



AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield (MO) Branch

National and AAUW MO Award-Winning Branch

Branching Out

September 2023
Volume 44 No. 2

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

September 14, 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 a.m.

Light refreshments will be served. Members may bring their own beverage. This September meeting, What's Next, will replace the Fall Brunch. The program will feature two recent NCCWSL recipients, Dollars for Scholars, and Interest Groups information.

Presidents Sandy Brody and Sage Taber

President's Corner

We hope everyone had a wonderful summer. We are now on to September, the month that we reserve to kick off the year! This year, we are replacing the Fall Brunch with a regular meeting on September 14. Instead of lunch, we will serve light refreshments, followed by a meeting to discuss items of business that pertain to the branch. Topics will include a conference recap from two National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) recipients, B-C budget, Dollars for Scholars, and Interest Groups.

Speaking of conferences, we hope you are planning to join us at the Drury Plaza Hotel St. Louis at the Arch to attend the AAUW Regional Conference—Reaching New Heights. AAUW of Missouri is hosting this conference that will be attended by members from eleven states. Registration forms and payment information are on our fabulous website. If you plan to attend and wish to be reimbursed for your registration fee, please let Sage or Sandy know by **September 1**. If you would like to be in the room where it happens, join us!

Finally, the B-C Board meetings have been moved to the West County EMS & Fire Protection District Station 1, 223 Henry Avenue, Manchester at 9:30 a.m. The reason for this change is financial. Rather than pay \$200 per meeting for the Ballwin Golf Course Events Center, this location is free. We will set up and take down tables and chairs, but this seems manageable for the board meetings. This room is not big enough for the branch meetings. The board is seeking a less expensive room for that as well. Stay tuned!

Be sure to stay informed through *Branching Out*, the Friday Reminder, and the website. Lots of changes are happening. Do not miss out!

Presidents Sandy Brody and Sage Taber



Sandy Brody



Sage Taber

To contact any branch member, please consult your B-C Directory.

Eleanor Roosevelt Walk

Friday, September 15, 2023, 9 a.m.
Des Peres City Park, 12325 Manchester Rd, Des Peres 63131
All proceeds benefit Dollars for Scholars

Join us for the B-C Walking Group's Eleanor Roosevelt Walk which will benefit Dollars for Scholars. Sign up to walk; come to cheer the walkers; or to make your donation. Pick up the sign-up sheet at the September meeting. Send this, along with your contribution, to Pat Shores.

With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts.
Eleanor Roosevelt

Carol Derington and Pat Shores



Meet Our National Conference for College Women Student Leaders at the September Branch Meeting

Feleesia Cunningham

My first in-person experience at the 2023 NCCWSL conference at the University of Maryland exceeded my expectations! Personally, I learned from all the workshops I attended; however, there was one with a greater impact. I really liked Alicia Kae Miller's Empathy Matters workshop. She explained the importance of empathy as a leader. A quote of hers that struck me was that empathy is about "feeling with them." I realized that I can still be empathetic about a person's situation but that does not have to come at the expense of myself or my boundaries.

Also at the conference, Shayla and I befriended three amazing women who made my experience one thousand times better. Prior to the conference, I thought I would not make friends (aside from Shayla), but I was completely wrong. We all had a wonderful time in D.C. as we were able to score reservations at Gordon Ramsey's Hell Kitchen. We ate delicious food and had amazing conversations. Overall, I would recommend this conference to anybody who is interested in STEM, finance, education, or any other field.

Shayla Pham

The national conference for college women student leaders was impactful. I took away many things that I will integrate into my life from all the speakers and workshops. I gained knowledge on how to set a better path for my future; how to avoid burnout through the SHINE principles; how to manage my time better to be the best version of myself; and how to manage my finances to be financially stable in the future.

At the conference I also was able to learn from other women from different walks of life. It was eye opening to see where everyone came from and to make friendships with so many empowering women. It is something I will never forget. I am so thankful to have attended NCCWSL this year.

Introducing Our Newest Members

Jane Fetick earned an associate of arts degree from Maryville University and a bachelor of science in nursing from St. Louis University. She retired from a long career as a registered nurse in 2021 and has been enjoying biking, hiking, skating, and playing mahjong.

We are so glad she is joining AAUW B-C, where she is eager to make new friends and try new activities. She would like to serve on the hospitality and spring luncheon committees. She has also expressed an interest in learning more about public policy and perhaps working on that committee.

Myra Morse earned her bachelor of science in accounting at SIU Edwardsville and has recently retired from a career as a switching engineer with AT&T. She enjoys playing bridge, reading, traveling, and tennis until recently. Myra is also looking forward to making new friends and trying new activities. She listed “being a team player” as one of her skills that she would like to use on the winter party and spring luncheon fundraiser committees.

Both active women hope to attend our September meeting. Do look for them and give them a warm welcome.

Membership Vice-president Susie Teicher

Legal Advocacy Fund

Sex discrimination takes a variety of forms

Created in 1981, AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund has provided millions of dollars to balance the scales of justice for people working toward gender equity through the legal system. The fund supports brave plaintiffs seeking legal redress for equal pay, Title IX, *Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964*, and tenure denial violations.

- Legal Advocacy Fund Legal Case Support Grants are available to fund cases in state or federal court that address sex discrimination in employment or education and have the potential to set or reinforce precedent for future cases on gender discrimination.
- The application period for funding of \$5,000–\$20,000 is August 1 through November 15.
- Unfair pay, pregnancy discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, and violations of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 can affect both women and men.

John Doe v. Jane Doe

Jane was a college student who reported sexual misconduct by a fellow student to her school. The college conducted a formal Title IX investigation process and hearing, and ultimately found the Respondent responsible for sexual misconduct in violation of its Title IX policy and removed him from the college. The Respondent brought a defamation suit against Jane, which is still pending in court. Case Adopted January 2023.

Excerpted from aauw.org.

Public Policy

This season will present us with many issues and questions on both the state and the national level, and AAUW priorities will be part of the discussion.

- Labor Day marks the unofficial start of the run up to the November 2024 presidential election.
- The ERA is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year with 85 percent of Americans across gender and party lines supporting the passage of this amendment. Congress continues to work to finally ratify the ERA.
- Ending the gender pay gap and creating gender equity in education will also be front and foremost in AAUW's work this year.

The B-C Public Policy Committee will continue to communicate about these and other issues on our website, in the newsletter, and in Friday notes. We encourage all our members to use the Two-Minute Activist to support these issues and let your voice be heard.

Public Policy Director Marian Bauer

Remembering Kay Kreder



Kay Kreder was a valued member of Ballwin-Chesterfield since 2008 who gave her time and talent to branch groups. She especially enjoyed her many bridge groups.

Kay had a love of traveling throughout the United States, Europe, and South America. Her favorite hobbies were gardening, spending time with her grandchildren, attending the Muny and Fox, and participating in the stock club.

Kay passed away on July 5, 2023, and we will miss her calm, intelligent presence. A donation in Kay's memory has been sent to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund.

Elaine Frost

Finance Officer Report

The membership vice presidents and the finance officer appreciate the timely renewal of the 2023–24 dues by the Ballwin-Chesterfield members. Many people used the preferred Community Hub for the first time and others paid by a check sent to the finance officer.

Budget Committee members Sandy Brody, Sage Taber, Jean Light, Pat Shores, Mary Jermak, and Michele Mangnall developed the 2023–24 proposed budget which the board will review at their September meeting. The membership will receive the proposed budget for review prior to the October meeting and will vote on it at the October branch meeting.

All reviews ensure that branch funds are being handled prudently, so the financial health of the branch is safeguarded, and that our budget choices support the AAUW Mission and Strategic Plan.

Finance Officer Jean Light

EVERY WOMAN
AND GIRL
DESERVES THE
OPPORTUNITY
TO REALIZE HER
FULL POTENTIAL





**AAUW Central States Regional Conference
Registration Form**

Saint Louis, Missouri
October 19 - 21, 2023

Early Bird Rate \$200

After September 16 \$225

Final Registration Deadline: 9/30/2023

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Legacy Circle Member Yes ___ No ___

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____
Zip _____

Best Phone Number: (_____) _____ Email _____

Branch Name and State

Your Leadership or other role in your branch or state: _____

I will arrive on Wednesday: Yes ___ No ___ I will attend the following (*please select all that apply*):

Thursday ___ Friday ___ Saturday ___ Thursday Evening ___ Friday Evening ___

What I hope to take away from this conference:

PAYMENT

Pay by US Mail

- Please make a copy of this completed page for your records.
- Please make your check payable to **AAUW Central States Regional Conference**
- Payment amount (*please check one*): Early Bird Rate \$200 ___ After September 16 \$225 ___

Please mail form and your check to:

Lois Domsch, 3349 S. Scott Ave., Independence MO 64052-2720

Caution: ALWAYS place outgoing US Mail in the mail slots INSIDE a US Post Office building.

My check is enclosed ___ My check number _____ Mailed on _____

I paid via PayPal on _____

Please note the following deadlines

Hotel Group Rate Deadline	Conference Early Bird Rate Deadline \$200	Final Hotel Reservation Deadline	Final Conference Registration Deadline \$225
Saturday Sept. 16	Saturday Sept. 16	Made by Saturday Sept. 30	Rec'd by Saturday Sept. 30

**AAUW Central States Regional Conference
October 19-21, 2023 - St. Louis, MO
Tentative Conference Program Schedule**

For all information and forms, go to aauw-mo.aauw.net
Questions? Contact AAIW MO President Karen Francis, karenbitzafrancis@yahoo.com.

THURSDAY, October 19, 2023

- 1:00 Conference Begins; Welcome; Overview
- 1:30 KEYNOTE: **Challenges Facing Member-Driven Organizations**, Lisa Maatz, Gender Equity Expert, Independent Consultant
- 2:30 **Women's Health and Reproductive Rights**, Yamelsie Rodriguez, CEO Planned Parenthood, St. Louis Region
- 3:15 A) **Public Policy – Strengthening Advocacy: Working Across Generational Lines**
Lisa Maatz, Gender Equity Expert, Independent Consultant
B) **Unconscious Assumptions and Implicit Bias: We All Have Them – Now What Do We Do with Them?**
Deanie Brown, attorney, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, Illinois Judicial Branch (via Zoom)
- 4:15 **SWAP SHOPS** (Branch Sharing)
- 5:30 Informal Dinner via Drury Kick Back buffet
Performance: **HERstory - Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Sojourner Truth**
Taste of St. Louis Treats

FRIDAY, October 20, 2023

- 8:30 KEYNOTE: **This is Your AAUW**, Gloria Blackwell, AAUW CEO (in person)
- 9:25 **SWAP SHOPS** (Branch Sharing)
- 10:30 **Town Hall with Gloria Blackwell** (Q&A session with attendees)
- 11:10 **It's Complicated: The Causes and Consequences of the Gender Pay Gap**, Karen Kedrowski, Director of Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics; Professor of Political Science, Iowa State University
- 12:00 Lunch and Panel of National AAUW Board Members
- 12:45 **Membership and the Degree Requirement Vote in 2024; and Leadership and Succession Planning**
- 1:45 TRENDING TOPICS – Attend one of four
 - LGBTQ+: Transparent**
 - Censure, Cancellations and Book Bannings**
 - Social Justice for All**
 - Indigenous Cultures**
- 2:35 TRENDING TOPICS – Attend one of four
 - Period Poverty and the Pink Tax**
 - Title IX in a Changing Landscape**
 - Gen Z to Millennials Advocacy**
 - Giving Birth in America**
- 3:40 **SWAP SHOPS** (Branch Sharing)
- 4:40 **AAUW Fund – What's in It For ME? Fundraising Basics!** Sue Barley and Diane B. Ludwig, AAUW Fund Enthusiasts!
- 6:45 Legacy Circle Recognitions
- 7:00 Conference Dinner; **AAUW of the Future** – Panel of National Committee Members

SATURDAY, October 21, 2023

- 8:45 **1619 Freedom School Project**, Sheritta Stokes, VP of Freedom School Project and Co-Director of Curriculum (“Liberation through Literacy”) Waterloo, Iowa
- 10:00 **SWAP SHOPS** (Branch Sharing)
- 10:30 **Voting Rights and Challenges**, Denise Lieberman, Director and Legal Counsel of MO Voter Protection Coalition
- 11:15 **Lessons Learned and Great Ideas to Take Home**
- Noon Conference Ends

Mixed in will be FUN breaks, Inclusion-Infusions, displays, and LOTS of networking opportunities.

Dollars for Scholars Events

Gourmet Bean Soup Mix Available Until Supplies Run Out

The B-C delicious bean soup mix packages will be for sale at \$8 a bag at the September, October, and November branch meetings. The gourmet mix of beans, peas, and lentils includes directions to prepare a vegetarian or a meat-based soup. Buy some for yourself to enjoy during the long winter season and to share with friends and family.

Lorna Anderson, Pat Shores, and Sue Shriver

Jazz St Louis Thursday Coffee Concert

3536 Washington Ave St Louis, MO 63103
September 21 Discounted Cost \$46 (\$10 to DFS)
Complimentary coffee, tea, donuts, and bagels at 10 a.m.
Concert at 11 a.m. Carpool available

Join us at Jazz St Louis and hear the multi-talented, musical prodigy, award winning jazz singer, saxophonist and composer, Grace Kelly. Kelly has rocked the jazz world with her remarkable talent and unparalleled showmanship. Sponsor **Roz Marx**

Cabaret Musical Performance

WU Edison Theatre 6465 Forsyth Blvd 63105
October 29 2 p.m. Free parking in WU garage
Total Cost \$25 (\$15 to DFS)

A raucous and risqué revival of Kander and Ebb's 1967 Tony Award Winning Best Musical, *Cabaret*, will be performed by students of Washington University's Performing Arts Department. The setting is 1929-30 but the message remains relevant. "What good is sitting alone in your room? Come hear the music play..."
Sponsor **Roz Marx**

National Weather Service Tour

12 Missouri Research Park Drive, St. Charles, MO 63304
Friday, November 3, 10 a.m.
Cost \$20

Forecaster Matt Beitscher will lead a tour of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) office that provides weather, water, and climate data, forecasts, and warnings for the protection of life and property, and enhancement of the national economy.

If there is severe weather the tour may be cancelled on short notice by the National Weather Service.

Lunch, own your own, at Firefly Grill, 101 Chesterfield Towne Center, Chesterfield, MO 63005.

Send your reservation for the tour to **Marian Bauer**.

Sponsors **Marian Bauer and Pat Shores**.

The AAUW DFS Honor Roll

Honor a friend or family member. To donate 'in memory of', email Nancy Pierson the name of the honoree and the contact information to whom the acknowledgment postcard is to be sent.

Send donation checks, payable to AAUW B-C, to Finance Officer Jean Light with Honor Roll on the memo line. Dollars for Scholars donations are not tax-deductible.

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

Contact branch officers through <https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/contact-us/> or the [Directory](#).

Contact Membership Vice-Presidents April Walgren and Susie Teicher for membership information.

www.aauw.org/resources/member/why-join/

The *Branching Out* newsletter is published ten times annually.

- Board meetings are held at the West County EMS & Fire Protection District Station 1, 223 Henry Avenue.
- Branch meetings are held at the Ballwin Golf Course Events Center.
- The board meets on the first Thursday at 9:30 a.m. September–November and February–May.
- The general membership meeting is the second Thursday of the month 9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m. September–April. The annual May Luncheon occurs on the second Thursday of May.

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Board

Elected Officers

Co-Presidents Sage Taber & Sandy Brody
VP Program Janet Sloey & Kathy Brown
VP Membership April Walgren & Susie Teicher
Finance Officer Jean Light
Secretary/Archivist Mary Jermak

Elected Directors

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

Appointed Directors

Branch Fundraising OPEN
Directory Ann Patrice O'Shaughnessy & Joyce Katz
Dollars for Scholars Betty Jo Hogan & Nancy Pierson
Governance Marsha Weppelman
Hospitality Carol Derington & Suzanne Couch
Newsletter Editors Mary Jermak, Joyce Katz, & Pat Shores
University Liaison Susan Shriver & Abby Roessler
Special Events

Spring Luncheon Yvonne Ward & Carol Anthony
STEM Marcia Block and OPEN
Web Managers Joyce Katz & Carolyn Brown
Standing committee chairs are listed in the *Directory*.

OTHER

International Relations Susie Teicher & Marge Anderson
Care Notes Joyce Katz & Joan Reed
Friday Reminder Bette Bude & Mary Kay Wolfe

Branch Interest Group Events and Calendar

Interest group social events bring together members with similar interests.

Try one! Contact an Interest Group Chair.

See <https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/interest-groups/> or in the front of your Directory.

Book Groups Welcome All Readers

Download book lists at

<https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/interest-groups/>

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

September 21 Hostess, Bette Bude

Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt will be reviewed by Jan Horner.

Contact Alice Crippen.

Literature II 4th Monday, 11 a.m.

August 28 *How the Penguins Saved Veronica* by Hazel Prior will be reviewed by Joyce Katz.

September 25 *Daughters of Yalta* by Catherine Grace Katz will be reviewed by Erlaine Eltomi

Venue: Hearth Room, Town & Country Commons

Contact Joyce Katz or Erlaine Eltomi.

Reading Reality 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m.

September 12 *How the Word Is Passed* by Clint Smith.

Discussion will be led by Bette Bude at Bette's home.

For information about this non-fiction book group, contact Marcia Block or Mary Kay Wolfe.

AAUW ¡Adelante! 4th Thursday, 1:30 p.m.

September 28 Discussion of *This Tender Land* by Wm.

Kent Krueger will be led by Lynne Roney, and 2023–24 book selection meeting will be held by ZOOM*.

This IBC book group reads books written from diverse perspectives.

*Contact Patty Murray (pattymurrayaaauw@gmail.com)

Expressions 1st Tuesday, 1 p.m.

October 3 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church
13014 Olive Blvd, 63141

What will it be? Something new? Or a favorite repeat? Come see the sample at the September branch meeting. Expressions is a group for all forms of creative activity. Contact Nancy Hutchins or Debbie Cloud.

Movie Group 4th Thursday, 11 a.m.

September 28

Spiro's Restaurant, 1054 N Woods Mill Rd, Chesterfield, MO 63017

Contact Ann Riley or Mersine Kallaos.

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

September 20

Firefly Grill, Long Rd. and Edison Rd., Chesterfield

This sociable luncheon group meets at different restaurants around St. Louis each month.

Contact Barb McQuitty for a reservation.

Walking Group 3rd Fridays, 9 a.m.

September 15

Des Peres Park, 12325 Manchester Road, 63131

Walkers will join our annual Eleanor Roosevelt Walk (see page 2 announcement).

Get on the group list by telling Michele you'd like to join.

Contact Michele Mangnall.

Golf

Play 9 on Mondays, April thru October

All skill levels above beginner welcomed!

Play is scheduled at different courses around the area.

Contact Bev Wait or Elaine Frost to get on the email list.

Play Readers 3rd Mondays, 12:30 p.m.

September 18

Hostess Mersine Kallaos

Members will be contacted with meeting details.

Contact Marilyn Fletcher to learn more and join.

Bridge Groups

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

Social Bridge 3rd Monday, 10 a.m.

September 18

Contact Ellen Friedman or Jean Light.

Duplicate Bridge I 1st Tuesday, 11 a.m.

September 5

Contact Chris Magilligan or Elaine Frost

Duplicate Bridge II 4th Tuesday, 11 a.m.

September 26

Contact Alice Crippen or Elaine Frost.