

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

Vol. 42 No. 3 40th Anniversary Year

Branching Out

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

October 2021

ballwin-chesterfield.com



Presidents' Corner



Sage Taber

Greetings! I saw many of you at our September Homecoming event September 9. The committee did an outstanding job providing a beautiful space for us within CDC and Trinity guidelines, and the lunch was delicious! We also had our first practice singing our 40th Anniversary song.

The October 14 branch meeting will be a **hybrid** meeting, both in person and on Zoom. Please note that this year our meetings will start at **10 a.m.** The church is asking we come no earlier than 9:45 a.m. to avoid the preschool drop off time. We are planning for November's meeting to be hybrid as well. Keep reading the Friday Reminder, the newsletter, and website for current information.

Make plans to attend the Eleanor Roosevelt Walk at Des Peres City Park on Tuesday, October 19. This is a fun event that also raises funds for the research programs at AAUW National. Sign up at the October meeting or look for more information in this newsletter.

I am so happy to be working towards our mission with so many dedicated and capable women here in our branch. We can't do it without you!

~Co-president Sage Taber

The next board meeting will be October 7 at 10 a.m. You may arrive after 9:45 a.m.

All elected and appointed directors are expected to attend. Please contact Sage Taber (sagemo@aol.com) if you are unable to attend.

UPDATED EXECUTIVE BOARD COVID-19 STATEMENT

All AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield committees and interest groups are encouraged to follow CDC guidelines. Check with the sponsor of the activity if you have questions. October Branch Meeting October 14, 2021, 10 a.m. Do Not Arrive Before 9:45 a.m. Trinity Church, 14088 Clayton Road Town and Country, MO 63017



Kristen Sorth Director, St. Louis County Library System "Library as a Center of Community"

Kristen Sorth started her career as a human resource professional for the Missouri Department of Human Development. In 1998, she became the director of human resources for the St. Louis County Library and rose to the library director position in 2013. Today she manages over 600 employees and oversees an annual budget of more than \$50 million. Kristen Sorth is unfazed by the challenge of leading a library system located in the most populous county in the state. Instead, she sees it as a privilege in which she can make a difference in young lives.

Ms. Sorth has guided the library through an ambitious capital improvement plan which has resulted in four new libraries and 13 completely renovated buildings in the last five years. In addition, she introduced innovative programs such as We Stories, summer and after school lunch programs, Career Online High School, and Recycled Reads.

Kristen Sorth's commitment and drive led to her selection to FOCUS St. Louis' 38th Leadership St. Louis class, as well as the Coro Women in Leadership Program. A resident of the city of St. Louis, Ms. Sorth volunteers for several organizations including FOCUS St. Louis and the YWCA. She serves on the board of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri. Furthermore, she is an active member of ALA, PLA, MLA (Missouri Library Association), and ULC (Urban Libraries Council).

Please use the AAUW B-C Directory to find member phone numbers and postal mailing addresses.

From the Finance Officer

The 2021–22 proposed budget was approved by the board in September. Next, the members will vote to approve the plan at the October branch meeting. A copy of the proposed budget will be emailed or postal mailed to each member before the branch meeting for review. Contact Pat Shores (apatriciashores@att.net) with specific budget comments or questions before the October meeting. For your information, Ballwin-Chesterfield has three bank accounts:

The Operating Fund Account is the biggest and most active fund. The income comes mainly from two sources – the \$22 portion of the dues that the branch retains and from the winter fundraiser. The operating fund expenses include the following: rental costs for the board and branch meetings at Trinity; liability and director and officer insurance policies; an AAUW Greatest Needs Fund donation; IBC, NCCWSL, and International Relations Lecture Series support; cash awards for high school girls planning STEM college studies; AAUW state and regional conference attendance; and officer, director, and committee expenses. Check the operating fund portion of the budget to see all the wonderful things our branch supports.

The Dollars for Scholars Account income comes from the proceeds of the outings and activities that our members plan. The expense in the DFS account is for the scholarships for four mature women returning to school. Other expenses include costs for Panera cards and bean soup mix ingredients.

The Contingency Account has been getting direct deposits from the Schnucks reward program, but the amounts have been declining. The Schnucks reward program is changing, and the details of the new program have not been released yet. There are no expenses in this account.

Ballwin-Chesterfield has one \$3000 CD investment account that should return about \$55 in income for 2021-22.

~Finance Officer, Pat Shores

Membership

While we're all working to have a smooth restart to our AAUW activities, we want you to look at your personal information found on the AAUW website and check that it is correct. If changes need to be made, you can make them yourself. Here is a step-by-step guide. For questions, contact Judy Stagoski. Thank you from the finance and membership officers.

- 1. Go to aauw.org. and click on Membership
- 2. Select Membership Services Database
 - a. Enter your Member ID (listed in the Directory).
 - b. Enter your password. If you don't have a password, follow prompts for Create an Account.
- 3. Click Login after putting in your Member ID and Password.
- 4. Click Enter Member Services Database.
- 5. Click on My Profile/My Membership Card to view your Contact Information
- 6. To make changes, look for Click Here and follow the prompts

~Membership Co-Vice Presidents, Judy Stagoski and Linda Roberson

IBC Barbara Lackritz AAUW Award

Ballwin-Chesterfield members are invited to submit the name(s) of a fellow member to be recognized for service and leadership to AAUW. Each of the five IBC Metro St. Louis branches may have an annual award recipient going forward. The branch honorees will be recognized at the IBC annual event with an introduction, a certificate, and a picture in the IBC Barbara Lackritz scrapbook.

The criteria to consider are as follows:

- 1. Upholds the mission to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.
- 2. Provides service to AAUW at any of the local, state, regional or national level(s).
- 3. Provides leadership to AAUW at any of the local, state, regional or national level(s).
- 4. Provides service and leadership in non-AAUW areas in the community, religious, professional, and/or political arenas.

To submit a person for consideration for the IBC Barbara Lackritz AAUW Award, please provide her name and a one sentence explanation about their leadership and service in each of the four criteria. Kindly send this information to committee lead Mary Jermak (marygjermak@att.net) by Thursday October 21.

AAUW Fund

Our members support AAUW in numerous ways—for example, through becoming a member of this vibrant organization, through STEM projects, by making their voices heard in support of Public Policy Priorities, by taking the Work Smart program, and by supporting the mission statement of the organization.

One of the important ways to support AAUW's mission is to contribute financially to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund or specifically to one of four strategic focus areas. By contributing, you advance the work of the national organization and promote equity for women and girls. Included here is a brief summary of each of the funds.

- AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (#9110) Donations to this unrestricted fund can be directed to the most critical issue of the moment. The Greatest Needs Fund allows AAUW to stay relevant and visible.
- Education and Training Fund (#4450) This fund champions equal access to education for women.
- Leadership Fund (#4452) The Leadership Fund supports women by helping them gain the skills and resources they need to step into top roles in industry.
- Economic Security Fund (#4449) The Economic Security Fund promotes women's livelihoods, concentrating on legislation, research, and training.
- Governance and Sustainability Fund (#4451) Donations to this fund enable AAUW to function effectively and efficiently.

For more details on these funds and their importance, go to our branch website www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/state-branch/how-to-support-aauw-through-fundraising/

~Mary Kay Wolfe, AAUW Fund committee

Public Policy AAUW Action Priority: To achieve economic security for all women

This is one of the three AAUW public policy action priorities for 2021–23. We know that economic security for all women has yet to be achieved. Many factors impact the ability of women to achieve current and long-term economic security; a key one is that women bear a disproportionate burden of caring for others, requiring them to take time off from work. As the branch newsletter goes to press, the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee approved universal paid family and medical leave during the budget reconciliation markup that occurred the week of September 6. While this policy advancement has taken a monumental step forward, we must continue efforts to gain the support of our legislators to pass the budget with this change. Using the AAUW Two-Minute Activist at <u>www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/</u> is a fast and easy way to make your support of this policy change known to your legislators.

Even with the eventual passage of a budget that includes universal paid family and medical leave, our goal to achieve economic security for all women is far from over. There are still many aspects of *The Family and Medical Leave Act* that limit the employees eligible for these benefits. Find the facts on FMLA at <u>https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fact-sheets/28-fmla</u>. Also impacting eligibility for FMLA are business models such as the gig economy where businesses engage workers as individual contractors rather than traditional employees with associated benefits and protections under wage and hour regulations.

You can also help AAUW move forward to achieve this goal by promoting Work Smart to family members, friends,

and colleagues. Completing Work Smart Training can help them develop skills and gain

confidence in negotiating for a new job, raise, or promotion.

Go to <u>www.aauw.org/resources/programs/salary/work-smart/</u> for unlimited access to the online training.

Finally, don't forget to check out the Public Policy sections of our branch website to keep abreast of issues and actions you can take to support AAUW's mission.

~ Co-directors Public Policy, Angela Janik & Ann Riley



2021 Eleanor Roosevelt Walk October 19, 2021, 10 a.m. Des Peres City Park, 12325 Manchester Road 63131



You are invited to join your AAUW friends at the beautiful Des Peres Park for the annual

Eleanor Roosevelt Walk. Your donation will support research on topics important to AAUW goals and its mission.

Sign up with Carol Derington at the fall meetings or send your donation to Eileen Krahman. Please make your donation payable to the AAUW Fund and write#4450 on the memo line. Donations must be in the form of a check because National does not accept cash. The check ensures that you will receive credit at AAUW national. If you have questions, please contact Eileen Krahman by email (eakrahman@yahoo.com) or by phone. **Please be aware that a cancellation is possible due to these uncertain times.**

~ER Walk Co-chairs Eileen Krahman and Carol Derington

Winter Fundraiser ~ Lights of Leadership, December 9

As you may remember, this year we are celebrating Ballwin-Chesterfield's 40th anniversary with a 40th birthday bash for the branch. We plan to have entertainment, a box lunch, birthday cake, a raffle, and, of course, fun for all.



To celebrate, **we are asking for \$40 contributions** from all members who are able. You will be recognized as a Light of Leadership with your name on a big candle. Checks may be mailed to Jayne Kasten or given at the October and November branch meetings.

In addition, **the raffle this year will be 40 gift cards worth over \$400**. We are asking for groups, and even individuals, to donate one or more gift cards in any amount of \$10 or more. These cards should be for national stores or restaurants such as Target, Home Depot, Panera, Amazon. Mail or give these cards to Marcia Block. Donors of cards will be recognized.

Please join us in making our 40th birthday a very memorable celebration.

New AAUW MO STEM Committee

AAUW Strategic Plan 2.0, which updates the plan originally approved in 2018, contains an important goal as part of its Education & Training strategic area of focus. This goal states: champion equal access in education, emphasizing STEM. In support of this national goal, AAUW Missouri is adding a new committee to the state board whose emphasis will be on STEM.

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield members Barbara McQuitty and Sandra Murdock have agreed to be co-directors of this new STEM committee. Their initial responsibilities will include helping to form the committee, determine its structure, and set guidelines for its operation. Missouri's AAUW affiliates will be encouraged to share their STEM successes with other branches to broaden STEM involvement across the state.

Spring Luncheon Committee Meeting Wednesday, October 13, 1 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church, Room 123

After a two-year absence, we are excited to return to the Whitmoor Country Club in May 2022 for our Spring Luncheon. The committee is ready to pick up where we left off in 2020. If you are a new or returning committee member, please join us for our first planning meeting.

For information contact co-chair Michele Mangnall (bmmags@yahoo.com) or Susan Fenwick (susanfenwick3@icloud.com).



Robin Ransom

Event flyer and registration form can be found on the B-C website under Flyers and Forms. Send your registration with \$30 per person to Carol Davis McDonald.

Dollars for Scholars Events



D

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch Celebrates 28 Years of Dollars for Scholars

DFS member-planned events fund tuition support for local non-traditional women students who are at least ten years post-high school. DFS small group events are open to members and guests, provide enriching experiences, and introduce AAUW to non-members.

Donations for DFS events are not tax-deductible. DFS events are also listed in the Friday Reminder and on the branch website. Contact Co-directors Janet Sloey (jegs115@gmail.com) and Nancy Pierson (pierson4_99@yahoo.co.uk) for more information or to plan an event.

ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/dollars-for-scholars-fundraisers/

Introducing two new opportunities to support the Ballwin-Chesterfield AAUW Dollars for Scholars Fund

Write DFS donation checks to AAUW B-C and send to Finance Officer Pat Shores.

The AAUW Honor Roll

The **AAUW Honor Roll** allows members to celebrate the people in their lives with DFS contributions. You may honor someone's birthday, academic or athletic goal, their personal milestone, a promotion, or other noteworthy occasions. Please write Honor Roll on your check memo line.

DFS chairs will mail an acknowledgement postcard to the honoree. The names of those honored, along with the occasion, will be listed in the next issue of *Branching Out*.

Donors should also send an email to Nancy Pierson with the name and address of the person being honored. If you choose to donate in memory of a loved one, please send Nancy the name and address to whom you want an acknowledgement sent.

Impromptu Picnic in the Park

The **Impromptu Picnic in the Park** involves inviting members, and prospective members, to join you at one of the area's many parks. Bring a picnic lunch, socialize, hike, or enjoy nature. Hopefully you will also donate to DFS after your outing. Write Parks on your check memo line. Be sure to send a picture of your group event!

Looking for a new park venue? Local parks include Longview Farm Park, Tilles Park Lake, Creve Coeur Lake Memorial Park, Love Park, and Laumeier Sculpture Park Additional parks are posted on the branch website (above) under Events and Dollars for Scholars.

Finally, we hope you continue to click on the **Virtual Dollars** for Scholars links that appear bi-weekly in the Friday Reminder. Donations in the DFS Tip Jar at monthly branch meetings are also welcomed!

Marian and Pat are issuing a challenge to Ballwin-Chesterfield members: Who will join us in raising funds for our scholarship women at an onsite in-person event?

Beyond the Ballot

Cost: \$10

St. Louis History Museum, 5700 Lindell Boulevard, St. Louis, 63112 Wednesday, November 3, 10 a.m.

Carpool from Trinity Church at 9:15 a.m. or meet at the St. Louis History Museum at 10 a.m.

The exhibit is free and features 32 notable women who were influential in St. Louis up to 1919. Each woman is represented by a full-length portrait, illustrated by local artist Rori! Because of the COVID-19 closures, the exhibit was delayed.

Exhibits Manager of the History Museum, Katie Moon, curated the exhibition and says: "Our challenge was how to tell the story in the best way for our visitors. How do we really talk about women before they had a political voice and debunk the idea that they weren't doing anything before they received the right to vote? We wanted to show respect for these women."

Lunch will be on your own at the Café St. Louis by Pure in the History Museum. View the menu at <u>mohistory.org/visit/dine/menu/</u>.Driving directions will be available for drivers. Please let us know if you can be a driver. Event sponsors Marian Bauer and Pat Shores remind those who sign up for this event that all St. Louis County and City health requirements will be followed.

Make checks payable to AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield and register with Marian (marianbauer5985@gmail.com).

USED BOOK SALE RESUMES!

The book sale returns at the October branch meeting – fingers crossed! To have a successful book sale without it being overwhelming for both shoppers and workers, we are asking members to adhere to the following criteria:

- Please limit your donations to **10 items**. We plan to hold the book sale at most branch meetings this year, so you will have multiple chances to donate your books and to purchase new ones!
- Donate **current** books in good condition (published in the last 5 years) and hardback and oversized paperbacks to garner the most money. We know there may be exceptions (for example, tried and true classics), but, in general, please use the 5-year guideline. Do not donate textbooks.
- We will accept books (both children and adults), DVD's, and puzzles.

The book sale will be held only if we have an in-person meeting. Cancellation is possible due to COVID issues and Trinity Church guidelines.

Questions? Contact Mary Kay Wolfe (mkwolfe@hotmail.com).



Sunday, Nov 7, 6:30 p.m.

Kandace Springs, Jazz and Soul Singer and Pianist ~ Dinner and Drinks available Group Discount Ticket: \$33 + \$10 Dollars for Scholars = \$43.

Masks and vaccination card are required and are checked at the front door. Valet parking is available next to Jazz St. Louis or on your own in the area. Please state your seating preference: you may choose a table of four on the main level or a balcony seat. Balcony seats are arranged side-by-side at a countertop in a large horseshoe shape facing the stage. If you select a table, you have the option to name the four at your table. There is a seating diagram at jazzstl.org under the Kandance Springs performance. Google Kandace Springs Jazz Singer for a YouTube sample.

Contact Roz Marx, rozsie3@gmail.com, or signup at the October branch meeting.

Branch Interest Groups are primarily social and bring members with similar interests together. Try one!

Contact an Interest Group Chair. All information is listed in the front of your Directory or check the Interest Groups section at ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/interest-groups/.

Munching Matters ~ Lunch with Food for Thought

New Season Features Exciting and Informative Speakers Wednesday, November 10, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Walnut Grill on Clayton Rd. just west of Clarkson Road. There is no charge to attend, but lunch will be on your own.

Carol Davis McDonald will be the speaker.

Munching Matters dates in 2022 are January 12, February 9, and March 9. Sign-up sheets will be available at the AAUW B-C branch meetings. You MUST register with Doris Nistler (dnistler14@att.net) to attend.

Doris Nistler and Julie Triplett, Coordinators



Book Groups ~ Welcome All Readers

Download the 2021–22 book lists at ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/interest-groups/.

Literature I 3rd Thursday, 9:30 a.m. October 21 Book: The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett Hostess: Diane Siegel Facilitator: Chris Magilligan Contact Alice Crippen (jccripp@sbcglobal.net).

Literature II 4th Monday, 10 a.m. October 25 **Book:** The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich Hostess: Barb Schillhahn Facilitator: Susie Teicher Contact Joyce Katz (joycekatz44@gmail.com) or Erlaine Eltomi (erlaine.eltomi@att.net).

Reading Reality 2nd Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. October 12 Book: Caste by Isabel Wilkerson Hostess: Dottie Schainker 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! 4th Thursday, 1:30 p.m. October, January, February, March, April, May October 28

Book: The Broken Heart of St. Louis: Violent History of the United States by Walter Johnson Contact Deb McWard or Teri Brech (tebrecht@vahoo.com) to join via Zoom

Visit ww3.aauw.org/resource/adelante-book-of-the-monthclub/for further information.



Expressions

October 7 1-3 p.m. **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

Crafters! Come and join us! Expressions will meet for the first time in October with an exciting Show and Tell. Members will bring something they made during pandemic to share in person or on Zoom. Watch for more good news in November.

For more information, contact Nance Roth (nance.roth@yahoo.com) or Pat White (pgwhite02@gmail.com).

Genealogy Group 3rd Thursday, 1 p.m.

Check out the St. Louis County Library free access to Ancestry.com. information, For more contact Roz Marx, (rozsie3@gmail.com).

Movie Group 4th Thursday, 10 a.m.

October 28 Email Liz Maher for details.

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

Out to Lunch 3rd Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.

October 20

Bishop's Post, 16125 Chesterfield Pkwy W, Chesterfield, MO 63017

RSVP to Linda Seibert (lindajbseibert63@gmail.com). For more information, contact Linda Seibert.

Play Readers

3rd Monday, 12:30 p.m.

Members will be contacted with meeting details.

For more information about this group, contact Marilyn Fletcher (marilynfletcher597@gmail.com).

Golf

Every Monday, April through October

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

Bridge Calendar

If you would like to play bridge, contact the bridge chair of the group that interests you. Some groups need players and subs.

Bridge II 3rd Tuesday 10:30 a.m. Contact Jean Wagner

Bridge III 4th Wednesday 10 a.m. Contact Kay Kreder

Bridge VI 3rd Monday, 10 a.m. Contact Mary Pinney

Duplicate Bridge I 1st Tuesday, 9:50 a.m. Contact Elaine Frost or Chris Magilligan

Duplicate Bridge II 4th Tuesday, 10 a.m. Contact Carol Osterloh



Activities Calendar



October

- 04, 11, 18, 25 Golf
- 07 Board Meeting 10 a.m. Expressions 1 p.m.
- 12 Deadline for November newsletter submissions Reading Reality 1:30 p.m.
- 13 Spring Luncheon Committee Meeting 1 p.m.
- 14 Branch Meeting 10 a.m. Sign up for Eleanor Roosevelt Walk
- 18 Play Readers 12:30 p.m.
- 19 Eleanor Roosevelt Walk 10:30 a.m.
- 20 Out to Lunch 11:30 a.m.
- 21 Literature I 9:30 a.m.
- 25 Literature II 10 a.m.
- 28 Movie Group 10 a.m. AAUW ¡Adelante! 1:30 p.m.

Coming In November

- 04 Board Meeting 9:45 a.m.
- 10 Munching Matters 11 a.m.
- 12 Deadline for December newsletter submissions
- 11 Branch Meeting 10 a.m.

 New Members Welcome
 www.aauw.org/resources/member/why-join/

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

To join the AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield (MO) Branch, contact Membership Vice-Presidents Judy Stagoski (jms4331@gmail.com) and Linda Roberson (robersonlinda11@att.net) for membership information.

Annual dues are \$94:

\$22 for the B-C branch, \$10 for AAUW MO, and \$62 to AAUW national; \$59 of national dues are tax-deductible



The *Branching Out* newsletter is published ten times annually. The deadline for submissions to the November newsletter is October 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 and events to Mary Jermak (marygjermak@att.net),
- Interest Group information to Jean Light (jhl1234@charter.net).

Visit <u>ballwin-chesterfield.com</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).

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Board

Elected Officers

Co-Presidents Jan Horner & Sage Taber VP Program Carol Anthony & Marcia Block VP Membership Judy Stagoski & Linda Roberson Finance Officer Pat Shores Secretary/Archivist Leslie Wier

Elected Directors

AAUW Fund Marian Bauer & Eileen Krahman Public Policy Angela Janik & Ann Riley

Appointed Directors

Branch Fundraising Jan Horner & Sage Taber Directory Ann Patrice O'Shaughnessy Appointed Directors, continued

Dollars for Scholars Janet Sloey & Nancy Pierson Governance Marsha Weppelman Hospitality Joan Hewitt & Jane Hemer Newsletter Editors Sandy Brody, Mary Jermak & Jean Light University Liaison Susan Shriver & Lorna Anderson Special Events Fall Brunch Eileen Krahman & Jean Elliott Spring Luncheon Susan Fenwick & Michele Mangnall STEM Genevieve Gibson-Newman Web Manager Joyce Katz & Carolyn Brown

Standing committee chairs are listed in the *Directory*.