



Branching Out November 2024

Vol. 46 No. 4

Ballwin-Chesterfield (MO) Branch

National and State Award-Winning Branch

AAUW Advances Gender Equity for Women and Girls

Through Research, Education, and Advocacy.

Learn more at ballwin-chesterfield.com

Branch Meeting, November 14, 2024

Ballwin Golf Course Events Center

333 Holloway Road, Ballwin, MO 63011

Signups and Social time 9 a.m.

Business meeting 9:30 a.m.

Program 10:30 a.m.

November Speaker Carol Davit, *Why Prairies Matter: New Relevancies of a Vanishing Landscape*

By Program Chair Kathy Brown



Carol is the Executive Director of the Missouri Prairie Foundation and its Grow Native program. Missouri Prairie Foundation is a 57-year-old land trust whose mission is to protect and restore prairie and other native grassland. Carol grew up in Lee's Summit, Missouri, on the Shaw Nature Reserve with hours of unsupervised play. She has worked for over 25 years in conservation and environmental fields in communication, development, administration, and leadership capacities for private nonprofit conservation groups and at the

municipal and government levels. She has written on a wide variety of natural history and conservation topics for *Missouri Prairie Journal*, *Missouri Conservationist*, and other publications. Her bachelor's and master's degrees are in Interdisciplinary Studies.

PRESIDENTS' CORNER

By Presidents Sage Taber and Carol Anthony

We hope that this message finds everyone well and enjoying the cooler fall weather. AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield has been bustling with activity that will take us through the winter holidays.

Plans are underway to deliver a great Winter Party on December 12. There will be raffles, drinks, and a delicious boxed lunch prepared by the Art of Entertaining. The Parkway West Jazz Choir will provide entertainment! The party takes place at the Ballwin Golf Events Center, our regular meeting place.

We continue to work on the issues that make AAUW great. The work of our national organization can only continue with support from the members through action on policy issues and contributions to the Greatest Needs Fund. Please continue to read *Branching Out* and the Bulletins from National to stay informed, act when requested, and contribute when you can.

Our Branch Fund Directors will be taking contributions for National's Greatest Needs Fund at the November Branch Meeting. You can also go online anytime to make your tax-exempt donation.

Thanks to all for your cooperation, perseverance, and support.



Sage Taber

Carol Anthony

Public Policy

By Public Policy Chair Marian Bauer

We are nearing one of the most significant elections of our life time when being an informed and active voter is extremely important. You have received election information from the Public Policy Committee in the Friday notes, by mail, and at a meeting about the Amendments and propositions. In Missouri, we elect judges with twenty-four up for reelection this year. You can find out more about the judges at yourmissourijudges.org Experts suggest we plan a time to vote, mark our sample ballot, take it with us to the polls, and exercise our important right to elect people who will serve our country well.



Ballwin-Chesterfield Board Meeting

The Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch Board of Directors meets on the first Thursday of the month, at 9:30 a.m., at the West County EMS and Fire Protection District Station, 1 Administrative Building, 223 Henry Avenue, Manchester, MO 63011. All board members are expected to attend. If you are in a two-person position, only one person needs to come but all are welcome. Branch members can attend any board meeting.



AAUW Fund November Collection By AAUW Fund Director Karen Francis

Suzanne Couch and I will collect your tax-deductible donation to AAUW National at the November branch meeting. We request that you make your contribution to the Greatest Needs Fund. The Greatest Needs Fund supports the programs that fulfill our AAUW mission of equity for women and girls at the national, state, and local levels.

Your membership dues fund only 14% of the national budget. It is easy to donate online, but we will gladly accept your checks at the meeting. We would love to have 50% of our members contribute as generously as possible. Your donation is more important now than ever as the rights of women and girls are under attack.

November is Individual Giving Month How to Donate Online to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund By Finance Officer Jean Light

Go to aauw.org and **click on the red button that says DONATE.**

1. On the Donate page, choose the fund you want to support. Many Ballwin-Chesterfield members give to #9110, the Greatest Needs Fund, which allows national to use funds where they are most needed for the benefit of women and girls.
2. Click on the blue COUNT ME IN button.
3. On the Welcome page:
 - a. Log in with your email. You already have an account if you paid your dues.
 - b. Put in your AAUW password.
 - c. Click on the blue LOG IN button.
4. On Every Dollar Counts. Donations. Check Out page:
 - a. Enter the amount you want to give.
 - b. Choose your Donation Frequency.
 - c. Read the Transaction Information.
 - d. Enter your email in The Order Details.
 - e. Enter your payment type.
 - f. Fill in the Answer My Pay Methods.
 - g. Enter your Gift Total.
5. Choose "I am not a robot".
6. Click on the red CHECK OUT box.
7. Review Donation Products.
8. Click on the red Print box.
9. You will get a confirmation email right away.



Thank you for supporting AAUW.

CONNECT WITH AAUW NATIONAL



What Does AAUW Do?

By Sue Barley and AAUW National Staff

This is the first article in a series about what AAUW does.

Policy Advocacy

AAUW focuses on national issues affecting women and girls, such as education equity, pay equity, and reproductive rights.

AAUW coordinates the Public Policy state committees, participates in coalition work, and partners with other prominent national organizations like the YWCA for the Gen Z Town Hall in Philadelphia.

AAUW National provides monthly opportunities for cross-state collaboration and information sharing between the state public policy chairs. The group has been sharing training resources on voter engagement this summer and fall and will be providing peer-to-peer capacity training for members who want to get more engaged in legislative advocacy after the election.

The policy team has been working with Missouri President, Sue Shineman, and Missouri Public Policy Chair, Alice Kitchen, on developing a communications plan to share information about Amendment 3. Social media content, op-eds, and letters to the editors have been created in support of AAUW MO's position on the Amendment

In addition to supporting the work branches and states are doing in-state, the national policy team will also be sharing state-by-state data on the pay gap and providing targeted actions that our members can take to support federal solutions.

Watch for more articles coming up in future newsletter about Subject Matter Expertise, Salary Negotiation and Financial Literacy Training, Fellowships and Grants, and Membership Services.

Catch up on Recent AAUW Webinars

AAUW is committed to staying connected, so we're providing regular webinar content for our communities. Check out the below recordings from past webinars and look out for news of upcoming online events!

September Member Gathering Recording

We're excited to share the recording of this year's Member Gathering! Held on Tuesday, September 10, we recognized outstanding supporters and branches, shared updates on our work, and fostered connections within our AAUW community. [Watch the recording here.](#)

[CEO Webinar: In Conversation with Dr. Pempho Chinkondenji](#)

Watch CEO Gloria L. Blackwell's conversation with AAUW International Fellow alumna, Pempho Chinkondenji, Ph.D.

Dr. Chinkondenji discussed her work on addressing structural inequalities within educational policies and practices, with a specific emphasis on the intersection of education, gender, race, and motherhood. Dr. Chinkondenji is a scholar, educator, and practitioner-activist in the field of comparative and international education.

[AAUW.org](#)

[Leave No One Behind: Combatting Global Human Trafficking](#)

The UN Office on Drugs and Crime marks July 30 as World Day Against Trafficking in Persons to raise awareness and strengthen global efforts for the prevention and elimination of human trafficking. This year's theme, "Reach every victim of trafficking, leave no one behind," centers survivors in these efforts. Tune into AAUW's Chief Executive Officer Gloria L. Blackwell for this informative discussion with AAUW fellowships & grants expert alumnae on work to combat human trafficking globally and in the United States.

[AAUW.org](#)

BRANCH PRIORITIES

Ballwin-Chesterfield Scholarship Recipients

By University Liaison Mary Jermak

The AAUW of Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch is pleased to announce the 2024–25 recipients of the scholarships for non-traditional women students.

Maryville University students Latosha Aytch and Nicole Zugmaier are seniors majoring in nursing and are from the St. Louis area. These women will receive a \$1000 award for each of the fall and spring semesters for a total of \$2000 each. Ms. Aytch and Ms. Zugmaier were selected by Maryville’s financial aid department using B-C’s scholarship criteria.

1. A non-traditional female student, i.e., at least 10 years post-high school,
2. Close to graduation,
3. Preferably studying in the STEM field, which is an AAUW priority.

The B-C branch has a long history of providing financial support to non-traditional women students who are close to graduation, thereby giving an assist to be employed in their field of study soon after graduation. These scholarships are funded by member sponsored Dollars for Scholars events. Member involvement in DFS, both as sponsors and attendees, is important to maintain our branch scholarship program.

St. Martha’s Hall Collection Schedule

By Suzanne Couch and Marian Bauer

Ballwin-Chesterfield helps to ensure that the women who come to St. Martha’s Hall receive the support and safety they need to build a life free from violence.

Donations for St. Martha’s Hall will be collected at the branch meetings in November, January, February, March, and April. Leave your articles near the front door and drivers will take them to the shelter.

Executive Director Jessica Woolbright tells us that the shelter does not need clothing or suitcases now. AAUW will concentrate on donating consumable items. Here are the ongoing needs of the shelter and the best items for Ballwin-Chesterfield members to donate every month:

- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Reusable grocery bags
- Gift cards



Ballwin-Chesterfield supports the St. Louis Science Fair

Here’s a note received from a 2024 Awardee, Celina Z., Grade 10 whose project received a special commendation.

Hello. My name is Celina, and I am a rising junior at Ladue Horton Watkins High School, which is pretty known for its STEM Department. I’m fortunate enough to be in an environment at Ladue and with two PHD scientists for parents, where despite the gender disparity that still exists in STEM I’ve had a lot of support for my interests and I’ve also seen support for other girls in STEM grow around me-something which no doubt, is furthered by foundations like this one which can provide concrete support.

This project was mostly inspired by my desire to work towards practical progress in climate change, as well as the synthesis of my two interests in biology and computer science. I didn’t really expect to come so far, and I felt a little unprepared compared to everyone else at the fair, but I found the experience itself fulfilling. I haven’t done a science fair since elementary school. I’m incredibly grateful for the experience which couldn’t have existed without you. So, thank you so much for supporting the St. Louis Science Fair and for the award!

Go to ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net to read more.

HAVE YOU PICKED UP YOUR BRANCH DIRECTORY?? Branch directories are the only resource for contacting our membership. Due to security concerns, no contact information is ever published on our website or in online material. You may request a digital directory to be emailed to you AND get a printed copy as well, at the meetings.

BRANCH EVENTS PAST AND FUTURE

Eleanor Roosevelt Walk Success By Michele Mangnall and Pat Shores

It was a beautiful early fall day for the Eleanor Roosevelt Walk at Schroeder Park on September 25. Twelve people walked and eleven more members supported the walkers. We collected the spectacular amount of \$1,250 which covers what we give for one semester for one of our women returning to college. Well done! Eleanor would be proud of us.



Pat Shores, sponsor



Walkers L to R: Michele Mangnall, Jane Hemer, April Walgren, Janet Sloey, Barb McQuitty, Susan Fenwick, Pat Shores, Marian Bauer. Not shown: Rita Hawkins-Page, Joyce Katz, Photographer

FLYERS FOR THE FOLLOWING EVENTS HAVE BEEN SENT WITH YOUR NEWSLETTER ANNOUNCEMENT COVER LETTER. THEY ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ON OUR BRANCH WEBSITE.

Save the Date for the Ballwin-Chesterfield Party

By Party Chairs Marcia Block and Kathy Lask

What: Our Annual Winter Party

When: Thursday, December 12, 2024, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Where: Ballwin Golf Course and Event Center

Why: Fun and Fellowship

A lovely lunch and entertainment

Doris Nistler's Lotto board returns, as does the Pot of Gold. You may be a big winner.

How: Bring your checkbook and sign up at the November branch meeting.

Become a B-C Booster and help support our wonderful local programs. All proceeds stay right here.

SAVE THE DATE

**AAUW Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council Spring Luncheon
Celebrating our Barbara Lackritz Honorees**

March 29, 2025, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

Catering to You

12775 New Halls Ferry Road, Florissant, MO 63033

Dollars for Scholars Events

Members, please consider sponsoring a Dollars for Scholars event to help fund our important mission of providing local scholarships. [See the website](#) for past events, and contact the presidents for help.

GOURMET BEAN SOUP MIX AVAILABLE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST



By Pat Shores and Judy Stagoski

Ballwin-Chesterfield bean soup mix packages will be offered for sale at the November branch meeting. This healthy gourmet mix of nine kinds of beans, two kinds of peas, and two kinds of lentils will be sold for \$8.00 a bag and will include directions for preparing a vegetarian or a meat flavored soup.

Buy some for yourself to enjoy during the long winter season. The soup mixes also make a great gift. Put one in a Christmas stocking; surprise the person who keeps your home clean; or gift one to your neighbor.

These bean soup mixes continue a Ballwin-Chesterfield tradition of selling a healthy product and of supporting scholarships for mature women returning to college.

USED BOOK SALE OPEN IN NOVEMBER

By Linda Roberson

The book sale returns at the branch meetings with a new way of organizing the collection, selling the books at branch meetings, and delivering the remaining books to the used bookstore. **Elaine Frost** and **Alice Crippen** will manage the November used book event.

To have a successful book sale without it being overwhelming for both shoppers and workers, we are asking members to adhere to the following criteria: Limit your donations to five items.

- Donate current books in good condition that have been published in the last five years.
- Give hardback and oversized paperbacks which garner the most money.
- Do not donate textbooks.
- Bring puzzles.
- Buy some of the items at the branch meeting before they go to the used bookstore.
- Support our mature women returning to college with your donations and your purchases.

YOUR EVENT HERE

There are so many interesting places around our area to visit! Winter holiday times are especially unique. Why not organize a tour or short trip for an enjoyable day out? Help is available-start by contacting Carol or Sage to learn how.

Elected Officers

Presidents Carol Anthony & Sage Taber
Finance Officer Jean Light
VP-Membership Susie Teicher & April Walgren
VP Program Kathy Brown & Marcia Block

Elected Directors

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

Appointed Directors

Branch Fundraising Carol Anthony & Sage Taber
Directory & Database Joyce Katz
Governance Marsha Weppelman
Hospitality Carol Derington & Janet Sloey
Newsletter Editors

Joyce Katz, Beth Ann Murphy & Pat Shores

University Liaison Karen Francis & Mary Jermak

Special Events: Winter Party Marcia Block & Kathy Lask

Spring Luncheon Jane Hemer and Michele Mangnall

STEM Marcia Block & Barb McQuitty

Web Manager Carolyn Brown

Standing Committee Chairs:

International Relations Susie Teicher

Care Notes Janet Sloey

Friday Reminder Bette Bude & Mary Kay Wolfe



Ballwin-Chesterfield meetings begin with a reading of our

AAUW MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

PRIORITIES

ECONOMIC SECURITY- Unequal wages stand in the way of a woman's ability to pay off student debt, build wealth and save for a secure retirement.

EDUCATION We champion equal opportunities in education.

ADVOCACY Our members, supporters and staff work on local, state and federal levels to support laws and policies that enable women's success.

Branch Interest Group Events

Interest group social events bring together members with similar interests. Try one! Contact an Interest Group Chair. Have an idea? Start a new group.

See <https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/interest-groups/> or the Interest Group section in 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.

November 21 *Table for Two* by Amor Towles

Reviewer & Hostess Mary Kay Wolfe

Contact Alice Crippen.

Literature II 4th Monday, 11 a.m.

Venue Hearth Room, Town & Country Commons

November 25 *The Maid* by Nita Prose

Reviewer Rosann Swaringim

Contact Joyce Katz or Erlaine Eltomi.

Reading Reality 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m.

November 12 *Shakespeare: The Man Who Pays the Rent* by Judi Dench

Reviewer and Hostess Mary Jermak

Contact Marcia Block or Mary Kay Wolfe.

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

No meeting in November or December. All meetings are via ZOOM..

Contact PattyMurray(pattymurrayaaauw@gmail.com)

Bridge Groups

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

Social Bridge 3rd Monday, 10 a.m.

November 18

Contact Ellen Friedman or Jean Light.

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

November 5

Contact Chris Magilligan or Elaine Frost.

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

November 26

Contact Alice Crippen or Elaine Frost.

Expressions 1st Tuesday, 1-3 p.m.

No November meeting. Next meeting Dec. 3

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 13014 Olive Blvd., Creve Coeur, MO 63141. Our focus is to make and learn crafts and projects. All AAUW members and their guests are welcome. Contact Kay Meyer or Nancy Hutchins.

Movie Group usually 4th Thursday, 11:15 a.m.

Calendar change: November 21 (due to holiday)

Talayna's Restaurant, 68 Four Seasons Shopping Center, Chesterfield 63017

If you like movies and discussion you will enjoy this group.

Contact Ann Campion Riley or Mersine Kallaos.

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

November 20 Firebird Woodfired Grill 1501 Beale St., St. Charles, MO 63303

Contact Ann Hansen by Nov. 15 to make your reservation.

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

November 18 Host Ann Campion Riley.

Members will be contacted with meeting details.

Contact Marilyn Fletcher.

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

This group resumes in April 2025.

Contact Michele Mangnall to be added to the contact

Munching Matters: Lunch with Food for Thought 2nd Wednesdays in November 2024, and in January, February and March 2025.

Please note new venue: all meetings will be at the Hearth Room Cafe, 265 Lamp & Lantern Village, Town and Country, MO 63017, from 11am– 2 pm.

Lunch will be ordered from a limited menu at your own expense.

Sign-up sheets for each month will be available at branch meetings.

November 13: Joyce Katz: *AAUW-BC Enters the Digital Age*

Contact Doris Nistler to reserve your spot.

