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Branching Out

The Ballwin-Chesterfield Newsletter

October, 2025

Volume 46 Number 3

See the branch directory for telephone numbers and email addresses.



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

BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD AAUW BRANCH MEETING

THURSDAY OCTOBER 9, 2025

Ballwin Golf Course Event 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.

October Speaker Chris Krehmeyer from Beyond Housing:

Strengthening Families and Transforming Communities to Create a Stronger, More Equitable, and Prosperous St. Louis-Once and For All

By Program Chair Marcia Block



For over 30 years Chris Krehmeyer has led Beyond Housing to become a nationally recognized, innovative community development organization. He is a St. Louis native and graduate of Washington University with an honorary doctorate from his alma mater and the University of Missouri - St. Louis. He sits on a number of boards nationally and locally including Midwest Bank Centre.

Chris will discuss his organization's unique place-based work in addressing the challenges that poverty brings to people and place. He will highlight the 15+ years of work in north county where his organization has invested over \$175 million across the wide spectrum of community needs from housing, education, health, economic development, job creation and neighborhood.

PRESIDENTS CORNER

By Janet Sloey and Carol Anthony

As we enter into fall and our schedules change from casual to busy, please remember to keep informed through our Friday Reminder and the Ballwin-Chesterfield website.

Plans for our December Winter Party are underway. More information will be coming soon.

We have interesting Dollars for Scholars events scheduled in October (see p. 6) With the merging of DFS with FUNdraising, members are encouraged to host an event in the months ahead. An updated planning packet with step-by-step directions is available on the branch website. Both Janet and Carol are available to answer any questions members might have about how to plan an event.

Interest Groups shared information at our September meeting, offering members opportunities to connect over shared activities. Information about those groups can be found in the branch directory..

The AAUW Greatest Needs Fund supports our organization at the national level, and contributions may be made online. From the B-C web page, you can access both the AAUW state and national sites which provide details about important events at each level of AAUW. The B-C Boosters campaign, which supports our branch's activities effort, begins in December, and no amount given is too small. Another way to show support for our branch is to invite a friend to join us for one of our meetings. Guests are welcome and help build our membership. We look forward to seeing our members at the events planned for the year.



Carol Anthony

Janet Sloey

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AAUW BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD BRANCH NEWS



AAUW-BC BOARD MEETING

October 2, 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.

PUBLIC POLICY

By Public Policy Director **Angie Janik**

Marian Bauer and **Angie Janik**, Co-Directors of Public Policy, attended the Labor Day Rally, held at Shaw Park in Clayton, by Missouri Jobs with Justice to support workers on Labor Day. The rally highlighted the challenges and threats to today's workers. AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield collaborated with Missouri Jobs with Justice on the petition drive for Proposition A *. After being supported by the citizens of Missouri through voting, the legislature overturned the proposition.

**Proposition A, which required private employers employing individuals within the state of Missouri to provide paid sick leave benefits to workers at a rate of one hour for every thirty hours worked, was approved by 58% of Missouri voters last November.*

FINANCE REPORT By Finance Officer Jean Light OCTOBER MEMBER VOTE NEEDED FOR BRANCH BUDGET

The Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch 2025-26 proposed budget was approved by the board at its September meeting. The next step is for members to vote to approve the proposed budget at the October branch meeting. A copy of the proposed budget will be distributed to each member for review before the branch meeting. Contact Finance Officer Jean Light with specific budget comments or questions before the October meeting.

For your information, the branch has a checking account and a CD account. The Operating Fund account income comes from two sources, the \$22 portion of the dues that our branch retains and the winter fundraiser.

Operating Fund expenses include rental costs for the branch meetings at the Ballwin Golf Club Events Facility, liability insurance, an AAUW Greatest Needs Fund donation, IBC, NCCWSL and International Relations support, cash awards for high school girls planning STEM college studies, scholarships for four mature women returning to school, AAUW state conference attendance, and officer, director, and committee expenses. Check the Operating Fund item on the proposed budget to see the mission-based activities our branch supports.

SEX DISCRIMINATION TODAY TAKES A VARIETY OF FORMS

By Mary Jermak, Source: **AAUW.org**

AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund addresses barriers.

Unfair pay, pregnancy discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault and violations of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 can affect both women and men. AAUW addresses these barriers by informing people of their rights and using the legal system to seek justice and change. LAF was created in 1981 by AAUW members and has provided millions of dollars to balance the scales of justice for people working toward gender equity through the legal system.

We support brave plaintiffs seeking legal redress for equal pay, Title IX, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and tenure denial violations. We allocate \$100,000 annually to help fund landmark cases, such as *Wal-Mart v. Dukes* and *Cioca v. Rumsfeld*, as well as cases with the potential to set future precedents like *Rizo v. Fresno County Office of Education*.

LAF challenges sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.

AAUW has provided millions of dollars to balance the scales of justice for people working toward gender equity through the legal system. Learn more about the law school clinical programs we're supporting at <https://www.aauw.org/resources/legal/laf/current-clinic-grants/>.

Civil Rights & Transparency Clinic, University at Buffalo School of Law

The Civil Rights and Transparency Clinic is a litigation clinic focused on civil rights and civil liberties, spanning constitutional liberties like free speech, privacy, due process, and statutory civil rights against discrimination.

Workers, Law, and Organizing Clinic, University of California, Irvine School of Law

Working in collaboration with immigrant worker centers and worker-led grassroots organizations in Southern California, students in the Workers, Law, and Organizing Clinic will provide holistic legal representation for low-wage women workers.

AAUW BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD BRANCH NEWS

DONATE BOOKS TO BENEFIT DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS

By Linda Roberson

Book sales will return to the Ballwin-Chesterfield branch meetings this year. Members donate used books, puzzles and games, and these items are sold at the branch meetings in October, November, January, February, March, and April. Proceeds from the book sale are donated to Dollars for Scholars.

There will be a sign-up sheet at every branch meeting for you to volunteer to manage just one month's used book sale. Volunteers will display sale items and take any unsold books, games, or puzzles to the used book store. Watch the newsletter and the Friday Reminders to know if the sale will occur. (If no volunteer managers come forward, there will be no sales for that month.)

Our Volunteers for the October Used Book Sales are Jean Light and Mary Biggs.

To have successful book sales members are asked 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 paper backs which earn the most money.
- Puzzles and games are welcome.

By buying some of these items at the branch meeting before they go to the used bookstore, you are supporting scholarships for our non-traditional women returning to college with your donations and purchases.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEW 2025-2026 BRANCH DIRECTORY

Your branch directory was sent electronically to each member in early September. 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).

If you want a printed paper directory, mail a check for \$7 to Joyce Katz (address in emailed directory).

Payment must be received by Oct. 1. Printed directories can then be picked up at the October branch meeting.

BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD MEMBERS ARE LEADERS AT EVERY LEVEL OF AAUW

Please let these women know that you appreciate their AAUW service and leadership.

National Leaders

Sue Barley, National Advancement Committee

Karen Francis, National Inclusion and Equity Committee

State Leaders

Sage Taber, AAUW Fund

Sue Barley, National Liaison

Mary Jermak, AAUWMO Newsletter Editor

Karen Francis, College/University Relations Chair

Pam Kulp, STEM Chair

Interbranch Council Leaders

Carol Davis McDonald, St. Louis Co-Chair and Finance Chair

Karen Francis and Mary Jermak, College/University Chairs

Sandy Brody, Barbara Lackritz Chair

Pat Shores, NCCWSL Chair

Carol Anthony and Janet Sloey, B-C Presidents

Marcia Block and Kathy Skiles, B-C Programs

Sage Taber, Member at Large

Local AAUW Affiliate, Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch

Twenty-six members have responsibilities in the Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch. Please read all their names in this newsletter, on page 7, the AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Board List.



AAUW BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD BRANCH NEWS

National Five Star FY 25 Missouri Results By National Advancement Committee Member Sue Barley

The AAUW Five Star Program is designed to help branches align with AAUW's strategic priorities and advance our mission of achieving gender equity for women and girls. By participating in this program, your branch contributes to a strong network of advocates, elevating both your local impact and our collective efforts nationwide. Learn more at the link below:

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/article/5-star-program/>



5 Star Branches

Kansas City Northland, Kirkwood-Webster Groves, and Parkville.

4 Star Branches

Ballwin-Chesterfield, Ferguson-Florissant, Independence, and St. Louis.

3 Star Branches

Canton, Columbia, Kansas City, and St. Charles.

2 Star Branches

Boonville and Nevada.

Did Not Complete the FY 25 Annual Branch Survey:

Cape Girardeau, Jefferson City, and Joplin.

Ballwin-Chesterfield AAUW Fund Donations By AAUW Fund Directors Karen Francis and Suzanne Couch

The national AAUW budget is 96% restricted which means that AAUW has no flexibility on how that money is spent. The other 4% of the budget can then be used for everything else. Everything else includes big ticket items like research, webinars, publications, and national support staff to name a few.

Ballwin-Chesterfield is one of the largest branches in the United States. We have more than one hundred members, which puts us in the rare one hundred plus category that includes only 10% of the branches nationwide. Last year only forty-three people gave a personal gift to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund. **This year our goal is to double our participation.**

Watch this spot for information about what the AAUW Greatest Needs contributions support.

A Message from Gloria Blackwell, AAUW President Vision Forward: Advancing Our Strategic Priorities

We have new data that shows that women continue to struggle with economic security. New data from the U.S. Census data reveals a troubling trend: in 2024, women working full time, year-round earned just 81 cents for every dollar earned by men, down from 83 cents the previous year. And when we include part-time and seasonal workers, the ratio drops further — to just 76 cents. These disparities hit women of color hardest — Latinas earn just 58 cents, and Black women just 66 cents for every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men.

This is more than a statistic. It's a systemic failure rooted in inadequate paid leave, insufficient childcare support, and pay laws that fall short. As we step into this new season together, let this be your reminder: your commitment is helping build the connections and opportunities that allow all women to thrive. Thank you.

Excerpted from Ms Blackwell's thoughts on AAUW.org Mission in Action.





AAUW BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD BRANCH NEWS

AAUW Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council August Meeting By IBC NCCWSL Chair Pat Shores

Ballwin-Chesterfield is one of five branches that form the AAUW Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council, more commonly known as IBC. The other branch members are Ferguson-Florissant, Kirkwood-Webster Groves, St. Charles, and St. Louis. The purpose of IBC is to foster cooperation among member branches, to financially support programs and projects, and to open channels of communication among branches for the sharing of ideas and interests.

IBC meets four times a year, sometimes virtually and sometimes in person. Each branch is allowed three voting delegates, and historically the officers of each branch have served as those delegates.

The website is <https://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net/>.

Here are the highlights of the August 26, 2025, meeting which shows all the wonderful things that Ballwin-Chesterfield does in collaboration with the other St. Louis branches because we are a member of IBC.

Kay Meyer explained the 2025-2026 plans for the International Relations Lecture Series. The Tuesday Women's Association (TWA), from the Ethical Society, will lead the group again since no AAUW people were available to take the leadership. Kay asked branches to send in their checks for financial support to the IBC Finance Office. The Ethical Society supplies the facilities and equipment at no cost for the lectures. Speakers are paid \$250 from the funds raised by our donations and by passing the basket at the lectures. Kay asked us to encourage our branch members to attend the meetings.

Teri Brecht talked about the Adelante 2025-2026 plans and invited branch members to participate. Patty Murray sends Adelante information out regularly. You can see the schedule on the October Branch Interest Group Event page.

Pat Shores reported for NCCWSL. This is the first year that NASPA took over NCCWSL from AAUW. The group heard that the conference was run like AAUW and that the three Missouri student leaders who attended reported that the conference was worthwhile. So, IBC wants to send two student leaders to the 2026 conference. The IBC NCCWSL Committee will review the guidelines and recommend plans for covering the cost of sending two student leaders. There was no Barabara Lackritz report.

Nancy Hutchins and the Spring Fling Committee shared plans for the 2026 event. The date is **March 28, 2026**. The committee will get more information about the Racquet Club in Ladue to share. There was no College/University Partner report.

There was no Barbara Lackritz report, nor C/U partner report.

GO (BUY) NUTS FOR A GOOD CAUSE

It's that time of year again – our fellow branch, AAUW Kirkwood-Webster Groves, is selling pecans for your baking needs and snacking enjoyment. Need an easy gift for someone with a winter birthday, or a thank-you for your mail carrier, neighbor, or cleaning lady? We are pleased and happy to provide you with a supply. By the way, you can freeze them for later use.

Contact Carol Davis McDonald, a dual member of B-C and K-WG.



Last branch meeting; THE SEPTEMBER KICKOFF EVENT

The 2025-26 Welcome Back Meeting began at 9:00 a.m. on September 11 with a social hour boasting a festive, mouth-watering variety of food and drink (legendary B-C Hospitality.) Sign-up tables offered something for everyone: committees, events, volunteer opportunities and a chance to visit.

The business meeting commenced with the mission statement and remarks from co-presidents **Carol Anthony** and **Janet Sloey**. After the approval of the minutes, officers gave their updates.

Finance: **Jean Light** reported that the branch has nearly \$ 35,000 in the treasury.

Program: **Marcia Block** introduced the topic Beyond Housing for the October meeting.

Public Policy: **Marian Bauer** brought to our attention two of the state's most concerning issues: redistricting and changes to the initiative petition process for citizen-proposed petitions. She encouraged calls to our state senators and representatives. The first Public Policy meeting will be on September 23 at the main library.

FUNdraising: **Carol Anthony** reviewed the upcoming DFS events listed on page 6.

AAUW Fund: **Karen Francis** commented on AAUW's greatest needs and the priorities for the unrestricted funds. She encouraged us to learn more on the national website.

Directory: **Joyce Katz** reminded us that we should have received the new digital *Directory* by now. If not, contact her. Print copies of the *Directory* are only available by ordering through **Joyce**. The cost is \$7, by check, and mailed to **Joyce** by October 1 for an October branch meeting delivery.

Instead of our usual speaker and program, there was a scheduled GAME BREAK – Fall Crossword Fun that gave us many facts about AAUW. Members partnered for this clever crossword game whose answers were B-C branch activities or events. Winning partners at each table received decadent fancy cupcakes.

At the meeting-



Ann Riley & Sue Shriver



Bette Bude & Marcia Block



Carolyn McIntosh & Jean Light



Jan Horner & Marilyn Beiter



Mary Jermak & Gloria Campion



Sue Barley & Jan Barrett



Marian Bauer & Michele Mangnall

The September meeting was a fine start to our new branch year...we will do great things! Don't be left out – plan to attend branch meetings and get involved in the exciting work our branch does to further AAUW's worthy mission!

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

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. followed
by trolley ride to Forest Park

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

To check on availability or to reserve a place call or
email Bette Bude or Marcia Block (contact information
in your Directory). A complete itinerary will be sent to
you.

**Sponsors: Marcia Block, Bette Bude, and Mindy
Zavist**

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.



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
Database Sage Taber
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 Meeting Marian Bauer and Pat Shores
Winter Party Marcia Block & Kathy Lask
Spring Luncheon Michele Mangnall and Erlaine Eltomi

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.

October 16 The Mighty Red by Louise Erdrich
Hostess Jan Horner Reviewer Marcia Block
Contact Alice Crippen.

Literature II 4th Monday, 10 a.m.

October 27 The Frozen River by Ariel Lawhon
Reviewer Joyce Katz
Hearth Room Cafe, 265 Lamp & Lantern Village
Contact Erlaine Eltomi or Joyce Katz.

Reading Reality 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m.

October 14 The Art Spy: The Extraordinary Untold Tale of WWII Resistance Hero Rose Valland by Michelle Young
Hostess Dottie Schainker Reviewer Erlaine Eltomi
Contact Marcia Block or Mary Kay Wolfe.

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

October 23 The Sentence by Louise Erdrich
Reviewer Lynne Roney **All meetings via Zoom. To join Zoom meeting:**

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/83173795268?pwd=tBfxdkYmFSYWYGUC1FNzK7nNKzON7g.1>

Meeting ID: 831 7379 5268

Passcode: 701526

Call-in: 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

For a clickable link to the meeting 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. October 20

Contact Ellen Friedman or Jean Light.

Duplicate Bridge I 1st Tuesday, 11 a.m. October 7

Duplicate Bridge II 4th Tuesday, 11 a.m. October 28

Contact Chris Magilligan or Elaine Frost.

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

October 23 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, April through October.

October 22 Queeny Park 550 Weidman Road 63131. After entering the park off Weidman, take the first left turn and meet in the parking lot. This walk can be flat or hilly as the group prefers.

Contact Michele Mangnall to be added to the contact list.

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

Not yet decided for October. Membership will be notified as to date and place.

Contact Marilyn Fletcher.

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

October 15 Firefly Grill 101 Chesterfield Town Center, which is off Edison and Long Road at the end of the shopping center. It is flat, with no steps and lots of parking. The food is good and we will get a chance to meet each other with nametags that make it easier to converse. It's a great chance to get together and enjoy a familiar or new place for lunch.

Contact Barb McQuitty by October 13 to make your reservation.

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 Wednesdays of November 2025, 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.