



AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield (MO) Branch

National and AAUW MO Award-Winning Branch

Branching Out

April 2024
Volume 44 No. 9

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

ballwin-chesterfield.com

April 11, 2024, Branch Meeting

Ballwin Golf Course Events Center, 333 Holloway Rd., Ballwin 63011
Social Time 9 a.m. Business Meeting 9:30 a.m. Speaker 10:30 a.m.

Julia Brown

The Electoral College and the Proposed National Popular Vote Interstate Compact

Julia is the chair of the League of Women Voters of Metro St. Louis' National Popular Vote Committee and a board member of the LWV. Julia graduated from Washington University with a degree in mechanical engineering. She also earned a degree in French from Dartmouth College and a master's in environmental health engineering from University of Texas at Austin. Julia was employed as an environmental engineer at Monsanto and at the US Environmental Protection Agency where she worked primarily in hazardous waste programs. Not only is she a volunteer for the League of Women Voters, but she also volunteers for the Red Cross.



Program Vice President Kathy Brown

President's Corner

Greetings to all,

We would like to address the issue of Open Up AAUW. Members are being asked to vote in favor of dropping the degree requirement to be a member of AAUW.

Dropping the degree requirement will not change AAUW. Our organization has spent 142 years advocating for women. At first, we were the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, an organization for women who received an approved degree from an approved college or institution. Things were quite different then, but 142 years later we are still advocating for equity for women.

In the 2020 census, there were more women (39.1 percent) than men (36.6 percent) with college degrees. The days when women could only attend all female educational institutions are gone, but there is more work to be done, and it is possible that people without college degrees would like to be involved.

AAUW is utilizing SimplyVoting.com, an independent, third-party voting system for this year's vote. **April 3 | Voting opens.** Look for your encrypted ballot email from Simply Voting. Check your spam folder. **May 15 | Online voting ends at 12 noon EDT,** and results will be announced online. All members without an email address on file or who have unsubscribed from AAUW National emails will receive a paper ballot by mail.

AAUW National, AAUW MO, and your co-presidents urge you to vote yes to Open AAUW.

Presidents Sandy Brody and Sage Taber



Sandy Brody



Sage Taber

Support the BC Boosters!

April is the last month to join this fundraiser for the Branch Operating Fund which supports local scholarships and the other important Ballwin-Chesterfield programs for women and girls. Simply place a check in a green envelope and mail it to Linda Roberson or bring it to the April branch meeting. Any amount is welcome. The form can be downloaded from the B-C website, ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net

President Sage Taber

Join Us for AAUW MO Annual Meeting 2024

Saturday, May 4, 2024

Advocacy and Equity – A Winning Team!

This is an in-person meeting that will include an address from AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell, awards for Woman of Achievement, Outstanding Member, AAUW FUND awards, branch STAR Awards, and the election and installation of new state officers.

- The noon luncheon speaker will feature Director and General Counsel of the Missouri Voter Protection Coalition Denise Lieberman to update us on Missouri voting issues.
- There will be updates on library censorship issues, public policy initiatives, and college/university relations.
- At lunchtime we will also have our popular counterpart sessions for branch leaders.
- Rising food costs have caused the registration fee to increase to \$75 before April 17 and \$85 after that date. A continental breakfast and Saturday lunch are included in the price.
- AAUW MO is working to provide each branch with stipends through the Branch Incentive Fund to assist members to attend.
- Ballwin-Chesterfield also has funds available to help offset the early bird registration fee of \$75 according to the Convention and Conference Reimbursement Guidelines.
- Contact Sage or Sandy if you would like financial help to attend.
- See <https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/files/2024/02/Advocacy-and-Equity.pdf> for details, costs, and hotel information.

Presidents Sandy Brody and Sage Taber

Meet Our Newest Missouri Trail Suffragist

Sunday, April 7, 2024 1 to 2:30 p.m.

**IBEW Museum, located at the Henry Miller Museum
2726-28 Martin Luther King Drive, St. Louis, MO**

Labor, Suffrage, and Social Justice-Cynthelia Knefler's Contribution to St. Louis History

Presented by Rosemary Feurer, History Professor at Northern Illinois University, and the author of books and articles about the labor movement in the Midwest.

This talk is in conjunction with the exhibit, Dangerous Women, which will be open for viewing at the time of this talk.

Contact Pat Shores by April 1, 2024, to carpool.

Votes for Women Missouri Trail Coordinator Pat Shores

Spring Luncheon, Encircling All Women

Thursday, May 9, 2024

Luncheon Cost is \$45.

Social Hour 11 a.m. Lunch 12 noon

Marriott West Hotel, 660 Maryville Center Drive, St Louis, MO 63141

The Ballwin-Chesterfield branch invites all members and their guests to the annual Spring Luncheon. Installation of new officers, recognition of member achievements within the past year, and the acknowledgement of the contributions of our membership will take place during this special event.

The menu choices are:

- Roasted Chicken with shallot Demi-Glace.
- Pan Seared Salmon with lemon-dill cream sauce.
- Penne Pasta with basil and olive oil tossed with asparagus, mushrooms, and sun-dried tomatoes.
- Chicken and Salmon entrees also include vegetable medley and herb- seasoned mashed potatoes.
- All meal choices include salad, dessert, and a beverage.

Committee representatives will be available to assist members and to accept your reservation at the April meetings. As a reminder, please bring your checkbook to secure your table reservation. If you are unable to attend the April meeting, send your reservation check to Finance Officer Jean Light. Make your \$45 check payable to AAUW B-C with Spring Luncheon on the memo line. Checks must be received by the May 1, 2024, deadline.

Spring Luncheon Co-Director Yvonne Ward



Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch Recognized by the National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis

On April 3, 2024, NCJW will recognize Ballwin-Chesterfield with the Community Partnership Award. Karen Francis and Pat Shores will represent the branch at the *Celebrate NCJWSTL Women* event. Sandy Brody and Sage Taber will also attend.

Officer Nominee Slate 2024–26



Co-President –Carol Anthony

Carol joined AAUW B-C in 2013. She has participated in branch leadership in multiple roles: Spring Luncheon co-chair, 2016-19, and current chair, chair of hospitality, 2019–20, and Co-Vice President of Program, 2020–22. Carol was a Winter Auction greeter and cashier and was on the EOF committee. She was a Named Gift Honoree in 2017. She was on the site committee representing B-C branch at the 2023 Central States Regional Conference last October.

Carol worked in the Webster Groves School District in elementary education as a classroom teacher for 30 years before retiring in 2013. For the last 13 years of her career, she was a Gifted Education Specialist. Carol received a bachelor of education and a master of computer education from Fontbonne University, and a master in Gifted Education from Maryville University. Carol is widowed and has two married children and two grandsons. She resides in Chesterfield.



Program Vice-President–Marcia Block

Marcia Block joined AAUW in 2005. Before retiring in 2002, she taught English for 36 years. She holds a bachelor of arts in English from North Park University and a master of arts in English from Northwestern University. With AAUW, she has held the offices of Parliamentarian, co-chair of EOF, co-president, 2010–12 and 2017–19, co-chair of Spring Luncheon, co-chair of Winter Auction (3 years), and co vice-president Program (2021–23), and has served on a variety of committees. Currently she is the STEM chair. Marcia has attended four national conventions, numerous state conventions, and one regional convention. In 2023, Marcia was the branch Barbara Lackritz awardee. Marcia also volunteers with Wild

Bird Rehabilitation. She is widowed with a son and daughter and two granddaughters.



Finance Officer –Jean Light

Jean holds a bachelor of science degree in elementary education from East Tennessee State University and an associate degree in data processing. After briefly teaching, she changed to information technology where she enjoyed a 30-year career in sales and services. She plays piano and enjoys listening to a wide range of music from jazz to classical. She is currently the AAUW B-C branch finance officer and has agreed to serve a second term. Jean was a co-editor of *Branching Out*. Jean is widowed with two adult children, a daughter-in-law, and five grandchildren. She enjoys living in St. Louis and being with family and many wonderful friends.



April Walgren, Membership Vice President

April is a graduate of Nebraska Wesleyan University (BA), University of Missouri (Columbia) School of Journalism (MA) and University of Missouri-St. Louis (MBA). Following retirement from Nestle Purina, she joined AAUW B-C in 2021 and has served as membership vice president since 2022 and has agreed to serve a second term. April enjoys tap dancing and participating in the music program at her church.

Officer Nominee Slate 2024–26, *continued*



Public Policy Co-Director– Marian Bauer

Marian joined Ballwin-Chesterfield in 2005 and has held many leadership positions. She has agreed to serve a second term as Public Policy Director. Marian has served as branch historian, International Relations Lecture Series coordinator, branch president 2011–13, EOF co-director and AAUW Fund co-director. Marian served on many committees including membership, EOF, university liaison, and program. She has attended many AAUW MO conventions and two national conventions and sponsors numerous Dollars for Scholars events. Marian received her bachelor's in history from Marillac College and master's in education from Notre Dame College, Belmont CA. She spent 40 years in elementary education as a teacher and principal. Marian enjoys the company of her nieces and nephews and of her friends, and enjoys traveling, movies, and golf.



Suzanne Couch, AAUW Fund Co-Director

Suzanne is a graduate of Southwest Missouri State University and received her master's degree from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. Suzanne is retired from the Rockwood School District. She taught for 30 years as a home economics teacher at Lafayette and Eureka High Schools.

Suzanne currently serves as a Director of B-C AAUW Fund and has agreed to a second term. She joined AAUW B-C in 2002, and has served as president, vice-president of program, and as chair of many committees, including the Winter Auction Committee. She has chaired IBC and has served as a liaison to the AAUW Missouri President. Currently, she collects items from our members for St. Martha's Hall, the abused women's shelter in St. Louis. Suzanne currently resides in Fenton.



Gender Equity Education

Public Policy is a system of laws, regulatory measures, courses of action, and funding priorities concerning a given topic promulgated by a governmental entity or its representatives.

Gender equity is the process of being fair to women and men. To ensure fairness strategies and measures must often be available to compensate for women's historical and social disadvantages that prevent women and men from otherwise operating on a level playing field. Equity leads to equality.

Examples of Gender Equality

- Equity at home, sharing housework and childcare.
- Equal pay for equal work.
- Zero tolerance for sexual harassment and gender bias.

Gender Equity Education, *continued*

America's system of education is the basis of equity bringing those who have been disenfranchised into the modern world on an equal basis where they can contribute to society. Gender Equity Education brings about inclusion, making our society better.

AAUW BC Public Policy Committee Member Sandra Murdock

STEM Girls of Promise

One of our most rewarding events of the year is participating in the recognition of our STEM Girls of Promise each spring. These junior women have been selected by their STEM teachers. Please join us at one or more of these events. Meeting them, their parents, and their teachers is a delight.

If you have already signed up, you will be contacted. If not, please let one of the co-chairs know you'd like to attend.



- Thursday, April 4, at Valley Park High School 7– 8 a.m. (arrive 6:45 a.m.).
- Friday, April 12, at Maplewood Richmond Heights High School 2:40–3:20 p.m. (arrive 2:25 p.m.).
- Monday, April 15, at Pattonville High School 7–8:30 a.m. (arrive 6:45 a.m.).

STEM Co-chairs Marcia Block and Barb McQuitty

The gender pay gap cuts across all demographics and generally grows wider over a woman's career, resulting in an income and wealth gap that persists into retirement.

The image features a woman in a light-colored suit jacket and a pink blouse, standing with her arms crossed. The background is a light teal color. In the bottom left corner, the AAUW logo is displayed, consisting of the letters 'AAUW' in a dark blue font next to a stylized orange and white circular emblem.

Dollars for Scholars Events

Dollars for Scholars donations are not tax-deductible.

International Relations Lecture Series, a DFS event

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

Cost: \$10 Carpool Available Optional lunch afterward.

April 9 Speaker Dr. Kelly-Kate S. Pease, Professor of International Relations at Webster University.

Dr. Pease explains the creation and evolution of NATO and examines debates surrounding NATO expansion including the interactive relationship between NATO and the Russia-Ukraine Conflict.

Sponsors Marge Andersen and Nancy Pierson

Bridge Party to benefit DFS!

May 30, Thursday 10:30 a.m.

Hearth Room Cafe

265 Lamp and Lantern Village, Chesterfield

Cost \$30 per person includes lunch

Bring a partner and enjoy an afternoon of bridge. Space is limited to 40 people (20 partners). Make reservations at the April meeting or send a check to Jean Light and made payable to AAUW B-C, "Bridge Party" in memo line. Reservations by May 15.

Lewis and Clark Museum with Film

1050 S Riverside Dr. St Charles, MO 63301

Friday, June 14 Cost \$22 (\$15 to DFS)

Enjoy a brief docent-presented overview of Lewis and Clark's famous expedition to the Pacific, followed by a fascinating 40-minute film depicting the journey. Afterwards stroll around the museum to view the artifacts and paraphernalia displays and dioramas. Docent available to answer all questions. Lunch afterwards at Braddens Restaurant on picturesque St. Charles' Main Street.

Sponsors Susie Teicher and Nancy Pierson

Continuing in April

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 are accepted. Please limit your donations to 10 items.

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 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 memo line.

Upcoming Coffee Concerts

Sponsored by Roz Marx

Kirkwood Performing Arts Center

Taylor and Monroe Streets, Kirkwood

Concert at 10 a.m. **Cost is \$25** (\$15 to DFS).

Complimentary coffee, tea, pastries at 9 a.m.

- April 2 Natalie Mayor, A Tribute to Burt Bacharach and The Carpenters
- April 12 Anita Jackson, The Queen of St Louis Jazz performs her favorite standards
- April 30 Anita Rosamond, Groovin' to the 60's & 70's
- May 14 Arvell Keithly, A Tribute to Ray Charles
- May 28 Ron Wilkinson, My Music & Some Old Familiar Classics

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 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

- Branch meetings are the second Thursday of the month. September–April 9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.
- Contact branch officers: <https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/contact-us/> or the Directory.

Branch Interest Group Events

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.

April 18 *Trust* by Hernan Diaz will be reviewed by Bette Bude.

Hostess Bette Bude
Contact Alice Crippen.

Literature II 4th Monday, 11 a.m.

April 22 *The Second Life of Mirielle West* by Amanda Skenandore will be reviewed by Rosann Swaringim

Hearth Room, Town & Country Commons
Contact Joyce Katz or Erlaine Eltomi for your reservation or for more information.

Reading Reality 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m.

April 9 *A Fever in the Heartland* by Timothy Egan will be reviewed by Dianne Compton
Hostess Mary Jermak

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

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

April 25 *Crow Mary* by Kathleen Grissom will be reviewed by Teri Brecht

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

*Contact Patty Murray (pattymurrayaaauw@gmail.com)

Bridge Groups

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

Social Bridge 3rd Monday, 10 a.m.

April 15 Contact Ellen Friedman or Jean Light.

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

April 2 Contact Chris Magilligan or Elaine Frost.

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

April 23 Contact Alice Crippen or Elaine Frost

Expressions 1st Tuesday

Next meeting to be announced
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
13014 Olive Blvd, 63141

Movie Group 4th Thursday 12:15 p.m.

April 25 Talayna's restaurant
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.

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

April 17 Olivia on the Hill, 4923 Daggett 63110

You are invited to join us for a spectacular luncheon! Olivia is part of the Unique Antique Market. Following lunch, you will enjoy browsing the many kiosks filled with treasures. You are NOT going to want to miss this gathering!

For reservations prior to April 10, contact Ann Hansen.

Play Readers 3rd Monday, 12:15 p.m.

April 15 Meet at Ann Riley's home

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.

April 24, 2024, Longview Farm Park
13525 Clayton Road, Town & Country, 63142.

Meet at the horse barn. This is a flat walk.

Enjoy monthly walks with friends in local parklands!

The Walking Group continue walks monthly through October.

To get on the contact list and receive reminders or alerts regarding each walk, let Michele know.

Contact Michele Mangnall.

Munching Matters 2nd Wednesday, 11 a.m.

“Lunch with Food for Thought” will resume in November.

Contact Doris Nistler or Julie Triplett for more information.