission?

Members' dues help support AAUW's work to:

- Train millions of women to negotiate for higher salaries and benefits.
- Support state and local fair-pay legislation to ban the use of salary history in hiring, a practice that puts women at a financial disadvantage
- Develop more women leaders through workshops and conferences.
- Fund the research that is informing national conversations on the gender pay gap, women's student-debt burden, and other key equity issues.

Renewing your membership lets you avail yourself of the host of opportunities offered by AAUW to get involved with a local community of activists. We are looking forward to your participation.

~Judy Stagoski and Pat White Co-VPs 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.) Gioia's Salad includes Romaine lettuce, black olives, shredded provol 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 AAUWB-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

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 <https://zoom.us/j/3844225785>. No Zoom knowledge is required to use this link: 1-click and you're in the event!

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

Dr. Tsuchiya is the author of a book on the nineteenth-century Spanish novelist Benito Pérez Galdós and has published extensively on nineteenth-and twentieth-century Iberian literatures and cultures. Her research and teaching interests include the realist novel, women's and gender studies, nineteenth-century women's transnational literary and cultural networks, race and colonialism, and slavery and antislavery in the Hispanic world. Most recently, she has become engaged in public debates generated around monuments related to colonialism and slavery in the Iberian world.

Nominating Committee Officer Slate for 2021–22

As the year 2020–21 has been most unusual because of the pandemic, the nominating committee, with the confirmation of bylaws officer Marsha Weppelman, has prepared a slate of nominees for the next year. The nominees will look familiar as they have agreed to stay on this next year, if elected. Training new people in a time when in-person activities have been suspended would be difficult in many cases.

In the branch bylaws, you may reference the following statement in 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.

The following slate is submitted by the nominating committee for the year 2021–22; this slate will be voted on by the members at the branch's annual meeting on April 8.

Co-President	Jan Horner *
Finance Officer	Pat Shores *
VP Membership	Linda Roberson *
VP Membership	Judy Stagoski *
VP Program	Marcia Block *
AAUW Fund	Marian Bauer *
Public Policy	Open

* indicates person who would normally be replaced or is stepping in for a year for someone not continuing

~Judy Stagoski, Linda Roberson, and Barbara McQuitty, 2021–22 Nominating Committee

AAUW Membership Requirement

Every spring, AAUW members vote to elect directors. Every other year, they vote to approve Public Policy Priorities. Occasionally, they vote to amend the bylaws. This year, we will be doing all three. You will be receiving a link to your ballot beginning April 7. The proposed amendment is to eliminate the AAUW membership requirement of a college degree. We are an organization that promotes equity, yet we do not treat non-degree individuals as equal.

Our mission is to advance gender equity. The vision is equity for all, but we do not treat non-degree individuals as equals. It is time to bring AAUW membership criteria in line with its mission to advance gender equity that does not have any educational requirement.

While the degree requirement may have made sense early in our history, by today's standards it is perceived as elitist, exclusionary, and out of touch. We must stay relevant. We need to send a clear message that we welcome all who share our values and goals regardless of whether or not they hold a college degree.

Voting is online April 7—May 17, 2021. The amendment needs 2/3 of votes cast to pass. Your vote is important for the future of AAUW.

Submitted by Susan Barley, AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield member since 1984, AAUW MO Fund, and AAUW Director 2015–19

AAUW Fund: New Research

AAUW advances gender equity through research, education and advocacy. Research helps us understand the important happenings in our world. AAUW's recent research does just that. *Factory Flaw: The Attrition and Retention of Women in Manufacturing* is a significant addition to the research about the pursuit of economic security for women.

This study looks at the loss of manufacturing jobs in the 2000's and how it has disproportionately hurt women. The study points out the causes of this loss of jobs. They are persistent problems that include sexual harassment, inequities in pay and promotion and dissatisfaction with family leave. More women leave their jobs in manufacturing than in other industries. The study then suggests remedies to overcome these problems. To read the entire study, visit www.aauw.org/resources/research/factory-flaw/

~Marian Bauer, Co-director, AAUW Fund

Two Spring STEM Events

This year's St. Louis Science Fair will once again be conducted as an e-fair, with online judging to be completed on Monday, April 26. AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield judges will be Sandra Murdock and Jean Elliott. Our branch will honor three girls from the Honors Division whose science projects are deemed outstanding. Each of these students will receive a \$125 MOST 529 college scholarship and an emailed congratulatory message from AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield.

In late April or early May, up to five junior girls from Valley Park High School and five from Maplewood Richmond Heights High School will receive a STEM Girls of Promise award. As we did last year, in lieu of being recognized at an in-person ceremony, each student will receive an attractive gift box that contains a medal, certificate, check, and personal letter of congratulations from AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield.

~ Susan Fenwick and Barb McQuitty, Co-directors, STEM

Public Policy

Did you know April is Sexual Assault Awareness month? If you want to learn more about sexual harassment and assault and the research AAUW has done on this and associated issues, check out AAUW's website. Specific areas include:

- Know Your Rights: Workplace Sexual Harassment
www.aauw.org/issues/equity/workplace-harassment/
- Know Your Rights: Sexual Harassment and Assault on Campus
www.aauw.org/resources/legal/laf/title-ix/
- Where does AAUW stand on Title IX
www.aauw.org/resources/policy/position-title-ix/

Look for information from AAUW MO on SB 16. This bill would create new provisions establishing leave from employment for victims of domestic or sexual assault.

Also, keep these numbers in your phone to use if you are in a position to help a survivor of sexual assault: 1-800-799-7233 (national hot line) or 1-314-531-2003 (Safe Connections in St. Louis)

Reminder: Municipal Elections are coming up on April 6. All politics are local.

~Karen Francis and Angela Janik, Co-directors, Public Policy

Social safety – no mask needed

Social media can be a gold mine for hackers. Kids' social media accounts are often easily invaded, and your home router becomes an avenue for the hackers. Hackers can access your financial and banking data, and your contacts and privacy. We love social media but realize that it is not secure. What to do?

You will have a router in your home. Be sure the router has a secure password. Use a mix of letters and numbers and store the password in a secure place. For younger children, monitor their internet use and teach caution. For older children, have a frank discussion of internet safety, what hackers can do (and have done) to inconvenience and threaten families, and what such an occurrence will mean to them. Remind them that what is posted remains forever.

Slow down, think before clicking, have good and frequently changed passwords, and current anti-virus software. Apple and Microsoft offer good free anti-virus software. Create different email accounts for different functions. Maybe use a different credit card or bank account only for online purchases!

Mercifully, hackers are most often after bigger targets than the home user. Back up your personal data frequently, perhaps monthly, and keep it separate from your computer. This is easy to do these days and there are different options to do so. Flash drives are cheap and can hold almost everything on your hard drive. Don't leave flash drive plugged in, though, eject and store safely.

Be safe, be aware, be a responsible user.

~Joyce Katz, Web Manager

Plan Wisely for Today's Needs and for Tomorrow

How do you take care of the people and things that matter most to you, now and for the future? As you consider what is important to you and how to reflect that in your legacy, we invite you to reach out to AAUW. Their knowledgeable gift planning staff is available to assist with any questions you may have.

Through careful planning, you can benefit your loved ones and your charitable interests while investing in equity for women and girls. Some reasons to create a plan include:

- Taking care of loved ones
- Memorializing someone you care about
- Advancing equity for women and girls through AAUW
- Increasing current income for you and/or others
- Passing more on to heirs with reduced taxes
- Reducing income tax
- Avoiding capital gains tax

Join the AAUW Legacy Circle with other visionary Ballwin-Chesterfield members: Susan Barley, Terri Ciccolella, Erlaine Eltomi, Karen Francis, Darlene Harris, Nancy Hutchins, Jayne Kasten, Pam Kulp, Yvonne Morrison, Pat Shores and Julie Triplett.

Contact Heather Miller at: 202-785-7766 or millerh@aauw.org, or talk with Susan Barley, AAUW National Legacy Circle Team.



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,

We know that many of you are enjoying the Dollars for Scholars virtual events that are posted in the Friday Reminder and on our branch website. Special thanks to all of you who responded with donations to our scholarship fund. It is growing, and spring is coming, and COVID is going. Soon we can begin planning in-person events, so you might begin thinking about what you would like to sponsor!

Until then, your DFS Co-directors encourage you to continue supporting Dollars for Scholars by attending the virtual events that are 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, feel free to invite friends who are not AAUW members to participate as well. Please continue to 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

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.
April 22: Via Zoom
Contact Liz Maher (lizlbm@sbcglobal.net).

Out to Lunch

3rd Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.
April 21: Big Sky Café
47 S. Old Orchard Ave. Webster Groves, MO 63119
Contact Linda Seibert, (lindajbseibert63@gmail.com).

Book Groups ~ Welcome All Readers

Download the 2020–21 book lists at ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/interest-groups/.

Literature I 3rd Thursday, 9:30 a.m.

April 15: Via Zoom

Book: *Night Watchman* by Mark Mynheir

Facilitator: Bette Bude

Contact Alice Crippen (jccripp@sbcglobal.net).

Literature II 4th Monday, 10 a.m.

April 26: Via Zoom

Book: *A Single Thread* by Tracy Chevalier

Facilitator: Susie Teicher

Contact Joyce Katz (joycekatz44@gmail.com) or Erlaine Eltomi (erlaine.eltomi@att.net).

Reading Reality 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m.

April 13: Via Zoom

Book: *The Yellow House* by Sarah M. Broom

Facilitator: Mary Jermak

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. More information will follow at a later date.

Activities Calendar



April

01 Board Meeting 9:30 a.m.

08 Branch Meeting 9:30 a.m.

12 Deadline for May/June newsletter submissions

13 International Relations Lecture 10:45 a.m.

Reading Reality 1 p.m.

15 Literature I 9:30 a.m.

21 Out to Lunch 11:30 a.m.

22 Movie Group 10 a.m.

26 Literature II 10 a.m.

Coming in May

06 Board Meeting 9:30 a.m.

13 Spring Picnic Lunch 11:30 a.m.

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

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 May-June newsletter is April 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 Ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net, 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).