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Branching Out

The Ballwin-Chesterfield Newsletter

February 2025

Volume 46 Number 7

See the branch directory for telephone numbers and email addresses.



Contact: State:
<https://aauwmo.aauw.net>
 Branch:
ballwin-chesterfield.com

Branch Meeting, February 13 , 2025
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.

February Speaker Carla Maley, *The Impact of Domestic Violence on our Community*
By Program VP Kathy Brown

Carla has been an advocate for survivors of intimate partner violence for 20 years in various capacities including legal advocacy and as a program director for community-based victim service agencies. She is the Director of Community Engagement for St. Martha’s Hall since 2022 and serves on multiple community initiatives to bring awareness and advocate for change around issues impacting survivors. Carla has coordinated the Court Watch Project, a social justice initiative focused on enhancing the courts’ responses since 2018. She was awarded the 2021 Crimes Against Women Ignite Award and the 2021 Legal Services of Eastern Missouri for the Common Good Award for that work.

Carla takes the items we collect to St. Martha’s. Let us fill her car with toilet paper, paper towels, reusable grocery bags, and gift cards.

Presidents’ Corner
By Presidents Carol Anthony
and Sage Taber



Sage Taber



Carol Anthony

As we begin the month of February, we continue to strive to improve the lives of others through our mission of gender equity for women and girls. B-C Boosters, our ongoing fundraiser for the branch, has had a great start and will continue through April. We have received over 30 boosters so far since the Winter Party. These very important contributions help keep our branch going. Proceeds will be allocated first to the Operating Fund, and then to scholarships. If you have not become a B-C Booster yet, simply download the B-C Booster form on page 6 of this newsletter or from our website. Mail it with your check to Linda Roberson or bring it to an in-person branch meeting. Any amount is welcome.

National AAUW has announced exciting news, AAUW B-C Branch has achieved three stars in AAUW’s 2024 Five Star Program. We attained the Communications & External Relations, Programming, and Governance & Sustainability stars. This recognition is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and commitment of our branch members to advancing AAUW’s mission.

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Ballwin-Chesterfield Board Meeting February 6

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 Bldg., 223 Henry Ave., 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 are welcome to attend any board meeting.

Presidents Corner (continued)

AAUW MO will again host the state-wide 2025 Legislative Briefing on February 22, 2025, on Zoom from 9a.m. to noon. Join the meeting and learn more about what is happening at the state level in Missouri. You can find the link for AAUW Missouri on the official flyer on page 7, or on our AAUW B-C website.



The IBC Spring Luncheon will be held on March 29, 2025, to honor **Jan Horner**, the 2025 Ballwin-Chesterfield IBC Barbara Lackritz AAUW Award honoree. Information about the luncheon is in the newsletter (p. 3) and posted on the branch website.

Look for upcoming Dollars for Scholars events on page 4 and consider sponsoring one yourself.

AAUW St. Louis Branch Invitation By Carol Davis-McDonald

On February 16, 2025, from 1:30-4 p.m. at the St. Louis County Library, Mid-County Branch, 7821 Maryland Ave, St. Louis, 63105, Linda Lindsey will present a program about gender and the behavior surrounding gender. The St. Louis branch would like Ballwin-Chesterfield members to attend.

National Office Hours Update By National Advancement Committee Member Sue Barley

Previously, the AAUW national team would cancel office hours on days where we had low registration or attendance, and instead addressed questions asked via email. Moving forward AAUW will no longer be cancelling in cases of low attendance. See page 1 for contact information.

Ballwin-Chesterfield Donations By Finance Officer Jean Light



The Winter Party was well attended and a remarkable success. Thanks to everyone who purchased box lunches, bought raffles, bid on elegant edibles, and made donations. In total, \$2089.90 is available to support the AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Operating Fund.

Donations to the AAUW Fund and the B-C Booster program are still welcome and encouraged. If you have already made your donations, thank you! If not, remember that donations to either or both programs can be any amount you wish. A form for donating can be found on page 6.

Donations to B-C Boosters can be paid by check and sent to Linda Roberson. You may use the Booster donation form on page 6 of this newsletter.

Donations to AAUW Fund can be made via credit card on the AAUW national website or by check made out to AAUW, with AAUW Fund in the memo line, and sent to AAUW Fund Chair Karen Francis.

Interbranch Council 2025 IBC Barbara Lackritz Award Nominees Named



Each branch has named a member to honor with this prestigious award.

Jan Horner, Ballwin-Chesterfield
Joyce Bluett, Ferguson-Florissant
Nancy Hutchins, Kirkwood-Webster Groves
Grace Schwane Poertner, St. Charles
Sally McGowan, St. Louis

The awards will be presented at the IBC's Spring Fling Event on March 29. Register to attend the event by sending in your registration using the form on pages 8 and 9 of this newsletter.

Find out more about this award on the IBC website, go to <https://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net/barbara-lackritz/>



IBC Barbara Lackritz 2024-25 Honoree Jan Horner By IBC Barbara Lackritz Chair Sandy Brody

The branch is delighted to announce that **Jan Horner** has been selected to receive the IBC Barbara Lackritz Award for Ballwin-Chesterfield. As president for three years during the pandemic, Jan shepherded Ballwin-Chesterfield through a challenging time. She encouraged adaptation and flexibility. When the branch was unable to find anyone to chair the winter fundraiser Jan took responsibility for the event for three years. During this time, she initiated the B-C Boosters and raised a significant amount of money for the branch.

As branch representative to IBC, she kept us aware of important events and helped plan the Spring Fling during the years she served.

Before this, Jan served as co-chair of the Educational Foundation and coordinated with the universities on scholarships. She also served on various committees and continues to do so. She is in two book clubs and other interest groups. Jan is an active member of both Ballwin-Chesterfield and Independence branches.

In the community, Jan has served in many ways. She is a long-time member of PEO, an active member of her sorority, the Panhellenic organization, and her church. And for fun, Jan reads to a preschool group every week.

Jan is a model for women in AAUW leadership. Please plan to attend the IBC Luncheon on March 29, 2025, to celebrate Jan's Ballwin-Chesterfield recognition. (See flyer and registration information on page 8)

International Relations Lecture Series

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:45 a.m.

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

Speaker Jason Knouft, Ph.D. *Water Security in a Changing Climate*



Access to clean water is essential for all aspects of society. As the climate changes and access to water becomes more uncertain, perceptions of water security may also change, leading to social, economic, and political instability, and even conflict. This conflict could be addressed through cooperation, or, alternatively, result in the weaponization of water to oppress individuals or gain advantage over rivals. This lecture will explore water security in a changing climate and examine the implications of perceived declines in water security for society. [See the complete program description here.](#)



**2025 Virtual AAUW Missouri
– Legislative Briefing –
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2025
via Zoom: 9 am - noon**

Join with leaders from organizations with strong advocacy positions who are working to influence Missouri Legislative action.

For details, see flyer on page 7.

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.

USED BOOK SALE TO BENEFIT DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS RESUMES IN FEBRUARY Facilitators Marian Bauer and Pat Shores

TAI CHI CLASS AND DEMONSTRATION

LEARN TAI CHI Friday, February 7, 2024,
1-2:30 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. Members have enjoyed many fine outings learning new things about our area.

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/>

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

CLARK FAMILY LIBRARY TOUR Friday, February 21
11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Clark Family Library,
1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd (Plenty of parking and an elevator in the building) **Cost: \$10 for DFS**
Optional lunch at Brio's following the tour.



The Clark Family Branch is a 74,000. ft., two-story library that opened to the public on July 9, 2024. It features a browsing collection, art from the Kranzberg Arts Foundation, children and teen areas, a business center, outdoor reading deck, a recording studio, and a video game room. Brent Trout from the History and Genealogy department will lead our tour. He will demonstrate how to use the new Memory Lab; it is free to use with staff available to assist patrons on how to digitize photographs, videos, and audio formats to a flash drive. For more information, contact Carol Anthony.

AAUW B-C Board

Elected Officers

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

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 Notes Bette Bude & Mary Kay Wolfe

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.

BookGroups Welcome All Readers

Download book lists at

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

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

February 20 *The Rabbit Hutch* by Tess Gunty

Reviewers Bette Bude and Barb Mueller

Hostess Bette Bude

Contact Alice Crippen.

Literature II 4th Monday, 11 a.m.

February 24 *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by

James McBride

Reviewer Susie Teicher

Venue Hearth Room, Town & Country Commons

Contact Joyce Katz or Erlaine Eltomi.

Reading Reality 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m.

February 11 *Going Infinite: The Rise & Fall of a*

New Tycoon by Michael Lewis

Reviewer Erlaine Eltomi

Hostess Dottie Schainker

Contact Marcia Block or Mary Kay Wolfe.

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

February 27 *The Women* by Kristin Hannah

Reviewer Jan Barrett

All meetings via

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87393625222?pwd=Z8LmoZpCgqVwS6wAZmPoNEcUa0b2Pq.1>

Meeting ID: 873 9362 5222 Passcode: 922338

Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Contact Patty Murray pattymurrayaaauw@gmail.com.

Munching Matters: Lunch with Food for Thought
2nd Wednesday in January, February and March
11 a.m.-2 p.m.

February 12 Erlaine Eltomi speaker;

March 12, Diane Correll speaker.

All meetings at the Hearth Room Cafe, 265 Lamp & Lantern Village.

If you have not signed up and wish to attend one or all meetings, email Doris Nistler.

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

February 4 Holy Cross Lutheran Church,
13014 Olive Blvd., Creve Coeur, MO 63141.

Craft Carnival: Multi crafts to choose from and an opportunity to socialize with fellow crafters. Park in back of church and enter through the last set of double glass doors. Contact Kay Meyer or Nancy Hutchins.

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

February 27 Meet at 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.

February 19 Treat yourself to *Out to Lunch* and join your AAUW friends at Il Bel Lago, 11631 Olive Blvd., Creve Coeur. Enjoy a relaxing lunch and catch up on all the news. Parking is on a flat surface lot by the restaurant which has a lovely fountain right in front. Reserve a place by contacting Barb McQuitty by phone or email by February 12.

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.

Bridge Groups-Contact chairpersons to join

Social Bridge 3rd Monday, 10 a.m.

February 17, 2025 Contact Ellen Friedman or Jean Light.

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

February 4, 2025 Contact Chris Magilligan or Elaine Frost.

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

February 25, 2025 Contact Alice Crippen or Elaine Frost.

**B-C BOOSTER SPONSORSHIP FORM
HELP US REACH OUR GOALS**

Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch of AAUW has a visual presence in the community, but to maintain some the outstanding programs we need more funding than provided by our annual branch dues of \$22 per member. You and/or your interest group can help sponsor B-C's activities.

\$25-\$49	Blue Level	Helps to support branch local programs not covered by annual dues.
\$50-\$99	Bronze Level	Helps pay for our monthly speakers.
\$100-\$199	Silver Level	Sponsors STEM Girls of Promise at a local high school (Valley Park, Maplewood-Richmond Heights. Pattonville)
\$200-\$499	Gold Level	Supports our St Louis Science Fair awards to high school women with outstanding projects in STEM fields and college scholarships for mature women returning to college to obtain their degree..
\$500	Platinum Level	Supports 1/2 of a scholarship for a mature woman finishing a degree.

At the January-April meetings we will be collecting your contributions and putting names on our poster.

Sponsorship Level _____ \$25 Blue
(May be made by _____ \$50 Bronze
individuals or _____ \$100 Silver
groups) _____ \$200 Gold
 _____ \$500 Platinum

Name (or group) _____

Email and phone _____

Make check payable to AAUW-BC with B-C Booster on memo line. Mail to Linda Roberson or pay at a branch meeting.



Action Alert!

2025 Virtual AAUW Missouri

– Legislative Briefing

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2025

via Zoom: 9 am - 12 pm

Join with leaders from organizations with strong advocacy positions who are working to influence Missouri Legislative action.

The **Legislative Briefing** allows Missouri organizations with common missions to share their activities with others at this free public event. Leaders will briefly overview their organization and explain their main legislative priority, along with two bill numbers, titles, and authors they want us to monitor.

Participating Organizations

- AAUW Missouri
- Abortion Action MO
- Coalition of Labor Union Women
- Empower Missouri
- Jobs With Justice
- Kids Win Missouri
- League of Women Voters of Missouri
- Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
- MO Equity Education Partnership
- Missouri NEA
- MO Voter Protection Coalition
- Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America
- National Council of Jewish Women
- Planned Parenthood
- PROMO Missouri
- Respect Voters Coalition
- Right to Read Coalition
- Women's Voices Raised for Social Justice

Please join us as we strive to do what Ruth Bader Ginsburg suggests:
"Fight for things you care about but do it in a way that will lead others to join you."

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89911952509?pwd=DNL3tqU1O6SUEfPHjYjvKbt5UbKZFI.1>

Meeting ID: **899 1195 2509** Passcode: **126137**

For more information contact Karen Francis at 314.223.4235 or karenbitzafrancis@yahoo.com

Sponsored by the American Association of University Women of Missouri

**Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council: 2025 Spring Luncheon
Honoring Sheroes and Recognizing Barbara Lackritz Honorees
Entertainment: Mixed Nuts, a women's a capella quartet**

Saturday, March 29, 2025, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Doors open at 10:30 am

Catering to You

12775 New Halls Ferry Road, Florissant, MO

Mushroom herb baked chicken, roast top round of beef *au jus*, salad, red-skin garlic mashers, steamed garlic buttered broccoli, rolls, butter, self-serve lemonade/coffee/iced and hot tea

Registration fee: \$40 - includes meal, program, and entertainment

50/50 and Lotto raffles will also be held!

Registration deadline for luncheon: March 20, 2025

Please print legibly:

Print Name: _____

Branch: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

_____ I plan to attend **Honoring Our Sheroes** **Registration Fee \$** _____

I am paying for _____ **# of guests X \$40 (list names on back)** **Total for luncheon \$**

TRIBUTE DONATION FOR MY SHERO

My Name _____

Branch _____ Email _____ Ph # _____

Amount _____ Shero to be named _____

Information about how to honor your Shero: (Please check the appropriate spaces below.)

1. My donation is (pick one): ____ In memory of (deceased Shero) ____ In honor of (living Shero)
2. As part of the recognition, I would like my Branch name to be listed ____ Yes ____ No
3. I would like to have my name listed as a donor ____ Yes ____ No
 - a. If Yes, ____ I want my name on the event display, ____ I want to be in the final published lists

Luncheon amount due \$ _____

Sheroes donation amount \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Make check payable to AAUW Metro St. Louis IBC. Mail check and form to Carol Davis McDonald, 827 Bergquist, Manchester, MO 63011-4215. Use this form for lunch only, donation only, or both.

To honor additional sheroes, add the names and amounts on a separate sheet and mail together.

NOTE: *Donations are NOT tax deductible.*

See the next page for more information and registration form...

Our NEW IBC Fundraising Approach – Tribute Donations to Honor Sheroes

- ♥ **Why does the IBC need to raise funds?** For IBC operating expenses, and to support the International Relations Lecture Series in collaboration with the Tuesday Women’s Association of the Ethical Society.
- ♥ **Our past approach has used raffles.** In the past, each branch donated baskets of items, then we moved to raffling gift cards. We’ve also done 50-50 and lottery ticket tree raffles, which will continue.
- ♥ **Why do we need a new approach?** We have decided not to hold any more raffles or auctions because none of us wants more stuff. We believe the 50-50 and Lottery Ticket tree raffles are still worthwhile, but they won’t raise all the funds we need.
- ♥ **Our New Approach—**We will raise the additional needed funds **by honoring our Sheroes** with direct donations. We hope this becomes a new tradition: honoring important women in our lives, living or in memory, through tribute donations.



How will this work?

Make a donation to honor a Shero in your life. Your Shero will receive a card informing them that they have been named and **your Shero’s name will be part of a display at the Spring Luncheon.** **A final summary** of all names will be **published at the end of the campaign.**

How much should you donate?

We encourage you to be as generous as you can. Since this is a fundraiser, the minimum amount to recognize a Shero is \$10. Any level above that is appreciated.

Please complete the form below to donate. Any donations received before Mar 18, 2025, will be recognized at the Spring Luncheon. The campaign will be open until April 3, 2025, with contributions accepted both ***prior to*** AND ***at the Spring Luncheon.***

Questions? Contact the IBC 2025 Spring Luncheon Committee Fundraising Chair – Joyce Bluett, AAUW Ferguson-Florissant Branch.

TRIBUTE DONATION FOR MY SHERO

My Name _____

Branch _____ Email _____ Ph # _____

Amount _____ Shero to be named _____

Information about how to honor your Shero: (Please check the appropriate spaces below.)

4. My donation is (pick one): ___ In memory of (deceased Shero) ___ In honor of (living Shero)
5. As part of the recognition, I would like my Branch name to be listed ___ Yes ___ No
6. I would like to have my name listed as a donor ___ Yes ___ No
 - a. If Yes, ___ I want my name on the event display, ___ I want to be in the final published lists

Sheroes donation amount _____

Total amount enclosed _____

To honor additional sheroes, add the names and amounts on a separate sheet and mail together.

Make check payable to AAUW Metro St. Louis IBC. Mail check and form to Carol Davis McDonald, 827 Bergquist, Manchester, MO 63011-4215. Use this form for lunch only, donation only, or both.

NOTE: *Donations are NOT tax deductible.*