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The Ballwin-Chesterfield Newsletter

September, 2025

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

See the branch directory for telephone numbers and email addresses.

BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD AAUW

2025-2026 "KICKOFF" MEETING – THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

Ballwin Golf Course Events Center 333 Holloway Road, Ballwin, MO 63011

Come one, come all, to the Kick Off meeting for the 2025-2026 year. Breakfast items will be served. Invite interested friends. Enjoy legendary B-C Branch hospitality!

Signups and Social time 9 a.m. Re-connect with old friends and meet new ones - invite an interested friend or neighbor to attend. Hear about the planned exciting outings and events, and sign up to attend and participate. (Bring your checkbook, as payment is your reservation. No cash or charge purchases can be accepted for branch reservations.) Events sponsor the branch and Dollars for Scholars program.

At 9:30 a.m. events sponsors and committee leaders will introduce their activities. (See below.)



Carol Anthony

PRESIDENTS CORNER

By Carol Anthony and Janet Sloey



Janet Sloey

With the heat of summer, it is hard to imagine that fall will soon be upon us. Our annual September kick-off branch meeting is scheduled on September 11, 2025, at the Ballwin Recreation Center. We hope that you will come and bring a friend or two. This meeting will be an ideal opportunity for prospective new members to hear about AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield. Chairs of committees and organizers of interest groups will give a brief explanation of their plans. We have a game and prizes to follow.

AAUW Missouri web site, <https://aauw-mo.aauw.net> has highlighted the AAUW mission in Missouri. Important to all are equal access in education, emphasizing STEM, expanding the number of women in leadership positions, and promoting women's economic security free from gender discrimination in the work place. Also featured on the web site is a printable PDF highlighting the action of the current administration in the first one hundred days in office. For AAUW members, staying informed about current events in our country is more crucial than ever.

At the national level, AAUW strategic priorities include funding higher education, removing barriers in the workplace, and strengthening AAUW's reach by offering greater support at the state and branch levels. We hope you join us for refreshments, information, and fun in September.

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AAUW BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD BRANCH NEWS



AAUW-BC BOARD MEETING

September 4, 2025

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.

FINANCE REPORT

By Finance Officer Jean Light

The membership vice presidents and the finance officer appreciate the timely renewal of the 2025–2026 dues by the Ballwin-Chesterfield members. Many people used the preferred AAUW Community Hub for the first time and others paid by a check sent to the finance officer.

Budget Committee members **Carol Anthony, Janet Sloey, Mary Jermak, Carolyn McIntosh, and Jean Light** developed the proposed budget which the board will review at their September meeting. The membership will receive the proposed budget for review prior to the October meeting and will vote on it at the October branch meeting. All reviews ensure that our budget choices support the AAUW Mission and Strategic Plan, that Branch funds are being managed prudently, and that the financial health of the branch is safeguarded.

WALKING GROUP CELEBRATES ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

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

Wednesday, September 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

PUBLIC POLICY

By Public Policy Directors Marian Bauer and Angie Janik

As we begin this new year your Public Policy Committee will continue to keep you informed about important happenings at the state and national levels. Be sure to check the Website often for updates.

At this writing it is not known if Gov. Kehoe will call a special session in the fall to address important matters such as redistricting and the impact of federal funding changes on the state budget. Challenges have arisen about vouchers for non-public schools. The Missouri NEA has filed a lawsuit in opposition to this action. The AAUW State Public Policy Committee is considering filing an Amicus Brief in connection with this lawsuit.

The Missouri Humanities Council has produced a documentary on the women who serve on the MO Supreme Court. It is titled “NOT IN OUR WILDEST DREAMS” Look for more information on this film in the coming months.

The Public Policy Committee will meet on Sept. 23rd to plan for the year. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact your Public Policy Directors.

AAUW BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD BRANCH NEWS

KNOW BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD'S LINES OF COMMUNICATION

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield strives to keep its members informed. The branch has four main forms of communication.

Website, <https://ballwinchesterfield-mo.aauw.net/>, includes a calendar of all events, newsletters, forms, information on joining and donating to AAUW, and Dollars for Scholars. It also contains information on fundamental issues of the day which align with AAUW's mission.

Newsletter, *Branching Out*, publishes ten issues annually. It contains AAUW news and business, with articles about committees, Interest Groups, Dollars for Scholars, fundraising, branch meetings, etc. The newsletter is posted on the website, and notice of publication is sent to members electronically.

Friday Reminders are sent by email to all members every week. The purpose is to remind Ballwin-Chesterfield members of current events for the upcoming week and to respond to the Ballwin-Chesterfield Branches' unique needs that may result from unforeseen situations. Much of the information in the Friday Reminder is available on the website or in the newsletter. Corrections and time-sensitive information are published, as needed.

Directory, *The AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Directory* is published annually with two supplements with additions/changes. The Directory contains events, meetings, activities, and a membership roster. Members receive a copy by email, and may request a printed copy. It is the sole source of member contact information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEW 2025-2026 BRANCH DIRECTORY

Your branch directory is sent electronically to each member. It is the sole source of member addresses, emails, and phone numbers. Because dues payment dates vary by member join-dates, the date your next dues payment is due is also printed (when available).

HOW TO GET A PRINTED DIRECTORY: This year we will order and pay in advance.

1. Digital 2025-2026 directories will be emailed to each member on September 1.
2. Printed directories can be ordered for \$5, checks only please, by responding to branch-wide emails that will be sent August 25 and 29 or by signing up at the September meeting. Printed directories can then be picked up at the October branch meeting.

The printed directories you order will be hole punched and fit in the traditional blue notebooks. Please direct questions to Joyce Katz (joycekatz44@gmail.com).

ST. MARTHA'S HALL DONATIONS By St. Martha's Delivery Person Pat Shores Next collection Sept. 11 at the branch meeting.

St. Martha's is committed to supporting women and children impacted by domestic violence. St. Martha's Director of Community Engagement, Carla Masey, tells us what items the shelter needs now.

This list has been updated from last year, so please note what our members can give to support the shelter in 2026. Since the last collection we made was in April please consider giving a bigger donation to cover all the months we missed through the summer. Here are the only things for Ballwin-Chesterfield members to donate every month:

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

AAUW BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD BRANCH NEWS

National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) Update By IBC NCCWSL Coordinator Pat Shores

This was the first year that NCCWSL was organized and administered by NASPA (Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education) instead of AAUW. Over two hundred student leaders gathered at the University of Maryland from May 28 through May 30 to build leadership skills, foster authentic connections, and ignite a drive to lead change on their campus and beyond.

Our AAUW Metropolitan St. Louis Interbranch Council knew that **Sophie Price** was the ideal candidate for us to send to NCCWSL after we learned what she is doing now to help marginalized communities. We read about her plan to earn a master's in social work so she can work as a defense mitigation specialist. Her intent to earn a doctorate in criminology will enable her to teach and conduct research that will advocate for neglected communities.



Sophie Price

Thank You Note from Sophie Price

I was lucky enough to be sponsored by the AAUW to attend the annual National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) conference hosted by the University of Maryland.

I want to take a moment to thank my sponsor, Pat Shores, for making sure I was prepared for this conference and walking me through the application process. I also want to say a huge thank you to my Webster faculty who recommended me for this scholarship and conference. Professor Clint Johnson wrote my letter of recommendation, and I believe that I would not have been chosen if it were not for his kind and honest words about his experience working with me in the GLITTER (Gender and Sexuality Lab Investigating Theories, Trends, and Empirical Research) Lab. Professor Johnson and I would not have been aware of this amazing opportunity if it were not for Dr. Elizabeth Hoover at Webster University and her connection with the AAUW association.

Attending this conference was an incredible opportunity that allowed me to meet and interact with so many different women from all over the country. I was able to learn about how other female leaders are making a difference in the world, and I came up with new ideas that would be interesting to implement in the future. One of the best things about this conference was the friends that I made with the women who attended along with me. Everyone at the conference was welcoming and had a lot of impressive leadership experience during their college experience.

I would not have been able to have these valuable and impacting experiences if it were not for the American Association of University Women and their outstanding dedication to empowering the future generations of scholarly women. Without their organization, I would not have known about this incredible event. I want to say a huge thank you to the American Association of University Women for the scholarship that they awarded me, because I would not have been able to attend this conference without their support.

RIGHT TO READ COALITION UPDATE (Reprinted from Right to Read June Newsletter)



Hot weather brings Summer Reading Programs to encourage children to keep up their reading skills. This is just one of the valuable services provided by Missouri's public libraries. Please thank the staff at your local library for all they do.

Unfortunately, it is a stressful time for staff at public and school libraries, as censorship and book banning attempts continue. Please show your support for Missouri's libraries. Become a to Right to Read member today.

The Right to Read coalition is comprised of 91 organizations and 1,100 individuals throughout Missouri. The organizations, which represent more than 50,000 Missourians, include the Missouri National Education Association, the Annual Conference of the Missouri United Methodist Church, the Missouri Literacy Association, the Missouri League of Women Voters, the Missouri Association of University Women and Missouri NAACP.

AAUW BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD BRANCH NEWS

MIDSUMMER “HAPPY RE_NEW YEAR” EVENT A SUCCESS

Members who attended the “Happy Re-New Year” event on July 10 enjoyed gathering with friends while catching up on branch news and completing committee sign-ups for the coming year. The Renew Your Membership theme encouraged those who hadn’t yet renewed to drop off their checks or ask questions about their renewals. “I’m Renewed!” stickers designed by Sage Taber provided the perfect accessory for the event.

Membership Chairs Sage Taber & April Walgren



Presidents Carol Anthony & Janet Sloey



Membership co-chair Sage Taber



Membership co-chair April Walgren





AAUW BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD BRANCH NEWS

MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBER

Welcome to New Member Betty Ackermann

By Membership Vice Presidents April Walgren and Sage Taber

Betty earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in education from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. She is retired from elementary teaching in the Francis Howell School District. Her interests include reading, and theater and music, including attending Jazz St. Louis coffee concerts. We are delighted that she is renewing her association with AAUW by joining our branch.

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

AAUW UPDATE

What Does National AAUW Do?

Reprinted from July AAUW Membership Matters

AAUW national provides services to branch and state affiliates at no cost. You need only make your request.

Federal Tax Filing of Form 990-N.

All AAUW-affiliated entities must file an annual IRS return. If your gross receipts are \$50K or less, AAUW can file the 990-N for the tax year ending 6/30/2025. Finance officers should submit the group exemption request form located in the community hub between April 16 and October 15.

Speakers for AAUW Affiliate Events

Planning an event? Do not wait. Elevate it with a guest speaker from AAUW national when you make your request using the Speaker Request Form.

Live Customer Support

Call 800.326.2289 from 8:30 am to 5 pm.

Join Office Hours on Tuesday's at 3 pm ET.

Join Office Hours on Thursday's at 3:30 pm ET.

Connect to AAUW at connect@aauw.org.

Please do not email Memberinfor@aauw.org or infosf@aauw.org, they are unmonitored.

Find Your Fellows

To get more information about fellows and grantees in your area and/or supported by your branch, please reach out to fellowships@aauw.org.

Are You on the AAUW Action Network?

Join AAUW in the fight for gender equity. Sign up to get regular alerts on how and when to engage. We provide all the tools you need to call or send messages to your members of Congress, contact your state legislators about pressing issues, and more. Access the signup form here: <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>

Dollars for Scholars Program

MEMBERS, grab a friend and sponsor a *Dollars for Scholars* event to help support our important mission of funding scholarships. You can also honor a friend or loved one with a donation to the DFS Honor Roll. See your newsletter and website for details on all DFS events.

DFS HONOR ROLL Honor someone special to you by donating to the *DFS Honor Roll*. Your honoree will receive a personalized tribute postcard and will appear in the next *Branching Out* newsletter. Mail your donation check to Jean Light, write "Honor Roll" on the memo line, and email Co-presidents Janet or Carol with the name and address of your honoree.

GO LOOPY FOR ST. LOUIS HISTORY

"Clang, Clang, Clang went the trolley, Ding, Ding, Ding went the bell!"

Friday, October 3 – Arrive Plaza Frontenac 8:30 a.m. for carpool; breakfast ~ 9:20-10:45 a.m., Moonrise Presentation ~10:45 a.m.

Cost: \$15 – checks made out to **AAUW B-C**, memo **DFS Loop**

Join us for a day of fun and history. Start at the boutique *Moonrise Hotel* with breakfast at its Eclipse Restaurant. Follow with a visit and talk by Krista Johnson, the hotel's events manager. Then take a jolly trip into the past with a *trolley ride* along one of the 10 great streets in America (2007 APA), and a stop-over at the *MO History Museum in Forest Park*, our treasure since 1876.

For those who have registered to come, a schedule for the whole day will be provided.

Sign up at our September 11 Fall Branch Meeting.

To reserve a place earlier, call or email Bette Bude (contact information in the *Directory*). A complete itinerary will be sent to you.

Plan early so you won't miss the day!

Sponsors: Marcia Block, Bette Bude, and Mindy Zavist

Explore the Mind-Body Experience of Tai Chi

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 Sept., Oct., Nov., Feb., Mar., 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 Pat Shores
Hospitality Cay Noble & Elaine Frost
Newsletter 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 Erlaine Eltoni

Standing Committee Chairs

International Relations Susie Teicher
Care Notes Janet Sloey
Friday Reminder Bette Bude & Mary Kay Wolfe

VISIT THE ULYSSES S. GRANT 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.

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.

September 18 *Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese

Host Diane Siegel Reviewer Alice Crippen

Contact Alice Crippen.

Literature II 4th Monday, 10 a.m.

September 22 *Viral* by Robin Cook

Reviewer Mary Erickson

Hearth Room Cafe, 265 Lamp & Lantern Village

Contact Erlaine Eltomi or Joyce Katz.

Reading Reality 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m.

September 9 *Madness: Race and Insanity in a Jim Crow Asylum* by Antonia Hylton

Host Bette Bude Reviewer Linda Roberson

Contact Marcia Block or Mary Kay Wolfe.

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

September 25, 2025 *Oath and Honor: A Memoir and a Warning* by Liz Cheney Reviewer Kay Meyers **All meetings via Zoom. To join Zoom meeting:**

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/83173795268?pwd=tBfxdkYmFSYWGUC1FNzK7nNKzON7q.1>

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

Social Bridge 3rd Monday, 10 a.m.

September 15 Contact Ellen Friedman or Jean Light.

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

September 2 Contact Chris Magilligan or Elaine Frost.

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

September 23 Contact Elaine Frost or Alice Crippen.

Movie Group 4th Thursday, 11:15 a.m. September 25

Meet at Talayna's (Olive & Woods Mill Rd., Chesterfield). If you like movies and discussion you will enjoy this group.

Contact Ann Campion Riley or Mersine Kallaos.

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

September 24 *Des Peres Park* 12325 Manchester

Road 63131. This is our annual Eleanor Roosevelt Walk.

Enter off Ballas Road and meet near the parking lot. This is a flat walk. Contact Michele Mangnall to be added to the contact list.

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

September 15 Host Yvonne Morrison

Contact Marilyn Fletcher.

Out-to-Lunch 3rd Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. September 17

Il Bel Lago, 11631 Olive Blvd., Creve Coeur 63141

Contact Barb McQuitty for a your reservation.

This informal luncheon group is a great way to introduce new and prospective branch members.

Out to lunch is looking for new committee members. If you have enjoyed Out-to-Lunch in the past, please think about stepping into the role of co-organizer. This position is shared by more than one person.

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.