

Newsletter of the Kirkwood–Webster Groves Branch Founded April 1971 ~ Celebrating 47 Years!

2020-2021, No. 3, November 2020

"AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy." AAUW is open to graduates who hold the associate, baccalaureate, or higher degree from a qualified college or university.

The Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch of AAUW supports the full range of the AAUW mission through its monthly program meetings, special interest groups, and public outreach events, by engaging in political action, collaborating with local organizations and educational institutions regarding AAUW topics, and by supporting area young women and girls directly. We are one of five branches in the St. Louis, MO, area that comprise the AAUW Metro St Louis Interbranch Council (IBC).

Branch Officers, 2020-2021 Co-President: Chris Nobbe 314-323-0053 nobbechristine@gmail.com

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K-WG: <u>http://kwg-mo.aauw.net</u> IBC: <u>http://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net</u> State: <u>www.aauw-mo.aauw.net</u> National: <u>www.aauw.org</u> Facebook: AAUWKWG Click <u>here</u> to join our FB group

Friday, November 20, 2020 Virtual Event — 12:00-2:00 PM RACIAL EQUITY SUMMIT

Women's Voices is a co-sponsor of this event which will be hosted by **Empower Missouri**.

We know how crucial the November 3, 2020, general election will be with the U.S. President, Missouri Governor, all 163 Missouri House seats, and half of the 34 Missouri Senate seats on the ballot. And then there's the danger posed by Amendment 3, "Dirty Missouri," which seeks to overturn the will of the people, expressed in passage of the CLEAN Amendment in 2018. Amendment 3 would impose the most radical form of partisan gerrymandering in the U.S. on our state. But we know this for certain: The work of racial justice advocacy must continue after November 3. The U.S. has a pre-existing condition, racial inequality; and this shapes outcomes in COVID-19 diagnoses/deaths, incarceration statistics, food and housing insecurity, and so much more. Join us in the 2020 Racial Equity Summit, an online gathering of social justice advocates, to explore #What'sNext4Justice.

The Rev. Dr. Starsky Wilson will be the keynote speaker for the summit. Dr. Wilson is a pastor and former head of the Deaconess Foundation and chairman of the Ferguson Commission. Recently he was named the director of the national organization, the Children's Defense Fund.



To attend the racial equity summit online, people must register using this link: <u>Register</u> or

copy and paste the link: https://empowermissouri.org/events/2020racial-equity-summit-an-online-gathering-of-advocates/. You will receive a follow-up email with the link and passcode for the summit.

After the summit—branch follow-up discussion: "What's Next: What Are Our Priorities After the Nov. 3 General Election?"

<u>Join Zoom Meeting</u> <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87219730598</u> — Meeting ID: 872 1973 0598 One tap mobile — +13126266799,,87219730598# US (Chicago)

Jeannie says ...

This year our branch has spent a lot of time with our Suffragist sign project to help in the celebration of the 100th anniversary of women's right to vote. The election is over, and we know once again how important it was to be able to vote. This year, it has been especially meaningful to remember those women who fought for that right.

In the last few days, I have found it encouraging to focus on the example of resilience and perseverance these women have given us. Resilience and perseverance are life skills we need to use to achieve our AAUW goals of equity for women and girls, as well as our own personal goals.



In reading the stories of the suffragists, I was struck by their determination. In some cases these women were even arrested and physically harmed. Everywhere they found resistance and opposition.

But these determined women were adaptable. When their strategy of fo-

cusing on the 14th Amendment was turned down by the Supreme Court, they changed course. Next they focused on the right to vote at the state level; and, by 1900, four western states had given women the right to vote. Through the years the suffragists became more vocal and more visible, always resilient and persistent.

When our scheduled celebrations for the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment were canceled or postponed, we adapted. Our suffragist sign project was a result of the Covid-19 crisis. It was a way to celebrate without getting together, and it got the AAUW message of equity for women and girls to a lot of new people.

To continue our regular learning programming, we have taken steps to adapt to the limitations on meetings by using Zoom. A new experience for many of us, but one that has new possibilities. Until the virus crisis is over, we will need to continue to try new ways to keep connected and keep working on our goals. Psychologists and counselors have been giving tips about being resilient in this time of the pandemic. No doubt you have read or heard many suggestions that include taking care of yourself physically, remaining hopeful and planning ahead.

Some of the other ways we build resilience are helped by our AAUW connection. AAUW provides us with an important purpose - to help women and girls. We have a commitment to learning, a lifetime of learning that aids flexibility. We have good, positive relationships that provide us with support and acceptance.

Let's use our AAUW resources to build the world we want – one where we achieve a vision of equal opportunity for all.

A Word from Deb McWard, Membership VP

"ZOOMING" is such a great way to introduce your friends to our group. The next time we have a meeting, we can send them the same invitation sent to you with all the information they would need to participate. And if we really make an impression, they can join our branch for half-price national dues.

First, we need to encourage some of you to Zoom. I really, really think you



will find it much easier than you expect. A crash course was in the last newsletter; or, if a couple of you are interested, we could do a practice session at your convenience.

BRANCH MEMBER NEWS

Condolences to **Kay Meyer** on the recent loss of her mother, who was living in Wichita, KS. Kay said that Wichita isn't allowing funeral visitations during the pandemic.

Best wishes for continued improvement in health for **Gene Hutchins**, former member and husband of **Nancy Hutchins**. He was in the hospital and dealt with a severe case of Covid-19. And congratulations to the new Hutchins family member bulldog Rudy Barnabas Fauci.

AAUW METRO ST LOUIS INTERBRANCH COUNCIL (IBC)

IBC consists of representatives from each of the St. Louis AAUW branches (Ballwin-Chesterfield, Ferguson-Florissant, Kirkwood-Webster Groves, St. Charles, and St. Louis). The following officers from each branch are members of IBC:

- President
- Program vice president
- Membership vice president
- A member-at-large.

All AAUW members are invited to attend meetings (quarterly, fourth Tuesday of August, November, February, and May) and participate in IBC activities. The next IBC meeting will be Tuesday, November 24, 2020, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom. All AAUW members are welcome to attend. Contact one of the above branch officers for the log-on code.

IBC BOOK GROUP - Operation Equity: Reading For Results

This group, started in 1996 as a component of AAUW's diversity outreach program, meets in September, October, and January through May to discuss books written from diverse perspectives. AAUW members from all St. Louis area branches are welcome.

This group is on hold until 2021. More information will follow at a later date.

WHAT THE OTHER (IBC) BRANCHES ARE DOING

Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch:

Monthly meetings are being held via the Zoom[™] virtual meeting platform as long as we are unable to safely gather. If you would like to attend their meeting on Zoom[™], **contact us** for the meeting ID and password. The November featured **Ana Kent, Ph.D.,** Policy Analyst, Center for Household Financial Stability, The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. "A Divided America: Growing Economic Divides."

<u>Get tickets for a spectacular **Best of St. Louis raffle**, whether or not an in-person Winter Party is held. Items in the raffle add up to a fabulous grand prize, valued at \$500, for one lucky winner. Will YOU be that person? For every 3 raffle tickets you buy, you will be entered in a second raffle drawing for gift certificates from our two favorite grocery stores. 1 ticket for \$10, 3 tickets for \$20. <u>Click here</u> for a copy of the raffle tickets and instructions.</u>

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS LECTURE

SERIES

Patricia Burroughs-Bishop

(Kirkwood-Webster, Ballwin-Chesterfield), coordinator of the International Relations Lecture



Series for 2022, advised that the committee has updated their schedule:

- January 12 Freedom of the Press Under Threat Speaker: Dr. Yong Volz, UMSL School of Journalism
- February 9 Pros & Cons of Reparations for Historical Injustices Speaker: Dr. Stephen Graves, UMSL Department of Political Science
- March 9 Artificial Intelligence & Data Security Speaker: Dr. Anshuman Singh, UMSL Department of Information Technology
- April 13 Historical Heritage & Racist Monuments Speaker: Dr. Akiko Tsuchiya, Wash U Department of Romance Languages & Literatures

Details will be announced in a later newsletter. The lectures are always very interesting in case you haven't attended before.



St. Charles Branch:

The branch will have an un-auction in November. "No need to find room in your home for more 'stuff' like the previous auctions! Sit back, relax with a cup of coffee or tea, and make out a check to support AAUW funds for this year. Know that you will be supporting the many programs of our awesome organization."

They also reported that they had received a record 50 applications for their two \$500 annual local scholarships for 2020.

St. Louis Branch:

The branch's November meeting was held via Zoom. Members shared their thoughts on the presidential election and made plans for a movie group and book group selection.

Programs of Interest



Tuesdays, 6:00–8:00 p.m.

A new community-based center offering a convenient space to get legal assistance and connect with local support services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Learn your St. Louis County case status and court date information.
- Get help from an attorney with missed court dates and outstanding state-issued criminal warrants.
- Apply for a public defender.
- Connect with local services and supports.
- Library staff available for assistance.



Florissant Valley Branch

195 New Florissant Road S. | Florissant, MO 63031

General Questions Contact St. Louis County Library at 314-994-3300 **Court Support Questions** Contact the Bail Project at 314-730-4993

THE BAIL PROJECT

LOCATED AT:



Presented in partnership with: Missouri State Public Defender's Office St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office St. Louis County Department of Justice Service

CALENDAR

2020 Nov 20 Branch meeting via Zoom Nov 24 AAUW IBC meeting Nov 25 Branch board meeting, 1-3 Dec 17 Branch meeting TBD Dec 23 Branch board meeting, 1-3 2021 Jan 12 International Relations lecture via Zoom, 10:45 am Jan 21 Branch meeting via Zoom Jan 23 AAUW MO board meeting, 10 am – 12 noon via Zoom Jan 27 KWG board meeting, 1-3 pm Feb 9 International Relations lecture KWG board meeting, 1-3 pm Feb 24 Mar 9 International Relations lecture, Artificial Intelligence & Data/ Ethics & Regulation Mar 24 KWG board meeting, 1-3 pm AAUW MO board meeting Apr 3 Apr 13 International Relations lecture, Historical Heritage & Racist Art Apr 28 KWG board meeting, 1-3 pm

May 1 AAUW MO annual meeting

OUR POSTERS

Nancy Pierson, a Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch member, sent this picture to Marsha. Her friend, Virginia Wallace, posted the picture on Facebook. "They were encouraging voters to stop by the Athenaeum Building and place their 'I Voted' stickers on the posters to honor KC suffragists. (The building in on the Historical Register.)"



From: Gateway Human Trafficking (GHT) < info@gatewayhumantrafficking.org>

Prevent Child Trafficking Conference

Thursday, December 3 & Friday, December 4, 2020 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM (CST) Online Event

Conference Fee: \$50 Full Package/\$15 per session (Free POST, CLE (MO), and CE) Sign language interpretation services will be provided for all sessions.

<u>RSVP</u>

The full package ticket allows you to participate in all 6 sessions. You can also buy individual ticket(s) to attend in session(s) of your choice that fit(s) you the best.

Session (1): Thursday, Dec 3, 2020; 9:00 am – 10:30 am (CST) Topic: What is Labor Trafficking and how it effects on 'Working Children'? Speaker: Shima Rostami, ED.d.; Executive Director, Gateway Human Trafficking

Session (2): Thursday, Dec 3, 2020; 11:00 am – 12:30 pm (CST) Topic: How to Prosecute Sex Trafficking Cases Involved Minor Victims? Speakers: John Quarenghi- Prosecuting Attorney, St. Charles County; Sgt. Adam Kavanaugh- St. Louis County PD, Human Trafficking Task Force

Session (3): Thursday, Dec 3, 2020; 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm (CST) Topic: How Can We Assist Immigrant Victims of Human Trafficking? Speakers: Holly Meyer, Department of Homeland Security AND Nidhi Kaura & Karine Noncent, U.S. Citizenship and immigration Services (USCIS); Office of Policy and Strategy, Family Immigration & Victim Protection Division

Session (4): Friday, Dec 4, 2020; 9:00 am – 10:30 am (CST) Topic: Trafficking of Individuals With Disabilities Speaker: Shima Rostami, ED.d.; Executive Director, Gateway Human Trafficking

Session (5): Friday, Dec 4, 2020; 11:00 am – 12:30 pm (CST) Topic: Federal Human Trafficking Case Study – Prosecutor and Court Speaker: Dianna Collins, Assistant United States Attorney, Eastern District of Missouri, Human Trafficking Task Force Coordinator

Session (6): Friday, Dec 4, 2020; 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm (CST) Topic: The Twelve Core Concepts (CC) of Childhood Trauma among Trafficked Children Speaker: Dorothy Rose Denny Haskell; Project Director of Child Advocacy Studies (CAST) and FORECAST Children's Advocacy Services of Greater St. Louis

Exhibition: Friday, Dec 4, 2020; 2:45 pm – 3:30 pm (CST) Free session for community members to participate and get to know service providers services and/or learn from university student presenters.

<u>Flyer</u>

AAUW NATIONAL

Last month the U.S. Senate confirmed Judge **Amy Coney Barrett** to a lifetime appointment on the Supreme Court. AAUW <u>opposed</u> her nomination because her available record indicated that she would do grave harm by undermining positions central to our mission. It is our profound hope that, in her tenure on the highest court in the land, Justice Barrett will be inspired by the legacy of Justice Ginsburg to uphold the hardearned rights of women and girls. AAUW has long fought for gender equity, and we are committed to working with all branches of government to ensure that our rights are not only preserved but expanded in the years ahead.

Stay Tuned for New Inclusion & Equity Resources

AAUW's Inclusion & Equity committee has been hard at work putting together a new toolkit of resources and tips that highlight how critical diversity, equity and inclusion are to AAUW's long-term prospects. The toolkit, which will be available to members in November, will include dozens of resources to help you lead branch workshops, broaden your membership and further your own learning. In the meantime, check out <u>Dr. Lisette Garcia's webinar</u> on how to cultivate a more inclusive perspective.

Applications for 2021–22 Fellowships and Grants Now Open

Do you know any women pursuing postgraduate studies, furthering their careers, or working on a program to benefit women and girls? Point them to our <u>fellow-</u> <u>ships and grants applications</u>. Deadlines run from November to December.

Latinas and the Pay Gap

October 29 was <u>Latina Equal Pay Day</u>. Because of the gender pay gap, Latinas were compensated 55% of what non-Hispanic white men were paid in 2019. That means it takes Latina workers almost an entire extra year of full-time, year-round work to be paid the average annual earnings of white men.

Share your news! Send articles for the newsletter to Carol Davis McDonald

C: 314-623-1847 - davis-mcdonald@outlook.com

Include Equity in Your Estate Plans

It's a great time to <u>learn more about your options</u> for seeding a legacy of equity through AAUW. There are a variety of simple ways to include AAUW in your plans that cost nothing during your lifetime. Your planned gift will help empower women and girls now and for generations to come. To learn more, please contact Heather Miller, Director of Advancement, at <u>millerh@aauw.org</u>, or 202-785-7766.

A Wealth of Webinars

After offering weekly webinars for many months, we've now built up an impressive library of content for members to explore at any time. You can peruse the archive of <u>Equity Network webinars</u>, which are focused on professional development and how to build equitable and inclusive workplaces. Or take a look at our <u>2020 member webinars</u>, which range from interviews with notable Fellows to updates on your membership to tips on how to enhance your activism. **November 17**—<u>Webinar: Status of Lati-</u>

AAUW of MISSOURI

Inclusion and Equity Committee

A reminder of some books to read:

- Waking Up White by Debby Irving
- White Fragility by Robin Diangelo
- The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead
- A Different Mirror: A History of Multicultural America by Ronald Takaki
- A Story of Just Mercy: Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson
- Dear White People: A Guide to Inter-Racial Harmony in Post-Racial America by Justin Simien
- Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination by Toni Morrison

Extra! Extra! Read all about it!

AAUW Kirkwood-Webster Groves will be celebrating our 50th anniversary in 2021!