



AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield (MO) Branch

National and AAUW MO Award-Winning Branch

Branching Out

January 2024
Volume 44 No. 6

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

ballwin-chesterfield.com

January 11, 2024

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.



Dr. Erin Schulte, Parkway School District

Coordinator of Counseling and Character Education for Parkway

Dr. Schulte will speak on the topic of "Mental Health of Students Post-Pandemic." She is passionate about the mental and physical well-being of herself and others. She says, "I am also a yoga instructor as I believe the practice supports mental and physical health."

Program Vice-President Janet Sloey

President's Corner

Everyone had a wonderful time at our Sassy Soiree winter gathering. Poinsettias decorated the tables and lively chatter filled the air. The St. Louis Strutters gave us excellent entertainment, changed stunning costumes multiple times, and wowed us when they shared their ages. Thanks, Sandy Brody, for your fearless leadership of this event. Thanks also to the committee members who helped put it all together.

This event was also the kickoff of the B-C Boosters fundraising drive. The drive contributes to our branch operating fund, which includes scholarships for women returning to university, STEM Girls of Promise, and St. Louis Science Fair Awards to high school young women with outstanding projects in the STEM field.

The B-C Booster forms are available at each branch meeting through April and on the website <https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/files/2023/11/2023-4-BC-Booster-form.pdf>. Bring forms to your Interest Group meetings and suggest shared sponsorship. Send your completed form and check to Linda Roberson (address in the Directory). Let us keep the important work of Ballwin-Chesterfield going!



Sage Taber



Sandy Brody

Presidents Sage Taber and Sandy Brody



Nominations Requested for 2024–26 Elected Officers

The Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for these two-year positions:

- Co-President
- Co-Vice President Membership
- Co-Vice President Program
- AAUW Fund Co-Director
- AAUW 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 (page 59) in the About Us section on the AAUW B-C website. President Sandy Brody or President Sage Taber can supply specific information for responsibilities for each of the positions to be filled.

Please follow these steps to nominate a member:

- Receive permission from the person you are nominating.
- Use the nomination form on the branch website under FLYERS & FORMS. This is also available at branch meetings.
- Send the completed form to a member of the nominating committee.

The nominating committee, consisting of Mary Biggs, Michele Mangnall, and Marcia Block will review the nominations and prepare the slate. Please send your nominations by January 31, 2024, to Nominating Committee Chair Marcia Block.

President Sandy Brody



Remembering Betty Jo Hogan

Betty Jo Hogan passed away on November 15, 2023. She became a member of Ballwin-Chesterfield in 2015 through her friend, Gloria Champion.

Betty was born in Mobile, Alabama, learned to ice skate as a child in Minneapolis, and attended high school in Columbus, Ohio. She earned a bachelor's degree in home economics from Illinois State University and a degree in education from UMSL. She was an academic advisor for many years at St Louis Community College, Meramec Campus.

Betty and her husband Pat enjoyed exploring the city of St. Louis, the many cultural and civic events of the region, and traveling throughout the United States and Europe.

Ever the lifelong learner, Betty was an accomplished bridge player, a talented household engineer, and an avid reader in a variety of literary genres. She was a beloved wife, mother, and grandmother. Her two children and three grandchildren enjoyed sharing time and countless experiences with her.

She served AAUW B-C as Co-Chair of Dollars for Scholars and enjoyed AAUW's social events, bridge, and outings. We are fortunate to have known her and we will miss her laugh, common sense advice, and conversations.

Gloria Champion and Nancy Pierson

Sew Hope Delivery

Marcia Block, Michele Mangnall, and Nancy Pierson delivered a carload of fabric, sewing supplies, and even a sewing machine to Sew Hope.

Kacie Long, who spoke at our October branch meeting about Sew Hope's mission to help women learn to sew and even become entrepreneurs, welcomed them.

Delivery Team Members

Pictured L-R:
Nancy Pierson, Michele Magnall, Kacie Long,
and Marcia Block at Sew for Hope.



Gloria Blackwill Keynote



AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell and
AAUW MO President Karen Francis

I recently had the pleasure of giving the keynote address and meeting with members at the [AAUW Central States Regional Conference](#) in St. Louis, where members and branches across a dozen states declared that we will only “reach new heights together.”

It was a *fantastic* gathering and I commend all who stepped up to organize and participate. AAUW is 142 years strong!

Reprinted from AAUW Mission & Action

Equal pay is about recognizing talent, closing the **gender wealth gap** and **empowering women** to invest in their futures.



ERA, Unfinished Business for the Constitution

The Equal Rights Amendment states: *Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.*

The bill was introduced in Congress in 1923, and was reintroduced every year until its passage in 1972. Finally, Congress gave state legislatures until 1982 to ratify the amendment. In 2020, Virginia became the 38th and final state needed to meet the extended three-fourths ratification requirement. However, the ERA continues to face challenges. The Senate's effort to ratify the ERA failed in April, 100 years after it was introduced to Congress. The House has taken no action.

ERA advocates have laid out a strategy for final recognition of the ERA according to *Roxy Szal, Ms. Magazine, October 9, 2023*:

- A joint congressional resolution to remove the timeline and recognize the ratification of the ERA.
- A separate congressional resolution, called the ERA Now resolution, instructing the archivist to publish the ERA as the 28th Amendment.
- A discharge petition, which seeks to compel the House of Representatives to vote on H.J. Res.25 to remove the arbitrary deadline for ratification.
- A petition drive to show widespread support for the amendment.

On the December 13 Day of Action, the ERA Coalition, which includes AAUW, told our elected officials that we want them to publish the ERA now. The December 7 *AAUW Washington Update* revealed that the U.S. is the only modern democracy that does not include sex equality in the Constitution. Without the ERA, advances in women's rights that we took for granted are at risk of being weakened or even reversed. Waiting a century for over half of the U.S. population to attain constitutional equality is long enough! AAUW encourages us to, "Take action and tell Congress, not one more year."

Public Policy Committee Member Pat Shores



In Support of the Passage of the ERA, January 2017



The public is cordially invited to the
International Relations Lecture Series (IRLS) 2024



Ethical Society of St. Louis
 9001 Clayton Road
 St. Louis, MO 63117

10:45 am Second Tuesday of January, February, March and April 2024

The TWA and AAUW invite you to learn from experts about the most critical issues affecting our global community. The 45-50 minute lectures begin promptly at 10:45 am in the upper auditorium and are followed by a question and answer session. Plan to bring a lunch and stay to discuss the day's topic further.

Admission is free, but donations are gratefully accepted.

Free parking is available behind the building.

In case of inclement weather, please call 314-991-0955, ext. 224.

Sponsored by the Tuesday Women's Association (TWA) of the Ethical Society of St. Louis and the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Metro St. Louis Branches

Usha Sathe, Chair

January 9, 2024 *Rising costs of Health Care in the U.S.: Why is our System the Most Expensive in the World and is that Changing?* **Dr. Timothy McBride**

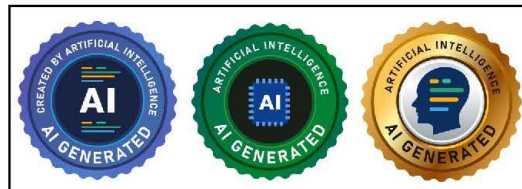
Dr. Timothy McBride is the Bernard Becker Professor at Washington University in the Brown School and co-Director of the Center for Advancing Health Services Policy and Economics Research (CAHSPER) in the Institute for Public Health (IPH). Dr. McBride is an influential health policy analyst and health economist shaping the national agenda on the uninsured and health insurance markets, rural health care, health reform, Medicare and Medicaid policy, long-term care, and health economics. For two decades, he has been active in working with the U.S. Congress and state policymakers, providing policy advice on a regular basis on health reform, Medicare, Medicaid, and rural health policy. He was the first



Associate Dean for Public Health at Washington University, leading the initial development of the Brown School's Master of Public Health (MPH) program to accreditation in 2011. He led the creation of the first Health Policy program at Saint Louis University. A member of several national committees and Boards, Dr. McBride is currently serving as Vice Chair for St. Louis Board of Health and serves on the Justice Services Board for St. Louis County. He is past Chair of the MOHealthNET Oversight Committee, which serves in an advisory role for the state of Missouri's Medicaid program. In 2012, Dr. McBride was awarded the Outstanding Rural Health Researcher of the Year by the National Rural Health Association and a "Health Care Hero" by the St. Louis Business Journal in 2007.
Committee: Elaine Miller, Pam Meyers

February 13, 2024 *Generative AI* **Dr. Anshuman Singh**

Some of the recent advances in AI that can be clubbed under the term "Generative AI" have raised new questions around ethics and safety of AI. Safety recalls in automobiles and other consumer products are common. Today the case for safety recalls in AI products is more imminent than in any other sector given the scale of impact AI has on our society, economy, and discourse. Regulations around AI have not even kept pace with advances that happened in AI a decade ago, and now we are grappling with the impact of Generative AI.



Dr. Anshuman Singh is an AI educator, researcher, entrepreneur, and a hacker in the traditional meaning of the term. He is the co-founder and Chief Academic Officer at an education startup that is building an online AI university. Prior to this, he was the curriculum architect at [DeepLearning.AI](https://www.deeplearning.ai), working with AI pioneer Andrew Ng leading the development of AI courses that have been taken by millions of learners around the world. Dr. Singh was in academia for a decade and was an Associate Professor at the University of Missouri-St Louis until 2022.

Dr. Singh's specialization is at the intersection of artificial intelligence and cybersecurity. In the past, he has also worked as a research scientist on DARPA and Air Force-funded research projects on the application of artificial intelligence. He earned his PhD in Computer Science from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. He holds the CISSP and GPEN certifications and is a certified ethical hacker.
Committee: Judi Lohaus, Marge Andersen



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*Sponsored by the Tuesday Women's Association (TWA) of the Ethical Society of St. Louis
 and the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Metro St. Louis Branches*

Usha Sathe, Chair

March 12, 2024 *New Horizons: Global Migration Trends
 and Implications for the US Asylum System*

Jessica Mayo, JD

International migration has steadily increased over the past 30 years, and it is projected to continue increasing in light of global warming and violent conflicts. We will examine the current global reality and the United States' role as a prominent destination for immigrants. What is the future that we are co-creating through our response to this enormous challenge – and its accompanying opportunities?



Jessica Mayo is an attorney and Co-Director of the [Migrant and Immigrant Community Action Project](#) in St. Louis. The MICA Project is a community organization committed to working with low-income immigrants to overcome barriers to justice. The MICA Project utilizes legal services, organizing, advocacy, and education to promote the voice and human dignity of immigrant communities.

Committee: Marsha Koch, Alison Wiffenburg

April 9, 2024 **NATO**

Dr. Kelly-Kate S. Pease



NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

Dr. Kelly-Kate S. Pease will briefly discuss the creation and evolution of NATO and examine the debates surrounding NATO expansion. She will also assess the interactive relationship between NATO and the Russia-Ukraine Conflict.

Dr. Kelly-Kate S. Pease is Professor of International Relations at Webster University. She has published extensively in areas related to international relations, international organizations, human rights, and humanitarian affairs. Her books include *International Organizations: Perspectives on Global Governance* (6th ed), *The United Nations and Changing World Politics* (co-author, 8th ed), and *Human Rights and Humanitarian Diplomacy*. Dr. Pease also publishes articles and chapters on human rights, humanitarian intervention, humanitarian assistance, diplomacy, the United Nations, and international criminal law.



Committee: Sue Williams, Susie Teicher, Patty Murray



Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council
2024 Annual Spring Luncheon



"Spring Fling"

Honoring our Barbara Lackritz Awardees
Women Entrepreneurs: Breaking the Glass Ceiling
with Bev Schuetz

Saturday, March 23, 2024 at 11:00 am to 2 pm

Catering to You

12775 New Halls Ferry Road, Florissant 63033

I-270 North/East, Take exit 30 for Pershall Road/New Halls Ferry Rd, Turn Left
Parking and Entrance are behind the building

Registration is \$40 and includes Program and Hot Buffet

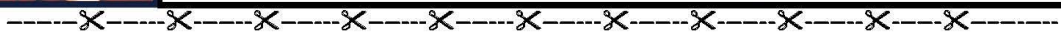
Mushroom Herb Baked Chicken, Roasted Top Round of Beef Au Jus
Salad, Red Skin Garlic Mashers, Steamed Garlic Buttered Broccoli, Dessert



Bev Schuetz is a popular and dynamic speaker who has created HISTORY TALKS, a series of live presentations available to organizations. She is known for her unique topics, delightful presentations, and thoroughly researched programs. Bev's presentations showcase her unique perspective and special insight on colorful historical subjects.

Visit historytalks.info

"Meet the fascinating women who broke barriers to succeed in business where no women had gone before."



Name _____ Branch _____

Email _____ Phone (____) _____

Reservations _____ * @ \$40 = \$ _____

Checks payable to AAUW Metro St. Louis IBC

Dietary Restrictions _____

Reservation total from above \$ _____

Raffle Tickets pre-purchase (3 for \$10) _____ = \$ _____

Raffle Tickets but not attending (3 for \$10) _____ = \$ _____

Additional contribution Thank you!! \$ _____

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Form for Treasurer: Check #, Amount \$, Date Rec'd

Mail form and check by March 11th to

Carol Davis McDonald
827 Bergquist Drive
Manchester MO 63011-4215

For more information, contact

Jan Horner 314-422-4881
janethorner@yahoo.com

*Guest Name(s):

Please print legibly; depositing your envelope inside the Post Office is recommended.

Dollars for Scholars Events

International Relations Lecture Series, a DFS event

The Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Road, 63117
Tuesday, January 9, 10:45 – 11:30 a.m. Cost: \$10
Carpool Available Optional lunch afterward at Sugo's Italian
Professor **Timothy D. McBride**, Brown School at Washington
University: *The Rising Cost of Health Care in the U.S. Why is
our system the most expensive in the world and is that
changing?* Sponsors **Marge Andersen and Nancy Pierson**

An Afternoon of Mah Jongg, Thursday, January 18, 12 –3 p.m.

Optional lunch at 11 a.m. at Thirteen Fifty-Six Public House,
1356 Big Bend Road, Ballwin
Enjoy an afternoon playing Mah Jongg for fun and friendship.
Invite non-AAUW member friends who play Mah Jongg to
support our scholarship program. Space is limited to six tables.
Sponsors **Janet Sloey, Michele Mangnall, and Jayne Kasten.**

International Relations Lecture Series, a DFS event Tuesday February 13, 10:45 – 11:30 a.m. Cost: \$10

Carpool Available Optional lunch afterward
Speaker **Dr. Anshuman Singh** speaks on Generative AI and
new questions around ethics and safety of AI. Singh is an AI
educator, researcher, entrepreneur, and co-founder of an
education startup that is building an online AI university.
Sponsors **Marge Andersen and Nancy Pierson**

Succulent Planter Private Party for AAUW

Chesterfield Valley Nursery 16825 N Outer 40 Rd., 63005
Friday, Friday, March 1, 1–3 p.m. Level 1 (\$35) Level 2 (\$50)
Learn to assemble your own succulent or cactus planter as the
perfect accent to your home décor or as a gift to a friend.
Complimentary snack bar provided and a 20 percent coupon for
additional purchases. Level 1 chooses one succulent or cactus
to take home. Level 2 creates and keeps a planter, a selection
of succulents and cactus, decorative rock, and potting mix.
(\$10 to DFS included in cost) Sponsor **Nancy Pierson**

There's Fun in the Factory Sammy Soap Tour

123 Argonne, Kirkwood, 63122
Friday, March 22, noon Total Cost \$25 (\$15 to DFS)
Learn about cold process soap making where art meets
chemistry in the factory and the result is magic. Shop in their
interesting store afterward. Optional lunch nearby at Billy G's.
Mail your \$25 check to Pat Shores.
Sponsors **Marian Bauer and Pat Shores**

Continuing at the January 2024 Branch Meeting

Sip for Scholars Coffee Bar Cost \$2 per cup

Elegant Edible Raffle—Bring some cash for a chance to win a
home-made delectable dessert made by a fellow member.

Book, Puzzle, CD, DVR Sale—Donate current books from last
five years. Exceptions made for the classics. No textbooks
please. Children's books in good condition will be accepted.
Please limit your donations to 10 items.

The AAUW DFS Honor Roll

In Memory of Betty Jo Hogan

*In Honor of Suzanne Couch
Thank you for your help*

*In Honor of Pat Shores
Thank you for your help*

Honor a friend or family member. To donate In
Memory Of, email **Nancy Pierson** the name of the
honoree and contact information to whom the
acknowledgement 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 Ballwin-Chesterfield Board

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

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 **Sandy Brody & Sage Taber**
Directory **Ann Patrice O'Shaughnessy & Joyce Katz**
Dollars for Scholars **Nancy Pierson**
Governance **Marsha Weppelman**
Hospitality **Carol Derington & Suzanne Couch**
Newsletter Editors **Mary Jermak, Joyce Katz, & Pat Shores**
University Liaison **Susan Shriver**

Special Events

Spring Luncheon **Yvonne Ward & Carol Anthony**
STEM **Marcia Block**
Web Managers **Joyce Katz & Carolyn Brown**

- Board meetings— first Thursday 9:30 a.m.,
September–November and February–May
- Branch meetings are the second Thursday of the
month. September–April 9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.
- The May Luncheon is the second Thursday of May
and Summer Picnic the second Thursday of July.
- Contact branch officers: [https://ballwinchesterfield-
mo.aauw.net/contact-us/](https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/contact-us/) or the **Directory**.
- *Branching Out* is published 10 times annually.

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 pages 9–11 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.

January 18 *Road to Character* by David Brooks will be reviewed by Cay Noble.

Hostess Cay Noble

Contact Alice Crippen.

Literature II 4th Monday, 11 a.m.

January 22 *Mad Honey* by Jodi Picoult will be reviewed by Beth Ann Murphy.

Hearth Room, Town & Country Commons

Contact Joyce Katz or Erlaine Eltomi.

Reading Reality 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m.

January 9 *The Wager* by David Gann will be reviewed by Angie Janik.

Hostess Marcia Block

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

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

January 25 *Sold* by Patricia McCormick will be reviewed by Patty Murray.

This IBC group meets by ZOOM* and reads books written from diverse perspectives.

*Contact Patty Murray (pattymurrayaauw@gmail.com)

Expressions 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m.

January 9 (Note change of date for this month), Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 13014 Olive Blvd, 63141 Jan Barrett will be leading our group with a selection of three beaded earrings crafters can make.

Contact Kay Meyer or Debbie Cloud to let them know you will attend.

Movie Group 3rd Thursday, 11:15 a.m.

January 18 Talayna's 68 Four Seasons Shopping Center, Chesterfield, 63017

All it takes is a love of movies and discussion to enjoy this group.

Contact Ann Riley or Mersine Kallaos.

Munching Matters-Lunch with Food for Thought

January 10 Mimi's Bistro and Bakery 17240 Chesterfield Airport Rd, Chesterfield

Hear about the unique experiences of member-speaker Jeanne Webdell.

Call Julie Triplett or Doris Nistler for a reservation or for further information.

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

January 17 Spiro's 54 N. Woods Mill Rd, Chesterfield, 63017

Now that the holidays have passed, it is time to relax and enjoy lunch with your AAUW friends!

Spiro's is a FAVORITE Restaurant! Contact Ann Hansen to make a reservation by email or phone.

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

January 15

Hostess Carol Derington

Join with friends to deepen your enjoyment of favorite plays. Members will be contacted with meeting details.

Contact Marilyn Fletcher to learn more and join.

Walking Group 4th Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.

Resumes in April 2024

Enjoy weekly walks with friends in local parklands!

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

Contact Michele Mangnall.

Bridge Groups

If you would like to play bridge, contact a bridge group chairperson.

Social Bridge 3rd Monday, 10 a.m.

January 15, Contact Ellen Friedman or Jean Light.

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

January 2, Contact Chris Magilligan or Elaine Frost.

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

January 23, Contact Alice Crippen or Elaine Frost.