

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield (MO) Branch

National and AAUW MO Award-Winning Branch

Branching Out

ballwin-chesterfield.com

December 2022 Volume 43 No. 5

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



Winter Holiday Fest

December 8, 2022, 10 a.m.

Join us for our annual Winter Fundraiser to be held at the Ballwin Golf Course Events Facility. This year there will be no silent auction, gift card raffle, or other items to take home. There will be musical entertainment by the Queens of Swing, games, and all sorts of fun. Invite your friends and discover how Ballwin-Chesterfield continues to support women and girls. Learn where our money goes in the local community and how you can become a B-C Booster to assist us in continuing to fund these outstanding programs.

To assure your place at the party, send your check for \$25, by December 1, payable to AAUW B-C, to Sandy Kalin (address in the Directory) with your menu selection on the memo line. Bottled tea and water served with lunch.

- A. Chunky chicken salad with mayo, sour cream, and celery on croissant
- B. Sliced turkey breast with Provel cheese and lettuce on wheat bread
- C. Fresh veggies with cream cheese and ranch spread in a wrap

All lunches will include Italian pasta salad, fresh fruit salad, and gourmet brownie. Bottled water and bottled tea will be available or bring your own beverage if you prefer.

Winter Holiday Fest Chair Jan Horner

Presidents' Corner



Greetings to all! By the time you read this, the midterm elections will be over and no longer monopolizing our collective attention. We can all look forward to the holidays with family and friends, as well as celebrating with our AAUW B-C family of friends.

The Winter Holiday Fest promises to be a fun event and a non-traditional fund raiser. There will be food, entertainment, games and more. If you have not yet reserved your lunch, there is still time.

Sandy Brody

November began the launch of the AAUW Fund Annual Appeal. Although some will disparage this ritual, AAUW cannot do its work without financial support. AAUW has actively worked to provide economic security for women through support of the *Equal Pay Act* (EPA) and student debt relief, has supported the *Pregnant Workers Fairness Act* and has rallied for reproductive freedom.

AAUW MO and AAUW B-C have worked tirelessly to get out the vote and to protect voting rights. We have supported women students through grants, fellowships, and scholarships. We have focused on STEM education for young girls. The national and state organizations provide resources, research, and education but cannot do this amazing work without money. AAUW B-C will be supporting the Annual Appeal. There is still time to participate. The goal is to have all members contribute to the AAUW Fund. No contribution is too small. See the AAUW Fund article on page 4.

As we wind down 2022 and move towards 2023, we can look back and take pride in the efforts we have been a part of that advanced equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. Happy Holidays to all! See you all at the Winter Holiday Fest!

Co-president Sandy Brody

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Keeping Ballwin-Chesterfield in the AAUW Missouri Loop

In the state Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (DEI) we have been focusing on the AAUW Vision, "Equity for All," and our Inclusion /Infusion activities with the board. This month I want to share an example of unconscious bias that happened at a member's neighborhood Halloween Block Party.

> A girl came dressed in real scrubs and a stethoscope. Our friend said, "Oh, you're a nurse" and she replied, "No, I'm a surgeon."

How would you have responded? I think many of us might have assumed that if it was a girl, she must be a nurse, not a doctor. We may not be aware of the unconscious bias we have. We are all on this journey to rid ourselves of bias as we work to make equity the norm.

AAUW MO President Karen Francis

2023 International Relations Lecture Series

AAUW is a sponsor of the International Lecture.Relations Series. Ballwin-Chesterfield has been a long-time financial supporter of the series. In person meetings are held at the Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63117 and begin at 10:45 a.m., on the second Tuesday, January through April.

Free parking is available in the rear of the building. There is no fee, but contributions are appreciated. A question-andanswer period follows the 50-minute lecture. Interested parties who bring their own lunch can stay and continue the discussion of the topic. The lectures will also be available on Zoom (<u>www.ethicaltl.org</u>).

The first lecture is January 10, 2023 International Energy Markets, in Flux, Dr. Lea-Rachel Kosnik presenting.

Lea-Rachel Kosnik is a professor of economics at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. She received her PhD from the University of California-Los Angeles after having spent a year as a Fulbright Scholar in Ankara, Turkey, studying hydroelectric power and renewable energy in the Middle East. Her active research agenda focuses on energy and environmental economics, including broad equity and environmental justice implications in these markets.

Global energy markets have had a wild past couple of years, with prices, production, and consumption patterns often exhibiting extreme volatility. Professor Kosnik will discuss historical and current trends in global energy patterns, including how political shocks such as the war in Ukraine have been affecting energy markets. She will offer policy prescriptions on ways to regulate energy markets in the future, with an eye towards managing climate change and other global crises.

International Lecture Relations Series committee member Susie Teicher

Nominations Requested for 2023–25 Elected Officers

The Ballwin-Chesterfield Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for these positions: Co-president, Co-VP Membership, Co-VP Program, Secretary/Archivist, AAUW Fund Co- director, and Public Policy Co-director.

The committee needs your help to find outstanding members to be a part of the leadership team. For job responsibilities, please see the Policies of the Branch, Section IV, Duties of Officers, in the About Us section on the AAUW B-C website.

Please follow these steps to nominate a member:

- 1. Receive permission from the person you are nominating.
- 2. Use the nomination form on the branch website under FLYERS & FORMS. The form is also available at branch meetings.
- 3. Send the completed form to a member of the nominating committee. the nominating committee, consisting of Susie Teicher, Linda Roberson, and Ann Patrice O'Shaughnessy, will review the nominations and prepare the slate.

Please send your nominations by January 31, 2023.

Marcia Block, 2022–23 IBC Barbara Lackritz Award Honoree for the AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch

Each St. Louis member branch of the St. Louis Metropolitan AAUW Interbranch Council has the privilege of choosing its recipient of IBC Barbara Lackritz Award. The B-C Barbara Lackritz committee, Suzanne Couch, Barbara Kellams, and Mary Jermak reviewed applications and recommended to the co-presidents that Marcia Block be the award recipient for Ballwin-Cheserfield. Marcia will be honored at the annual IBC Spring Fling event to be held on March 18 at the EdgeWild Restaurant in Chesterfield.

The purpose of the IBC Barbara Lackritz AAUW Award is to recognize the branch member who:

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

Marcia Block supports each part of the AAUW mission with her generous spirit, including her time and considerable talent, and annual donations. Marcia has served the branch in multiple board leadership positions and twice as copresident. She is the founder of the Reading Reality literature group and also serves on numerous branch committees. Currently she serves as program vice-president and chair of the branch STEM committee.

Marcia provides service to her community as committee member for Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) STEM conference and other STEM related events. Since 2005, she has volunteered with Wild Bird Rehabilitation working 20–25 hours weekly, April-October. She is a supporter of the arts attending the symphony, the Rep, St. Louis Opera Theater, and the Union St. Opera.

To read more about the Barbara Lackritz award and its past recipients, go to https://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net/barbara-lackritz/.



The 2022 Eleanor Roosevelt Walk raised \$1,000.

A sincere thank you to all our walkers and supporters.

Eleanor Roosevelt Walk Co-chairs Carol Derington and Pat Shores

Introducing Our Newest Member

Welcome our new member to the Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch and the AAUW community.

Suzanne Truitt

Suzanne earned a bachelor of science degree in elementary education from Southwest Missouri State University. Now retired, Suzanne brings to the branch skills in MS Excel. Her extracurricular interests include rubber stamping, card making, and sewing.

Membership vice-presidents Michelle Mangnall and April Walgren

AAUW Fund Individual Giving Donation Report

Last month many of you donated to the AAUW Fund. If you have not already donated, please consider doing so. You will be supporting AAUW's mission of promoting gender equity, economic security, lifelong education, and positive societal change for women.

Our Ballwin Chesterfield Branch has targeted funds for donation to the **AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (#9110).** Every gift to AAUW makes a difference, but your donation to this fund allows AAUW the flexibility to respond quickly to new or emerging challenges and to use funds where they are needed most. Some examples of these emerging critical issues are threats to Title IX, a social justice movement like #MeToo, and opportunities to partner with employers. This fund also supports AAUW's groundbreaking research and advocacy work.

One of the important ways of supporting AAUW's Mission is by contributing financially to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund. All contributions are tax deductible if made by December 31, 2022. The national staff and board will match donations up to \$80,000 made by our members in October, November, and December.

AAUW Fund committee member Mary Kay Wolfe

Public Policy

The Ballwin-Chesterfield Public Policy Committee worked diligently during the first quarter of the year to promote Get Out the Vote. Thanks to all who helped with this important work. The committee will meet soon to select the goals we plan to work on during the remainder of the year.

Members received a survey at the November branch meeting asking for their input into how they use the information provided regarding public policy. If you did not receive one, please contact Marian Bauer or Angie Janik for a copy.

Public Policy Co-chair Marian Bauer

Support Libraries

The Missouri Secretary of State has proposed a rule change for public libraries. The rule says that state funds could not be used to purchase books or other materials that appeal to the "prurient interest of any minor."

The rule calls for "age-appropriate" content but does not specify what that means. The rule would also stop state funding for any library that doesn't file written policies with the state librarian on how individuals can challenge a book or other materials in the collection.

A 30-day comment period started November 15, 2022; Share your concerns at <u>comments@sos.mo.gov</u>. Include "15 CSR 30-200.015" in the subject line.

Reprinted from the League of Women Voters in League Reporter, November 2022

Dollars for Scholars Events



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 nonmembers.

Write DFS donation checks to AAUW B-C and send to Finance Officer Jean Light. Donations are not tax-deductible. DFS events also are listed in the Friday Reminder and on the branch website. Contact Co-Directors Betty Jo Hogan and Nancy Pierson for more information or to plan an event.

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

The AAUW Honor Roll

In honor of Marcía Block for her birthday.

In honor of Mary Jermak - Thanks for all your work on my behalf.

In Honor of Erlaine Eltomi for her splendid leadership in our Book Club

In Honor of Joyce Katz for her splendid leadership in our Book Club

Celebrate a friend or family member's special achievement, milestone, birthday, or significant event by donating to the DFS Honor Roll. The honoree receives an acknowledgement postcard, and name is listed in *Branching Out*.

Please mail your check to Finance Officer Jean Light with Honor Roll on memo line, and email Nancy Pierson the name/address of your honoree. To donate in memory of a loved one, email Nancy name/address to whom acknowledgment postcard may be sent.

Thank you to AAUW members and friends for donations to the DFS Honor Roll.

Used Book Sale



The Used Book Sale will be on hiatus during the December Branch Meeting and Winter Holiday Fest but will return in January. See you then!

Questions? Contact Mary Kay Wolfe.

Event Sponsors Needed

Think of your favorite St. Louis experience or one that you've always wanted to attend. It may be an outing many of our members would enjoy as a Dollars for Scholars Event.

DFS co-chairs are eager to brainstorm with you and help you plan your event. Please contact Nancy Pierson or Betty Jo Hogan.

Munching Matters November Interest Group Event



Julie Triplett introduced Ann Campion Riley at the Munching Matter November lunch. Ann shared her experience working in the University Administrative system with the group. **Branch Interest Groups** are primarily social and bring members with similar interests together. Try one! Contact an Interest Group Chair. Check Interest Groups at <u>ballwin-chesterfield.com</u> or the front of your Directory for further information.

Book Groups Welcome All Readers

Download the 2022-23 book lists at <u>https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/interest-groups/</u>

Literature I 3rd Thursday, 9:30 a.m. December 15 Book: *The Anomaly* by Herve Le Tellier Hostess: Mary Jermak Reviewer: Jane Miller Contact Alice Crippen

Literature II 4th Monday, 11 a.m. No meeting – Christmas Holiday Contact Joyce Katz or Erlaine Eltomi.

Reading Reality 2nd Tuesday, 1:00 p.m. December 13 Book: *New Women of the Old West* by Winifred Gallagher Hostess: Erlaine Eltomi

Reviewer: Linda Roberson Contact Marcia Block or Mary Kay Wolfe.

AAUW ¡Adelante! 4th Thursday, 1:30 p.m. No meeting in December. Contact Deb McWard or Teri Brecht. aauw.org/resource/adelante-book-of-the-month-club/.

Expressions 1st Tuesday, 1 p.m. December 6

We will be making Hershey bar snowmen to be sold at Winter Fest. These cute and delicious treats make great stocking stuffers.



Contact Nance Roth or Pat White.

Movie Group 4th Thursday, 11 a.m.

No December meeting. Contact Ann Riley or Mersine Kallaos.

Munching Matters (Lunch with Food for Thought)

Wednesday, January 11, 11 a.m. –1 p.m. Mimi's Café, 17240 Chesterfield Airport Rd. Chesterfield, MO 63017

Jean Light will be our speaker on the topic, "Career Move from Education to Technology".

Sign up at the December branch meeting with Doris Nistler and Julie Triplett. *Contact Doris or Julie for more information.*

Out to Lunch

3rd Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. No December meeting. *Contact Jean Light*

Bridge Calendar

If you would like to play bridge, contact the chairperson of the group of interest. Some groups need players and subs.

Social Bridge 3rd Monday, 10 a.m. Resumes in January 2023 Contact Ellen Friedman or Jean Light.

Duplicate Bridge I 1stTuesday, 11 a.m. December 6 Contact Chris Magilligan or Elaine Frost.

Duplicate Bridge II 4th Tuesday, 11 a.m. Resumes in January 2023 Contact Alice Crippen or Elaine Frost

Additional Interest Groups

Coming soon to a park near you!

A walking group. Details to follow.

Genealogy Group

3rd Thursday, 1 p.m. See St. Louis County Library free access to <u>Ancestry.com</u>. *Contact Roz Marx.*

Golf

Resumes in the spring 2023. Contact Bev Wait or Elaine Frost.

Events Calendar and Branch Information

No board meetings in December or January. The next board meeting is on February 2, 2023.

December

6 Expressions 1 p.m.
8 Winter Holiday Fest 10 a.m.
9 Deadline for January newsletter submissions
13 Reading Reality 1 p.m.
15 Literature I 9:30 a.m.

January

10 International Relations Lecture 10:45 a.m.
10 Reading Reality 1 p.m.
11 Munching Matters 11 a.m.
12 Branch meeting
13 Deadline for February newsletter submissions
18 Out to Lunch 11:30
19 Literature I 9:30
23 Literature II 11 a.m.
26 Movie Group 11 a.m.

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Board

Elected Officers

Co-Presidents Sage Taber & Sandy Brody VP Program Marcia Block & Janet Sloey VP Membership Michelle Mangnall & April Walgren Finance Officer Jean Light Secretary/Archivist Leslie Wier

Elected Directors

AAUW Fund Suzanne Couch & Karen Francis Public Policy Angela Janik & Marian Bauer

Appointed Directors

Branch Fundraising Jan Horner Directory Ann Patrice O'Shaughnessy & Nancy Hutchins Dollars for Scholars Betty Jo Hogan & Nancy Pierson Governance Marsha Weppelman Hospitality Joan Hewitt & Jane Hemer Newsletter Editors Mary Jermak, Jean Light, Ann Riley, & Pat Shores University Liaison Susan Shriver & Lorna Anderson Special Events Fall Brunch Jean Elliott Spring Luncheon Susan Fenwick & Yvonne Ward STEM Marcia Block

Web Managers Joyce Katz & Carolyn Brown

Standing committee chairs are listed in the Directory.

New Members Welcome <u>www.aauw.org/resources/member/why-join/</u> AAUW has been transforming women's lives for more than a century.

Contact branch officers through <u>https://ballwinchesterfield-</u> <u>mo.aauw.net/contact-us/</u> or through the AAUW B-C Directory.

To join the AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield (MO) Branch, contact Membership Vice-Presidents Michelle Mangnall and April Walgren.

Annual dues for 2022–23 are \$99: \$22 to the B-C branch, \$10 to AAUW MO, and \$67 to AAUW national; \$64 of national dues are tax-deductible.

Meetings:

All meetings take place at the Ballwin Golf Course Events Center.

The B-C board meets on the first Thursday at 9:30 a.m. September–November and February–May. All elected and appointed officers are expected to attend.

The general membership meeting is held the second Thursday of the month 9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m., September– April with the Spring Luncheon as the May meeting and an indoor Summer Picnic in July.

The *Branching Out* newsletter is published ten times annually. The deadline for submissions to the January newsletter is December 9.

- Contributors are contacted by the editors.
- News, Ann Riley and Pat Shores,
- DFS notices and events, Mary Jermak,
- > Interest Group information, Jean Light.

Visit <u>ballwin-chesterfield.com</u>, the branch website. Web Manager Carolyn Brown 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 or Joyce Katz.