



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

# Branching Out

The Ballwin-Chesterfield Newsletter

December 2024

Volume 46 Number 5

## Ballwin-Chesterfield Winter Party

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

Ballwin Golf Course Events Center  
333 Holloway Road, Ballwin 63011  
Reservations \$30 by December 2, 2024  
Guests are welcome.



For All You Do  
for AAUW and the  
Ballwin-Chesterfield  
Branch

You are invited to join the fun at our annual branch winter party and fundraising event. Reservations by check only to AAUW B-C should be mailed to Sandy Kalin. Include your luncheon choice. The Art of Entertaining will provide the lunches. They use the highest quality meats, breads, and homemade dressing to ensure a delicious meal. Each lunch includes a sandwich, a small side, a mini desert, and utensils. A salad is also available.

- ❖ Chicken Salad Sandwich
- ❖ Roast Top Round Sandwich
- ❖ Tuna Salad Sandwich
- ❖ Big Bend Turkey Sandwich
- ❖ Red, White, and Blue Salad and Roll
- ❖ Water is provided. You may bring your own drink.

The December Winter Party is the kickoff event for the annual B-C Boosters Campaign—January thru April 2025. Please donate generously to keep dynamic branch programs in place.

Do not miss this special event!

### Special Features

- ❖ Entertainment will be provided by the Parkway West High Jazz Choir.
- ❖ There will be raffles and fun. Be sure to bring small bills.
- ❖ Silent Auction for Elegant Edibles.

Poinsettias will be available for a \$10 purchase.

## No Ballwin-Chesterfield Board Meetings in December and January

### PRESIDENTS' CORNER

By Presidents Carol Anthony  
and Sage Taber



Sage Taber Carol Anthony

With the election behind us, it is good to remember that the work is not over.

This is a time for both reflection and looking to the future. We will continue to do our part in AAUW B-C by providing equal access to education through our scholarships. We work to expand the number of women in leadership by supporting our STEM program. We help educate women on policy issues through Public Policy. The speakers that the Program provides at monthly branch meetings support the AAUW mission. Membership and participation in our many branch activities is appreciated. Please consider supporting our branch financially by becoming a B-C Booster in December or by sponsoring a Dollars for Scholars event to help support funding scholarships.

AAUW Missouri encourages us to work with like-minded organizations in our fight for equity, inclusion, and the rights of women. This struggle will continue for years to come. As Vice- President Harris said, "We won't go back!"

AAUW National works to increase women's access, opportunity, and equity in higher education through research, advocacy, and philanthropy. Over the years they have supported thousands of women. Donating to the Greatest Needs Fund supports this very important mission.

Besides all the work we do, we always find time for fun and laughter. As we come together for our December Winter Party, let's be grateful for the friendships we have made in AAUW by working together for our common cause, equity for all.

### Introducing Our Newest Members

By Membership Vice Presidents April Walgren and Susie Teicher

Please welcome these new members to the Ballwin-Chesterfield and AAUW community.

#### Kelly Johnson

Kelly earned an associate's degree from the State University of New York at Alfred and her bachelor's degree in nursing from Lamar University. She is retired from the health care field. An active member of AAUW, she previously belonged to the Ballwin-Chesterfield branch as well as the Alfred-Hornell branch in New York. Her many interests include camping, crocheting, and candy making. We are delighted that she has decided to rejoin our branch.

#### Nancy Dyer

Nancy received her bachelor's degree from Murray State University and a technology certificate from St. Louis University. Her background includes teaching art and math, IT project management, and video production. In her spare time, she enjoys designing jewelry, watching movies, and fishing.

Do you have an idea for outreach to potential new members? Let the membership team know; we would love to hear your thoughts!

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### AAUW BC Board

#### Elected Officers

Presidents Carol Anthony & Sage Taber  
Finance Officer Jean Light  
Secretary Mary Jermak  
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

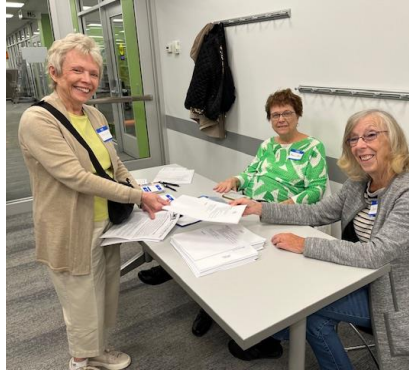
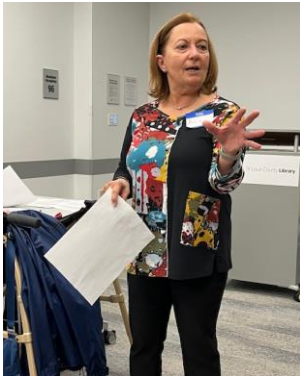
#### Special Events:

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

## Public Policy Forum

By Director of Public Policy Marian Bauer

On October 15, thirty members and guests attended a forum presented by the Ballwin-Chesterfield Public Policy Committee. Angela Janek discussed the Amendments and Propositions that would appear on the ballot. There was time for questions and comments. Each participant received a handout that listed the official title and wording of the amendment and what “yes” and “no” meant. A chart displayed how each measure aligned with AAUW priorities. A list of other resources for voting was also included. Participants were very grateful for the information.



L to R: Angie, Jean, Marian & Jane, Julie & Harriett



### What is Happening with the Equal Rights Amendment?

By Public Policy Committee Member Pat Shores

The ERA promise is simple, equal rights under the law, regardless of sex. AAUW has been working on this issue for decades and advocates for the passage and ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

*Reprinted from August 30, 2024, National AAUW Member Information:*

We sponsored the Not One More Year march in December 2023.

Our Two Minute Activist network has sent thousands of letters to Congress in support of the ERA, and our Capitol Hill Lobby Corps has hand-delivered AAUW letters.

This year, we have been an active member of the ERA Coalition National Strategy Task Force. We need the ERA to clarify, once and for all, that sex discrimination in employment and wages, reproductive rights, insurance, Social Security, education, and more is a violation of constitutional rights. Importantly the ERA would provide new opportunities to seek legal recourse when an individual faces sex discrimination and would place the burden of proof on those who discriminate instead of those fighting for equality.

Our U. S. President-elect blocked publication of the ERA in 2020 and earlier this year the Senate voted against affirming the ERA as valid. When you get a request from AAUW National to write to your Senator about the ERA, respond right away and keep the promise of equality for ourselves, for future generations, and for everyone who has fought tirelessly for equality.

President Biden has shown support for the ERA throughout his career. Call the White House, at 202-456-1111, and demand that the ERA becomes reality and cements President Biden’s legacy on gender equality. – Zakiya Thomas, President and CEO of ERA

For more information about the progress of the passage of the ERA go to the ERA Coalition website [info@eracoalition.org](mailto:info@eracoalition.org).

## Nominations Requested for 2025-27 Elected Officers

The nominating committee is accepting your nominations for the 2025-27 elected officers. These positions are:

1. Co-President
2. Secretary/Archivist
3. Co-Vice President Program
4. Co-Vice President Membership

The committee needs your help in finding members ready and able to be part of our branch's leadership. For job descriptions of positions, contact any committee member.

### Please follow these steps to nominate a person:

1. Receive permission from the person you are nominating. Please know that you are free to nominate yourself since you know your interests best.
2. Use the nomination form on the branch website under "Flyers & Forms." You may also contact any of the committee members and email the pertinent information requested on the form to her.

The nominating committee consists of Jan Horner, Jayne Kasten, Margaret Andersen, and Bette Bude. The committee will review the nominees and prepare the slate of officers. Send your nomination form in by **December 30, 2024**.

### 2025 – 2027 Branch Elected Position Nomination Form

The following positions are open for nominations:

1. Co-President
2. Secretary/Archivist
3. Co-Vice President Program
4. Co-Vice President Membership

Contact a committee member for a job description, if needed.

I have permission from \_\_\_\_\_ to make the following nomination:

I nominate \_\_\_\_\_

for the elected position of \_\_\_\_\_.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ My email: \_\_\_\_\_

My phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please email the info. requested on this form to a member of the Nominating Committee: Bette Bude, Jan Horner, Jayne Kasten, and Margaret Andersen. The deadline for nominations is December 30, 2024. You may also find the form online by clicking "Flyers and Forms" on the branch website [https:// ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/](https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/).

## NEWS FROM AAUW

### The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) Has a New Sponsor

By AAUW Executive Chief Officer Gloria Blackwell

#### What is NCCWSL (pronounced nick-whistle)

NCCWSL is an AAUW program that selects promising women college students and sends them to a conference.

Excerpted from the Membership Notice to Members on November 11, 2024.

*... That's why I'm heartened to share that NCCWSL is not going away. Beginning in 2025, NCCWSL will be organized and administered by NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education.*

*We encourage your branch to continue to promote NCCWSL to college women in your local communities. AAUW will have a presence at the conference, as a speaker, exhibitor, presenter, and promotional supporter. What will change is the administrative, financial, and programmatic oversight and planning — NASPA will be responsible for the planning and execution of the conference moving forward. Registration, as an example, will be made available via NASPA's website and registration platform rather than through AAUW.*

More information about the St. Louis plans for sending a college leader to a conference will be shared after the Metropolitan St. Louis Interbranch Council (IBC) has had a chance to talk about the change.



#### A NOTE FROM AAUW OF MISSOURI'S PRESIDENT

Dear Missouri AAUW Member,

The 2024 election is in the books. Regardless of how we voted, we find ourselves with diverse emotions, some are hopeful, and others are concerned. There were wins in some areas and losses in others. As we continue to advocate, collaborating with like-minded organizations, we will gain strength in defending the rights of women and families. We will not go back!

Thank you to everyone who provided voter registration and education, carried petitions, worked the polls, displayed yard signs, shared on social media, wrote letters to the editor, marched in the Nov 2 Women's March, or talked with friends and family about the values of women's rights. You made a difference! A woman's right to reproductive health care in Missouri once again is approved.

The work of AAUW members and the fight for equity, inclusion, and the rights of women will continue for years to come. We are reminded that as AAUW members we all have the same vision – Equity for All.

Together we are stronger and have a greater impact.

Sue Shineman, President AAUW MO





## CONNECT WITH AAUW NATIONAL



### What Does AAUW Do? Part II By Sue Barley and AAUW National Staff

**Subject Matter Expertise:** We have historically produced in-depth studies on topics like the gender pay gap and women in leadership roles.

- While we haven't produced reports recently due to limited funding - we have done high level analysis of pay gap data recently released. We are frequently asked to comment on topics related to pay equity, student loan debt and other issues related to gender equity. You can see our recently updated page on Latinas and the pay gap, for example, here:

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/article/latinas-and-the-pay-gap/>

We have tens of thousands of social media followers across all platforms and have well over 1 million website viewers - ensuring that our brand remains prominent and relevant. AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell has been invited to White House events on at least three occasions recently.

- On a Global level - Gloria is AAUW's representative to the UN - and our work in this capacity provides great reputational value related to global gender equity work.

**Salary Negotiation and Financial Literacy Training:** Offers training and resources for women to develop skills to be financially empowered.

- In particular our Work Smart, Start Smart and Money Smart trainings provide valuable resources and tools for women to become economically empowered. Nationally we work with organizations such as the HBCU Career Center, Tri Delta, Coca Cola Foundation, Finra Foundation, SAGE and others to bring these trainings to thousands of women across the country. These trainings were developed and are updated and managed by the National office. They have been independently evaluated by two separate entities and continually receive very high ratings from participants.

**Fellowships & Grants:** We award and administer over \$6M in fellowships and grants each year to hundreds of women in the US and Internationally.

- We also connect our members and branches to these awardees and alumnae and have an Alumnae Relations team charged with growing and maintaining relationships with our thousands of distinguished Alumnae.

**Membership Services:** Provides support and resources for local branches and members, including access to national networks and events.

- We host all [aauw.net](http://aauw.net) websites, process dues, support 990 filings, and maintain our history and globally recognized brand.

Without AAUW National - AAUW branches, if they still existed, would instead be independently organized entities who would not be networked with one another or have the ability to utilize the AAUW name. In essence, while AAUW National sets the strategic direction and focuses on broader issues, local branches implement programs and initiatives that directly benefit their local communities. Together, our aim is to work towards the common goal of advancing gender equity.

## COMING EVENTS

### 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.

#### 49<sup>th</sup> Annual SOULARD HOLIDAY PARLOR TOUR Saturday, December 7, 2024 12:30

**p.m. Registration deadline Dec. 2** Tours will visit 7 neighborhood homes and last about 3 hours. JUST 4 TICKETS AVAILABLE! \$60.00 includes Dollars contribution. Attendees also receive a Soulard souvenir.

Contact Sage Taber to purchase and learn more.

#### TAI CHI CLASS AND DEMONSTRATION

**LEARN TAI CHI Saturday, February 7, 2024, 1:00-2:30 p.m. Twin Oaks Town Hall, 1381 Big Bend Rd., Ballwin 63021 (same shopping center as Walgreen's and Schnucks) Cost: \$15 for Dollars for Scholars**

Drumming the Earth? Find out what that means! If you are interested in learning an ancient form of exercise that adds to your overall physical wellbeing, please consider attending the Tai Chi Class and Demonstration by member Janet Sloey.

Janet has taken lessons and practiced the art form since 2008. You will be taught the Baduanjin Qigong (Eight Pieces of Brocade) form. The form is done standing in one place, but it may also be done in modified form seated.

Tai Chi has been practiced for hundreds of years and is known for its benefits to balance, memory, and overall fitness. Besides that, it can be a lot of fun. Janet will also demonstrate the 24 and 32 Yang style forms, as well as a form using a fan and another using a sword.

Participants should wear comfortable shoes and loose-fitting clothes. Janet will have a handout for you to take along with a list of the Eight Pieces steps (and images of a funny little guy demonstrating them)!

To reserve your spot, sign up and pay at a branch meeting or contact Janet.



#### BECOME A DOLLARS EVENT SPONSOR

Is there an interesting venue or event to visit in the St. Louis area in the near future? If it catches your interest, it is sure to appeal to others.

Everyone enjoys a fun experience, a “day out”, and the chance to see and do something new!

Dollars events fund our scholarship program. Women who are finishing degree programs started years ago, but paused to raise families have benefited from our help, and members have enjoyed many fine outings learning new things about our area.

It's fun to organize a day out, especially with a friend (or friends) to help. Announcements usually appear two months in advance in the newsletter and at meetings to give people plenty of time to sign up.

Guests are always welcome to attend these events. What a nice way to introduce friends and neighbors to our branch.

Directions for sponsoring an event are found on the branch website section titled *Dollars for Scholars* <https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/dollars-for-scholars-fundraisers/>

Money collected after any event fees are paid is used only for scholarships.

Questions? Don't hesitate to contact Presidents Carol Anthony and Sage Taber for help.

## 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.

**December 19 *The House of Doors*** by Tan Twan Eng  
Reviewer Jane Miller Hostess Elaine Frost  
Contact Alice Crippen.

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

**No December meeting due to Christmas holiday.**  
**Next meeting January 27 *After Annie*** by Anna Quindlen  
Reviewer Beth Ann Murphy  
Venue Hearth Room, Town & Country Commons  
Contact Joyce Katz or Erlaine Eltomi.

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

**December 10 *Burn Book: A Tech Love Story***  
by Kara Swisher  
Reviewer Angie Janek Hostess Linda Roberson  
Contact Marcia Block or Mary Kay Wolfe.

**AAUW ¡Adelante! 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 1:30 p.m. except June, July, August, November, December. Next meeting January 23, 2025. Circling the Sun by Paula McLain will be reviewed by Deb McWard. All meetings via Zoom.**

### Bridge Groups

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

**Social Bridge 3rd Monday, 10 a.m. December 16**  
Contact Ellen Friedman or Jean Light.

**Duplicate Bridge I 1st Tuesday, 11 a.m.**  
**December 3 Contact Chris Magilligan or Elaine Frost.**

**Duplicate Bridge II 4th Tuesday, 11 a.m.**  
**No meeting in December. Next meeting January 28, 2025 Contact Alice Crippen or Elaine Frost.**

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

**December 3** Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 13014 Olive Blvd., Creve Coeur, MO 63141. Park in back of church and enter through the last set of double glass doors. We'll be making Hershey Bar Snowmen to sell at the B-C AAUW meeting. Part of the proceeds will go to B-C AAUW funds. Contact Kay Meyer or Nancy Hutchins.

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

**No meeting in December. Next meeting January 23, 2025.** 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.

**December 18 Gio's Modern Italian restaurant 138 Chesterfield Town Center**, off Long Rd near Rt. 40. Lots of flat parking and no steps to manage. Take a break from frantic holiday shopping and enjoy a lovely Italian meal with your AAUW friends. **Call or email Barb McQuitty by December 13 to make your reservation.**

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

This group meets April through October and will resume in April 2025. Contact Michele Mangnall to be added to the contact list.

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

**December 16** Hostess Suzanne Couch  
Members will be contacted with meeting details.  
Contact Marilyn Fletcher.

**Munching Matters: Lunch with Food for Thought 2nd Wednesdays in January, February and March (2025) 11a.m.-2p.m.**

**No meeting in December.**

All meetings are at the Hearth Room Cafe, 265 Lamp & Lantern Village, Town and Country, MO 63017. Lunch will be ordered from a limited menu at your own expense. Sign-up sheets for each month will be available at branch meetings. Contact Doris Nistler.