



# AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield (MO) Branch

National and AAUW MO Award-Winning Branch

## Branching Out

[ballwin-chesterfield.com](http://ballwin-chesterfield.com)

February 2023  
Volume 43 No. 6

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

### February 9, 2023, Branch Meeting

Ballwin Golf Course Events Center  
333 Holloway Rd., Ballwin 63011

Social time 9 a.m.

Business meeting 9:30 a.m.

Program 10:30 a.m.

Members may bring their own beverage.

### “A Holistic Approach to Self-sufficiency”

Maggie Brookmeyer

February may be the shortest month, but we hope you will find our speaker for this month’s branch meeting long on interesting facts.

Maggie Brookmeyer is Senior Manager of Development and Community Engagement at Rung for Women, a women’s workforce development nonprofit, where she manages individual and corporate fundraising and development efforts, volunteer engagement, and community relations for the organization. She enjoys the lively nature of community engagement where she’s able to focus on relationship-building with various community stakeholders.



Maggie Brookmeyer

### Presidents’ Corner



Sandy Brody

Greetings to all! It’s February, the shortest of months, but it includes President’s’ Day, Valentine’s Day, the Lunar New Year and is the month for official Black History celebrations. At AAUW B-C, we embody the spirit of February by remaining focused on our mission while having fun at the same time.

Just a reminder that donations to AAUW Fund and the B-C Booster program are still welcome and encouraged. If you have already made your donations, thank you! If not, remember that donations to either or both of these programs can be any amount you wish. Donations to the B-C Boosters can be paid by check and sent to Jayne Kasten at her address in the Directory. Donations to AAUW Fund can be made via credit card on the national website, or by check to Finance Officer Jean Light.

The nominations committee seeks members to serve on the 2023–25 board in the positions of co-president, secretary, vice-president program, vice-president membership, and co-directors for AAUW Fund and Public Policy. Nominations are due by January 31 and can be emailed to Linda Roberson. Please have the permission of the nominee before submitting their name. Self-nominations are accepted.

On December 29, 2022, President Biden signed the *Pregnant Workers Fairness Act* into law. AAUW President Gloria L. Blackwell said, “We are thrilled to end this year with a long-awaited moment: AAUW applauds the passage of the *Pregnant Workers Fairness Act* (PWFA), a momentous victory for pregnant and postpartum workers and their families, health, and economic security.” Read the complete statement at [www.aauw.org/aauw-celebrates-the-passage-of-the-pregnant-workers-fairness-act/](http://www.aauw.org/aauw-celebrates-the-passage-of-the-pregnant-workers-fairness-act/).

In the spirit of fun, be sure to consider attending one of the Dollars for Scholars events listed or attend an Interest Group meeting. Check out our wonderful website at [ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net](http://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net). We hope to see you all at the February 2023 branch meeting!

Co-President Sandy Brody

## **The 2023 AAUW of Missouri Legislative Retreat**

**Saturday, February 11, 2023, via Zoom, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

AAUW MO is facilitating another Legislative Retreat, and we would like you to attend. The leaders of Missouri organizations will give a brief description of their group, an explanation of their main legislative priority, and the bill number, title, and author they would like us to monitor.

Activists from organizations across the state will share information about the Initiative Petition, Clean Slate, book bans, economic issues, educational issues, gun safety, health and reproductive rights, social issues, and voting laws.

The Zoom information will come from Sue Shineman on **Friday, February 3, 2023**. Contact AAUW MO President Karen Francis for more information.

Please join us as we strive to do what Ruth Bader Ginsburg suggests:

***Fight for things you care about but do it in a way that leads others to join you.***

### **AAUW 2022 Year in Review**

AAUW Chief Executive Officer Gloria Blackwell highlights some of the many achievements our AAUW work made possible in 2022. She states that we took tangible steps this year toward the equitable world we all deserve.

- We released cutting-edge equity research.
- We gave women access to career-building skills.
- We marked many milestones.
- We shared AAUW's voice on key issues.

See the complete list of milestones, challenges, and accomplishments in the Home and Flyer pages at [ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net](http://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net). Reprinted from the December 2022 Mission in Action

### **2023 International Relations Lecture Series**

**January through April, 10:45 a.m. on the second Tuesday of the month**  
**Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63117**

AAUW is a sponsor of the International Relations Series, and Ballwin-Chesterfield is a long-time financial supporter of the lecture series. The lecture series will be presented in-person and will also be available on Zoom ([www.ethicaltl.org](http://www.ethicaltl.org)). There is no fee, but contributions are appreciated. A question-and-answer period follows the 50-minute lecture. Interested parties who bring their own lunch may stay and continue the discussion of the topic. Free parking is available in the rear of the building.

**February 14, 2023**

***Afghan Refugee Resettlement: Focus on Education of Women***  
**Speaker Dr. Linda Lindsey**

Dr. Lindsey recently retired as senior lecturer at Washington University and is a professor emerita at Maryville University. She received her PhD in sociology from Case Western Reserve University and later a master's degree in education from St. Louis University. Her academic career has focused on inequality, diversity, globalization, and health and society.

**International Relations Committee Member Susie Teicher**

## Winter Holiday Fest

The Winter Holiday Fest was well attended and a great success. Thanks to everyone who purchased box lunches, made donations, and played games, \$1186 was raised in December to support the AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Operating Fund.

Finance Officer Jean Light

## Become A Ballwin-Chesterfield Booster Club Member

We need your help to maintain outstanding local community programs at Ballwin-Chesterfield. Our annual local dues do not cover the many things we do in our community. You can help us by becoming a member of the B-C Booster Club. From now until April all contributions will be gratefully accepted, but contributions of \$50 or more will recognize you as a member of the B-C Booster Club.

Find more information and the contribution form at [www.ballwin/chesterfield-mo-aauw.net](http://www.ballwin/chesterfield-mo-aauw.net). Send all donations to B-C Booster Club, C/O Jayne Kasten (contact information in the Directory) or bring your check to our monthly meeting.

Here is what one high school student wrote to us last year, after receiving an award from our branch.



*I was happy to learn that I was the recipient of the STEM Girl of Promise Award at Valley Park High School. I am writing to say thank you for your generous financial support towards my higher education.*

*I plan to major in chemistry in college and pursue a career in forensic chemistry. Thank you for bringing me one step closer to attending college next year. I hope one day I will be able to help students in the same way that you have helped me.*

Please help our branch invest in the future of women and girls in our local community. Send your check to the B-C Booster Club today.

Winter Holiday Fest Chair Jan Horner

## AAUW Metro IBC Spring Luncheon

March 18, 2023, 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

EdgeWild Winery and Restaurant

550 Chesterfield Center, Chesterfield 63017

## Celebrating Strong Women

Registration Now Open — Deadline March 13

The IBC 2023 Spring Luncheon planning committee is inviting you to join us at this event for fun, fabulous food, fundraising, and celebrating our 2023 Barbara Lackritz Honorees. The 2023 honorees will be recognized for upholding the mission to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

The program will be presented by *USA Today* bestselling author and nationally recognized speaker **Nicole Evelina, a member of AAUW K-WG**. She will share her love of history and the importance of retelling stories about strong women. <https://nicoleevelina.com/>

Fundraising this year includes three raffles.

- 🎟 Gift cards or gift memberships from St. Louis cultural institutions
- 🎟 Scratch off Lottery Tickets
- 🎟 50/50 raffle

### Barbara Lackritz Honorees for 2023

**Marcia Block**, Ballwin-Chesterfield  
**Barbara Johnson**, Kirkwood-Webster Groves  
**Patricia A Kelemen**, Ferguson-Florissant  
**Barbara Olive**, St. Charles  
**Ellen Irons**, St. Louis

Find complete information about the IBC Luncheon and the registration flyer at <https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/newsletters-flyers/flyer>

**Save-the Date**  
**Spring Luncheon, Connecting with Our Communities**

**Thursday, May 11, 2023**  
**Whitmoor Country Club**  
**1100 Whitmoor Dr, Weldon Spring, MO 63304**  
**Social Hour: 11 a.m. Lunch: 12 noon**

## Public Policy

### Poll Results

Thanks to all the members who participated in our unscientific poll at the November branch meeting. Your input is necessary for us as we work with important issues. Members said that they find current public policy information by reading the Friday notes, newsletter, and website.

One area of communication that comes from National is the Two-Minute Activist. Some members were not aware of how to access this information.

See step-by-step directions at right to have your voices heard on crucial national and state matters. Thanks also for the suggestions you made regarding what you would like the committee to focus on this year.

**Public Policy Director Marian Bauer**

## Two-Minute Activist Sign Up Procedures

AAUW national provides all the tools we need to send messages to our members of Congress, contact our state legislators about pressing issues, and more.

1. National AAUW notifies us when our voice is most needed.
2. It only takes two minutes.
3. Go to [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) and type Two-Minute-Activist in the search bar.
4. Click on Two-Minute-Activist sign up.
5. Fill out Contact Information.
6. Check Remember Me to get Fast Action.
7. Click Submit.
8. Respond right away to national requests, which are time sensitive.

**Public Policy committee member Pat Shores**

## University Liaisons

Congratulations to our two graduating scholarship recipients at Maryville University. Both were nursing majors and we were able to support them for the last two years. Fortunately, two new nursing students will receive scholarships for the spring semester.

We will continue to support both UMSL students as they are returning in 2023. All four women will receive the newly increased funds of \$1000 per semester. Thanks to all our generous members who support Dollars for Scholars.

**University Liaison Susan Shriver**







## 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 non-members.

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/](http://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/dollars-for-scholars-fundraisers/)

**Becoming Jane Exhibit Docent Guided Tour**  
St Louis Science Center 5050 Oakland Ave, St. Louis  
Optional lunch afterward—Carpool available

**Friday, February 24 at 11 a.m.**  
Cost: \$20 (\$11 to DFS)

The Evolution of Dr. Jane Goodall is a highly engaging exhibition that allows guests to experience the remarkable story of a pioneer in STEAM. Docent Ruth Birch, previous AAUW member, will lead our group through the exhibit. Sign up at the February meeting or contact **Sponsor: Roz Marx.**

**Jazz St Louis Thursday Coffee Concert**  
3536 Washington Ave, St Louis, 63103

**Thursday, March 16, Concert at 11 a.m.**  
Discounted cost: \$44 (\$10 to DFS)

Complimentary coffee, tea, donuts, bagels at 10 a.m. Carpool available  
Grammy-nominated jazz singer, Catherine Russel and her jazz band will perform. **Sponsor: Roz Marx**

**Kaplan Feldman Holocaust Museum**  
36 Millstone Campus Dr., St Louis 63146

**Friday, March 31, and Friday April 21 at 1 p.m.**  
Cost: \$20 (\$10 to DFS)

The new world-class St Louis Kaplan Feldman Holocaust Museum is dedicated to preserving the legacy of the Holocaust, educating about its causes, and illustrating how what happened during this tragic period relates to our lives today. Send your reservations for one of the tours to Marian Bauer.  
**Sponsors: Marian Bauer, Julie Triplett, and Pat Shores**

**Myths and Hymns, Musical Drama**  
Webster University Conservatory of Arts Loretto-Hilton Mainstage  
1129 Edgar Road, Webster Groves, 63119

**Saturday, April 22 at 2 p.m.**  
Cost \$20 (\$10 to DFS)

Enjoy 19 songs composed by Adam Guettel “that paint an emotional landscape of faith and yearning” with lyrics inspired by Greek mythology and a 19<sup>th</sup> century Presbyterian hymnal. The genre includes romantic art songs, Latin, gospel, and R&B music. **Sponsor: Roz Marx**

## USED BOOK SALE

**The Used Book Sale will be taking a break in February.**

Save your books for when we return in March and April. See you then!

Questions? **Contact Mary Kay Wolfe**



## The AAUW Honor Roll

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 the name is listed in *Branching Out*.

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

**Branch Interest Groups** are primarily social and bring members with similar interests together. Try one! Contact an Interest Group Chair. Check Interest Groups at [ballwin-chesterfield.com](http://ballwin-chesterfield.com) or the front of your Directory for further information.

## Book Groups Welcome All Readers

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

### Literature I 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 9:30 a.m.

February 16

**Book:** *Companion Piece: A Novel* by Ali Smith

**Hostess:** Mary Kay Wolfe

**Reviewer:** Mary Kay Wolfe

Contact Alice Crippen

### Literature II 4<sup>th</sup> Monday, 11 a.m.

February 27

**Book:** *The Latecomer* by Jean Hanff Korelitz

**Venue:** Hearth Room

**Reviewer:** Doris Nistler

Contact Joyce Katz or Erlaine Eltomi.

### Reading Reality 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 1:00 p.m.

February 14

**Book:** *The Quiet Americans: Four CIA Spies* by Scott Anderson

**Hostess:** Jean Light

**Reviewer:** Erlaine Eltomi

Contact Marcia Block or Mary Kay Wolfe.

### AAUW ¡Adelante! 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 1:30 p.m.

February 23 via Zoom

This AAUW group meets to discuss books written from diverse perspectives. *Jackie, Janet & Lee: The Secret Lives of Janet Auchincloss and Her Daughters* by Randy Taraborrelli. Reviewed by Deb McWard.

[aauw.org/resource/adelante-book-of-the-month-club/](http://aauw.org/resource/adelante-book-of-the-month-club/).

Contact Deb McWard or Teri Brecht.

### Expressions 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 1 p.m.

February 7

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

We will be finishing our bracelets started in January.

Contact Nance Roth or Pat White.

### Movie Group 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 11 a.m.

February 23

Talayna's

68 Four Seasons Shopping

Chesterfield, MO 63017

Contact Ann Riley or Mersine Kallaos.

### Munching Matters (Lunch with Food for Thought)

Wednesday, February 8, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Mimi's Cafe

17240 Chesterfield Airport Rd.

Chesterfield, MO 63017

Kathy Brown will share the following topic:

"Memories of 30 Years of Teaching Abroad."

Sign up at the February branch meeting with Doris Nistler and Julie Triplett.

Contact Doris or Julie for more information.

### Out to Lunch 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.

February 15

Bishop's Post

16125 Chesterfield Parkway W.

Chesterfield, MO 63017

Contact Jean Light

### Walking Group

Longview Farm Park, 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, 9 a.m.

February 17

Contact Michele Mangnall.

## 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 10 a.m.

February 20 Contact Ellen Friedman or Jean Light.

### Duplicate Bridge I 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 11 a.m.

February 7 Contact Chris Magilligan or Elaine Frost.

### Duplicate Bridge II 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 11 a.m.

February 28 Contact Alice Crippen or Elaine Frost.

## Additional Interest Groups

### Genealogy Group

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 1 p.m.

See St. Louis County Library free access to [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com).

Contact Roz Marx.

### Golf

Resumes in the spring 2023.

Contact Bev Wait or Elaine Frost.

### Play Readers

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 12:30 p.m.

Members will be contacted with meeting details.

Contact Marilyn Fletcher.

## Events Calendar and Branch Information

### February

2 Board meeting 9:30 a.m.  
7 Expressions 1 p.m.  
8 Munching Matters 11 a.m.  
9 Branch meeting 9:30 a.m.  
11 AAUW Legislative Retreat 9 a.m. via Zoom  
14 International Relations Lecture Series 10:45 a.m.  
14 Reading Reality 1 p.m.  
15 Out to Lunch 11:30 a.m.  
16 Literature I 9:30 a.m.  
17 Walking Group 9 a.m.  
23 Movie Group 11 a.m.  
24 DFS Becoming Jane Exhibit Tour 11 a.m.  
27 Literature II 11 a.m.  
28 IBC meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom

### March

2 Board meeting 9:30 a.m.  
9 Branch meeting 9:30 a.m.  
16 DFS Jazz St. Louis Concert 11 a.m.  
18 IBC Spring Luncheon 11:30 a.m.  
31 DFS Kaplan Feldman Holocaust Museum 1 p.m.

### April

21 DFS Kaplan Feldman Holocaust Museum 1 p.m.  
22 DFS Myths and Hymns, Musical Drama 2 p.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

[www.aauw.org/resources/member/why-join/](http://www.aauw.org/resources/member/why-join/)  
AAUW has been transforming women's lives for more than a century.

Contact branch officers through  
<https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/contact-us/>  
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 March newsletter is February 10.

Contributors are contacted by the editors.

- News, Ann Riley and Pat Shores,
- DFS notices and events, Mary Jermak,
- Interest Group information, Jean Light.

Visit [ballwin-chesterfield.com](http://ballwin-chesterfield.com) 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.