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Branching Out

The Ballwin-Chesterfield Newsletter

July-August 2025

Volume 46 Number 1



Contact: State: aauwmo.org
Branch:
<https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/>

See the branch directory for telephone numbers and email addresses.



Let's get ready for the Red, White & Blue Happy Re-New Year Party!

Thursday, July 10, 2025 Ballwin Golf Course & Event Center, 333 Holloway Road, Ballwin 63011 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

This will be the perfect time to renew your membership and help others to do so. Computers will be available for renewing online, and we will celebrate all 2025-2026 renewals completed that day! In keeping with our festive theme, shared party foods brought by attendees will be served at the hospitality table. Think of your favorite bite-sized appetizer or dessert and create a plate to serve 6-8; beverages will be provided.

Activities will focus on renewing your membership—both literally and figuratively. Be sure to bring:

- your iPad or Android tablet, credit card and password if you would like to learn how to renew online
- your checkbook if you prefer to write a check
- your questions
- your enthusiasm for a fun time with friends

Note: Committee Chairs: Please let **Carol Derington** know if you will need a space at the sign-up tables.

Important: Membership Renewal Details

Since most Ballwin-Chesterfield members have a renewal date of June 30, the summer gathering will provide the perfect opportunity for completing the renewal task – both for members and officers! **Dues for 2025-2026 are \$106** (which includes \$74 to national AAUW, \$22 for Ballwin-Chesterfield, and \$10 for Missouri AAUW).

Members who have joined since July 1, 2022 will renew on their anniversary dates (ie, 12 months from the date of joining). If you are unsure when your dues expired or will expire, contact the Membership co-chairs, **Sage Taber** or **April Walgren** or Finance Chair **Jean Light**.

Presidents' Corner by Janet Sloey, Carol Anthony, and Sage Taber

How can it already be the middle of June when it seems our Spring Luncheon was only yesterday? We are glad to welcome you to all the activities that are planned for our organization. Be sure to mark your calendar for our Happy ReNew Year Party on July 10th from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.(see above).

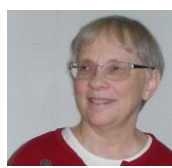
Please remember that there are many ways to participate in our activities. Members can keep informed, whether online at <https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/> to read the newsletter, or in the Friday Reminder that comes to you every week. Our September 11th meeting will kick off our year and would be a great time to bring a friend. We look forward to working with all our wonderful members, whether they're on the board as officers or directors, as interest group coordinators, or other enthusiastic participants! See you soon!



Sage Taber



Carol Anthony



Janet Sloey

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AAUW BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD BRANCH NEWS



AAUW-BC BOARD MEETING

No Ballwin-Chesterfield Board Meetings in July or August. Next Meeting September 4.

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.



2025 Missouri Legislative Session Recap By Public Policy Chairs Angie Janik and Marian Bauer

The Missouri 2025 legislative session opened in January with 2,676 bills filed; 234 bills passed through committees and made it to at least one of the floors for a vote. At the close of the session, fifty-nine bills and a budget were sent to the governor's office for signature or veto. Your Public Policy Committee was busy keeping members abreast of the bills that aligned either positively or negatively with the mission of AAUW. Here is a brief summary of the session's outcomes to date:

- HB567 changed Proposition A, and these changes go into effect August 28, 2025.
- SJR 73 seeks to remove Amendment 3 from the MO constitution replacing it with restrictions around reproductive health care provisions. SJR 73 will be put to a vote of the citizens of MO on a future ballot determined by the governor.
- SB 22 changes the process for Initiative Petitions in MO. The bill will require a vote by the citizens of MO as it changes the current process set in the MO constitution.
- The governor has called a special session of legislation to address three key issues of the budget. These include tornado relief funds, stadium subsidies and capital improvements and construction projects in HB19.

We encourage you to access the branch website at <https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/public-policy/> for details.

BC Boosters Update By Chair Marcia Block

Thank you to all who have given to our fundraising effort. Our **TOTAL donated is \$ 6,670** The branch extends its thanks to all who support the AAUW BC Boosters. For a list of donors, see page 7-8.

Saint Martha's Hall Collection Schedule for 2025-2026

By St. Martha's Delivery Person Pat Shores

Ballwin-Chesterfield has been supporting women and children who are victims of domestic violence for years. We volunteered, donated items, and worked with Jessica Woolbright at an earlier shelter that was in St. Louis County and called The Kathy J. Weiman Shelter. When Jessica moved to St. Martha's Hall, we went with her. She is now the Executive Director of St. Martha's, and we are helping to ensure that the women who come to St. Martha's receive the support and safety they need to build a life free from violence. We will be collecting donations for St. Martha's Hall at the branch meetings in September, October, November, January, February, March, and April. Just leave your articles near the front door, and Pat will take them to the shelter. Friday Reminders will be featuring the items the shelter needs a week before every collection month.

St. Martha's Director of Community Engagement, Carla Masey, informed us about the items the shelter needs this year. This list has been updated from last year, so please note what our members can give to support the shelter in 2026. Here are the only things for Ballwin-Chesterfield members to donate every month:

- o Toilet paper
- o Paper towels
- o Feminine pads
- o New bath towels
- o Reusable bags



Appreciation for our Branch Efforts

Thank You from Carla Maley, St. Martha's Hall

To the Women of AAUW-West County,

Thank you for your continued support of Saint Martha's through your monthly donation drives. We are so grateful for all of the donations as they are much needed for our daily work. Yours, Carla Maley

The two letters below are from STEM Award honorees

Thank You from Riley S., Maplewood Richmond Heights School District

Dear AAUW Team,

Thank you so much for inviting me to this opportunity this morning. It was lovely to meet you all and I am grateful for being able to receive this award. You guys make differences and will help me through my college process. Thank you again! Riley S.

Thank You from Emily Stove, Maplewood Richmond Heights School District

I would like to thank the Ballwin-Chesterfield branch of AAUW for presenting the certificate of Stem Girl of Promise. I am so grateful to be recognized for my work and interests. I plan on pursuing Stem and hope to stay in touch with AAUW and other organizations that support equity for all. From Emily Stove.

SAVE THE DATE! Walking Group Celebrates Eleanor Roosevelt

By Walking Group Chair Michele Mangnall and Eleanor Roosevelt Facilitator Pat Shores

Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2025, 9:30 a.m. Des Peres Park, 12325 Manchester Road, Des Peres, MO 63131

Sign up to walk, or to cheer on the walkers, but definitely, to support Dollars for Scholars with your donation in memory of Eleanor Roosevelt. Since we made the walk a local event, we have raised \$1,010 in 2023 and \$1,245 in 2024. What will we do in 2025?

With the new day comes strength and new thoughts. Eleanor Roosevelt

AAUW-BC SPRING LUNCHEON

By Luncheon Co-Chair Jane Hemer

AAUW-BC celebrated our "Dare to Color Outside the Lines" themed end-of-the-year Spring Luncheon on May 8th at the Marriott West Hotel ballroom. After more than sixty members of the branch enjoyed a delicious salad, various lunches, and yummy desserts, they were challenged to use their creativity to color their program covers "outside the lines," incorporating the theme of the luncheon. Attendance prizes were awarded to one member at each table, and three winners were selected for the floral raffle. **Jane Hemer** thanked her co-chair, **Michele Mangnall**, plus all the committee members for their contribution to making this year's luncheon such a success. The staff of Marriott West were also thanked. Following lunch, **Sandy Brody** introduced **Jan Horner** who was honored as our branch's Barbara Lackritz Award winner. After **Marcia Block** announced the results of the BC Boosters campaign, **Jan Horner** recognized this year's retiring officers. She then installed our new officers for the year 2025-2026 using different colored crayons to emphasize the importance of each of the elected offices in which they will serve. The Spring Luncheon was a terrific event to end our branch year.



NEWS FROM NATIONAL

AAUW National is excited to announce the launch of AAUW's new strategic plan, reaffirming our commitment to advancing equity for women and girls through education

AAUW's strength lies in our collective power — our states, branches, and members are the heart of our grassroots movement. States and branches provide meaningful local support for women and girls, and for the policies that matter to their communities. When AAUW National and our branches work in alignment, we maximize our collective resources, influence, and success to break down barriers for women in education and beyond. These priorities have been set:

1. Fund Higher Education • Provide grants and fellowships for women in underserved communities and underrepresented fields like STEM. • Support women in academia and research. • Build networks for alumnae to lead and expand AAUW's impact globally.

2. Remove Barriers to Success in Education and the Workplace • Champion legislation supporting paid family and medical leave, paid sick days, pay equity, and workplace harassment protections. • Promote inclusive, safe, and accessible educational environments through enforcement of Title IX and other civil rights laws.

3. Strengthen AAUW's Reach • Support an effective network of states and branches through aligned strategies and initiatives like the Five-Star Program. • Grow organizational sustainability

Visit these resources to learn more:

https://www.aauw.org/app/uploads/2025/05/AAUW-Strategic-Priorities_OP1.pdf

<https://www.aauw.org/about/strategic-plan-2025/>

AAUW Update, May 2025

By AAUW Advancement Committee Member, Susan Barley

AAUW National Election 2025

- Voting has concluded – 7,362 votes were received.
- Proposal to amend AAUW's bylaws – Passed with 95% member approval.
- Proposal to amend AAUW's Public Policy Priorities and Principles – Passed with 95% member approval.
- Candidates Elected to the National Board of Directors:
 - Hope Bennett
 - Aaliyah El-Amin
 - Monique Taylor
 - Mayida Zaal

Equal Pay, Equal Rights: A Bipartisan Call to Affirm the ERA

Reprinted from Zakiya Thomas, President and CEO ERA Coalition and ERA Coalition Forward

In honor of Equal Pay Day, Senator Murkowski, Senator Hirono, and Congresswoman Pressley have reintroduced a bipartisan resolution affirming their support for the Equal Rights Amendment.

We all know that the ERA is the law of the land. Yet instead of enforcing it, elected officials continue to ignore it, allowing pay inequity, workplace discrimination, and attacks on our rights to persist.

Imagine if, instead of watching our hard-won progress on gender equality be reversed we used the ERA to strengthen securing constitutional equality for all, regardless of sex.

The fight for equal pay and equal rights is not over, and together, we can make sure the ERA is universally recognized as the 28th Amendment.

Dollars for Scholars Program

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.

Visit the Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site with Marian Bauer and Pat Shores

Friday, October 10, 2025, 10 a.m.

7400 Grant Road, St. Louis, MO 63123 Cost: \$15.00 to benefit Dollars for Scholars. Send reservations to Marian Bauer.

Ulysses S. Grant is one of the most famous Americans of his era. It is his legacy as a person that resonates so strongly at his White Haven home, now known as Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site. At White Haven, you can experience the nation's division over slavery and its aftermath through one family's perspective.

We will stop by the Visitor's Center, watch the 22-minute film in the Theater, listen to a presentation in the classroom, visit the White Haven house, check out the Park Museum in the historic stable, enjoy the historic site grounds, and explore the Book Store. Lunch on our own at Helen Fitzgerald's Irish Grill & Pub, 3650 South Lindbergh, St. Louis, 63127.

Explore the Mind-Body Experience of Tai Chi

Offering an opportunity to learn about Tai Chi and its benefits to memory, balance and overall physical well-being. Tai Chi is a Chinese martial art and System of exercise and meditation that uses sequences of very slow body movements and controlled breathing.



We will be practicing 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.

When: After the branch meetings in September, October, November, February, March, and April.

Where: Ballwin Golf Course and Event Center

Donations will benefit DFS, \$5 suggested for each session, but even more would be appreciated!

Sponsor: Janet Sloey

Participants should wear comfortable shoes and loose-fitting clothing. A handout will be available for participants to take along with a list of the Eight Pieces steps.

AAUW B-C Board

Elected Officers

Presidents Carol Anthony &

Janet Sloey

Finance Officer Jean Light

VP-Membership April Walgren &

Sage Taber

VP Program Marcia Block & Kathy Skiles

Secretary/Archivist Kathy Lask



Elected Directors

AAUW Fund Suzanne Couch & Karen Francis

Public Policy Angela Janik & Marian Bauer

Appointed Directors

Branch FUNdraising Carol Anthony & Janet Sloey

Directory & Database Joyce Katz

Governance Marsha Weppelman

Hospitality Cay Noble & Elaine Frost

Newsletter Editors Joyce Katz, Beth Ann Murphy & Pat Shores

University Liaison Karen Francis & Mary Jermak

STEM (open)

Web Manager Carolyn Brown

Special Events:

Fall Brunch Carol Anthony

Winter Party Marcia Block & Kathy Lask

Spring Luncheon Michele Mangnall and (open)

Standing Committee Chairs

International Relations Susie Teicher

Care Notes Janet Sloey

Friday Reminder 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? Contact the presidents for help to 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.

No July/August meeting.

Next meeting September 18.

Contact Alice Crippen.

Literature II 4th Monday, 11 a.m.

July 28 Chenneville by Paulette Jiles

Reviewer Pat Shores Hearth Room Cafe, 265 Lamp & Lantern Village.

August 28 to be announced.

Contact Erlaine Eltomi or Joyce Katz.

Reading Reality 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m.

No July meeting.

Next meeting August 12 John Lewis: A Life by David Greenberg

Host Jane Miller Reviewer Marcia Block

Contact Marcia Block or Mary Kay Wolfe.

AAUW ¡Adelante! No meeting in June, July or August. Next meeting September 25, 2025. All meetings via Zoom.

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.

July 21, August 18 *Contact Ellen Friedman or Jean Light.*

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

July 1, August 5 *Contact Chris Magilligan or Elaine Frost.*

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

July 22, August 26 *Contact Elaine Frost or Alice Crippen.*

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

No meeting in July.

Next meeting August 28. Meet at Spiro's West, 1054 N. Woods Mill Rd., Chesterfield, MO 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.

This interest group is looking for new facilitators/leaders. If you have enjoyed Out to Lunch in the past, or have been wanting to try it, think about stepping into the role of organizer. This position is often shared by more than one person. Past facilitators were Mary Biggs, Ann Hansen, and Barb McQuitty.

Walking Group 4th Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. We meet at a different park each month.

July 23 Kirkwood Park, 111 S. Geyer Road, 63122. Park in the lot off Geyer and meet by the lake. This is a flat walk.

August 27 Faust Park, 15185 Olive Blvd., 63017. Meet at the front entrance to the Butterfly House. This is a flat walk with a hilly section that is optional. *Contact Michele Mangnall to be added to the contact list.*

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

Members will be contacted regarding plans for July and August.

Contact Marilyn Fletcher.

Munching Matters: Lunch with Food for Thought

SEE YOU IN NOVEMBER

This group features our members who speak about their interesting lives and careers. Meeting dates are the 2nd Wednesday of November 2025, and in January, February, and March 2026.

All meetings are at the Hearth Room Cafe, 265 Lamp & Lantern Village, Town and Country, MO 63017, from 11am– 2 pm. Lunch is ordered from a limited menu at attendees' expense.

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

To volunteer to speak, or to learn more about the group, contact Doris Nistler.

Signups will be present at the branch meetings starting in September.

B C BOOSTERS
Received as of June 11, 2025
Collected by Linda Roberson

Platinum Level

Harriet Hirschfeld

Gold Level

Lorna Anderson

Marcia Block

Sandy Brody

Erlaine Eltomi

Jayne Kasten

Doris Nistler

Patricia Shores

Janet Sloey

Sage Taber

Silver Level

Carol Anthony

Carolyn Brown

Kathleen Brown

Bette Bude

Gloria Champion

Terri Ciccolella

Expressions Interest Group

Susan Fenwick

Jan Horner

Angela Janik

Joyce Katz

Kathleen Lask

Michele Mangnall

Carol Montgomery

Yvonne Morrison

Sandra Murdoch

Cay Noble

Nancy Pierson

Reading Reality Interest Group

Linda Roberson

Donna Ross

Judy Schaefer-Peet

Susan Shriver

Diane Siegel

April Walgren

Mary Kay Wolfe

(continued)

Bronze Level

Anonymous
Marge Andersen
Janet Barrett
Barbara Butchart
Alice Crippen
Carol Derington
Duplicate Bridge Interest Group
Karen Francis
Veronica (Darlene) Harris
Mary Jermak
Kelly Johnson
Mersine Kallaos
Jean Light
Literature II Interest Group
Becky Litherland
Barbara McQuitty
Carol Davis McDonald
Yvonne Ward
Karen Woods
Kay Wunder
Doris Yohe

BLUE LEVEL

Marian Bauer
Suzanne Couch
Sandra Kalin
Pam Kulp
Mary McFarland
Beth Ann Murphy
Gloria Perry
Kathy Skiles
Suzanne Truitt
Mindy Zavist

TOTAL**\$ 6,670.00**