

"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 social action, collaborating with local organizations and educational institutions regarding AAUW topics, and 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).

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State: www.aauw-mo.aauw.net

National: www.aauw.org

Facebook: AAUWKWG

Click [here](#) to join our FB group

KWG CELEBRATION

CELEBRATING NEW MEMBERS, 50 YEARS OF KWG
PROGRESS, AND EQUITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2022, 10 AM UNTIL NOON

WEBSTER GROVES PUBLIC LIBRARY

301 E. LOCKWOOD, 63119

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST PROVIDED BY THE BRANCH

*Come prepared with three interesting facts about you
for a networking game.*



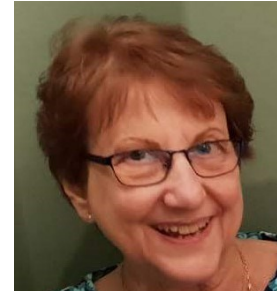


From Co-President Jeanne Webdell

CELEBRATIONS

May is one of my favorite months. The weather is usually good, and the blooming plants welcomed. It's a busy time with summer sports starting, Mother's Day celebrations, and graduations and scholarship award ceremonies.

Jeanne



Marsha

The season of celebration for AAUW began at the end of March with the Interbranch Swing Into Spring luncheon and program. It is continuing with the MO AAUW annual conference. Besides these gatherings, our branch celebrations include STEM scholarship awards programs and our end-of-the-year celebration on May 21 at Webster Library.

This year the Branch is giving three scholarships, adding one to celebrate our 50th anniversary. Our school districts are Maplewood-Richmond Heights, Affton, and Valley Park. On April 20 Marsha Koch and I attended Valley Park High School's awards program, where our STEM scholarship was presented to **Michelle Managre** who plans to attend Missouri University of Science & Technology (S&T) to obtain a degree in Information Technology. It was a lovely, intimate program. Michelle also received a renewing scholarship from S&T.

On May 6 **Lynne Roney** will attend Maplewood-Richmond Heights' awards program to present our STEM scholarship to **Katherine Barron**, who will attend University of Missouri at Columbia to pursue a mechanical engineering degree.

I will be at the Affton High School's awards program on May 13 to present our STEM scholarship to **Jane Ireland**, who also will attend S&T to obtain an aerospace engineering degree.

All three of our scholarship awardees attended our monthly program last week (by Zoom) at which Dr. **Leslie Gertsch**, associate professor of Geological Engineering at S&T, told us about her team's research to develop mineral extraction techniques for lunar construction to help make it possible for people to live and work on the moon. Her research is funded by a grant from NASA of \$2M over two years. It was quite futuristic and exciting!

What a joy to see women working in scientific fields and to celebrate our part in encouraging women to choose a career in science. Come to our branch celebration on Saturday, May 21, as we think, reflect, and have fun. See you there!

Jeanne

Mark Your Calendar

May 6-7 AAUW MO annual meeting & conference
 May 8 Mother's Day
 May 9 K-WG board meeting
 May 16 Voting closes, AAUW national election

May 21 Year-End Celebration, 10 am, Webster Library
 June 4 Johnson memorial service, Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 3 pm
 July 1 Beginning of new membership year. New officers begin term of office
 Aug 20 Missouri Women's Network's Equality



Longtime branch member Patricia Hazel “Patsy”

Fowler Farris died in her beloved home of 40 years in Warson Woods, Missouri, on April 6, 2022, at the age of 91. Patsy joined AAUW in 1989 and for a time was a dual member with the Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch.



Patsy was a beautiful, intelligent, and multi-faceted force of nature. She was known for her independence, her sharp sense of humor, volunteering in political engagement activities, championing women’s rights and other causes, creating beautiful homes, and her fierce love of nature and family.

She was a self proclaimed “army brat,” the daughter of a brigadier general, and was proud to be a military wife to Col. Gilbert Farris, Ph.D. She was buried next to her beloved husband in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Patsy was born in Durham, North Carolina, but lived in many “varied and sundry” places, including Georgia, South Carolina, California, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Tennessee, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, before finally moving to Missouri. She had a business and secretarial administration degree from the Women’s College of University of North Carolina-Greensboro, and worked as an executive secretary to the borough manager in Boyertown, Pennsylvania. She also had her own dried flower business and made gorgeous wreaths that she donated to auction at fundraising events for AAUW and NARAL.

In her youth, she enjoyed tap dancing, gymnastics, and horseback riding. As an adult, she was an avid reader of American history and mystery books; loved the symphony, opera, and Broadway shows; frequented art museums (with a particular interest in Impressionism), history museums, and botanical gardens; and enjoyed traveling to Europe, East Coast beaches, and Colonial Williamsburg.

She was a member of bridge clubs, speakers’ clubs, and quilting and book groups, and was the chair of several craft fairs. Her volunteer activities included Meals on Wheels, Boyertown Area Historical Society (as a charter member and officer), and land preservation for a wetland in Pennsylvania. She hosted Rotary exchange students from India, Brazil, and Wales. In Missouri, she was a historical tour guide for the St. Louis Symphony Volunteer Association and chair of her neighborhood watch.

As for her political advocacy, she was the public policy chair for the Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch of the American Association of University Women and lobbyist for the Alliance for the Mentally Ill and for women’s reproductive rights. She won the Older Women’s League of Worth Award for her activities and was her university’s representative at the chancellor inaugurations for Fontbonne College and Washington University.

Patsy loved to garden and took pride in designing her beautiful homes. She was adept at sewing, crewel embroidery, and toleware painting. She was also a skilled decorator and refurbished antique furniture. Her appreciation for nature was expressed as a flower and herb gardener, fervent recycler, and novice birdwatcher.

She is survived by: her daughters, Barbara Kovalsky of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Patricia Ann Farris of Evanston, Illinois, and Marian Farris of Madison, Wisconsin; her grandchildren, attorney Michael Kovalsky and wife Ivone Kovalsky of Doylestown, Pennsylvania, and Dr. David Kovalsky and wife Meaghan Green of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and her great-grandchildren, Alejandra Kovalsky and May Kovalsky. Her family is grateful for the attentive services of Seniors Helping Seniors, ACM Care, and Pathways Hospice.

Donations in honor of her memory can be made to the Alliance for the Mentally Ill, American Association of University Women, or League of Women Voters. Arrangements by Bopp Chapel.

**Girls are capable of doing everything men are capable of doing.
Sometimes they have more imagination than men.**

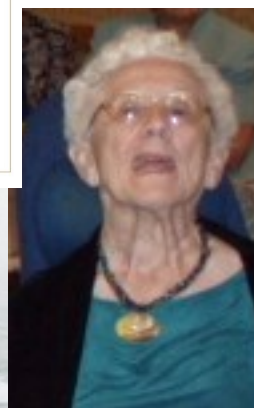
— Katherine Johnson

Helen E. Hays (nee Pearce), age 92, passed away April 27, 2022. An honorary life member, Helen joined AAUW in 1960. She previously belonged to the Birmingham (MI) Branch. She has been in K-WG for the past 17-plus years.

Beloved wife of the late Donald Hays; dear mother of Kelley (Dennis) Hays-Gilpin and Julie (Steven) Healey; loving grandmother of Robert Healey and Pearce Healey; sister-in-law of Clifford Taylor; sister of the late Dorothy Taylor and Peggy Stephens.

Helen graduated from Quincy High School, earned her undergraduate degree from Northwestern University and Master's Degree from the University of Illinois- Urbana. She was an elementary school teacher and an active volunteer for over forty years. She was active with AAUW and NSTA- National Spasmodic Torticollis Association. She enjoyed a crossword puzzle every day. She was a member of Northminster Presbyterian Church, Birmingham Michigan and later First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood Missouri.

Funeral services will be private. Interment will be at Ebenezer Cemetery near Bowen, Illinois where Helen grew up. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to NSTA torticollis.org or Hays Family Endowment for Undergraduate Research at the University of Michigan Isa.umich.edu



AAUW METRO ST LOUIS INTERBRANCH COUNCIL (IBC)

The AAUW St. Louis Metro Interbranch Council (IBC) consists of representatives from each of the St. Louis AAUW branches. The following officers from each branch are voting members of IBC: president, program vice president, membership vice president, and a member at large. All members are invited to attend meetings (quarterly, fourth Tuesday of August, November, February, and May) and participate in IBC activities, which include:

- Planning the Spring Fling luncheon fundraiser
- Sponsoring a student to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)
- Co-sponsoring the International Lecture Series held at the Ethical Society building
- Sponsoring the ¡Adelante! book group
- Awarding the Barbara Lackritz Service Awards

The next IBC meeting will be May 24, 2022, at 7 pm via Zoom. All members are welcome to attend. A link will be sent to you upon request.

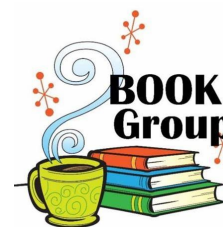
IBC ¡ADELANTE! BOOK GROUP

This group meets in September, October, and January through May to discuss books written from diverse perspectives.

Where: Currently via Zoom
When: 1:30 pm the 4th Thursday of the month in October, January, February, March, April, May

Contact: Contact Deb McWard (314-607-2908) for sign-up

Send suggestions for book selection titles/authors to Teri Brecht tebrecht@yahoo.com



May 26 *Midnight Library: A Novel*, by Matt Haig; Asian-Pacific American heritage; Lynne Roney and Nancy Hutchins

Sep 22 *Eternal*, by Lisa Scottoline; national Hispanic heritage; Jayne Kastens

Oct 27 *The Stranger in the Lifeboat*, by Mitch Albom; national disability employment awareness; Betty Takahashi

Jan 26 *Hidden Valley Road: Inside the Mind of an American Family*, by Robert Kolker; national mentoring; Jan Barrett

IBC Branch Events:

In case you would like to visit another branch, here are some of their events. For information, check their website or contact a KWG officer who will have contact info.

BALLWIN-CHESTERFIELD BRANCH:

The annual spring luncheon, Making a Difference - Step by Step, is planned for May 12 at Whitmoor Country Club.

FERGUSON-FLORISSANT BRANCH:

Their spring luncheon will be at Catering To You on May 14. Susan Slaughter, retired principal trumpet for the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, will present the program. She was the first woman to be named Principal Trumpet of a major symphony orchestra; founded the annual International Women's Brass Conference, an organization dedicated to providing opportunities and recognition for women brass musicians; founded Trumpet Lab, a week-long workshop designed to give young musicians the opportunity to study orchestral literature with professional musicians; and performed the national anthem for game three of the 1991 World Series by invitation of baseball commissioner Fay Vincent.

ST CHARLES BRANCH:

At their May 5th meeting, Rose Ann Weeks will present high school scholarships, following which member Sue Moelling's sister from Ohio, Dr. Jane Biehl, will provide the program. She taught Deaf Culture and Introduction to Interpreting courses; counseled foster children and abused children and children with speech and hearing difficulties; and taught Deaf Culture and counseling in the Education and Rehabilitation Counseling programs at the undergraduate level; and has authored several books.

ST LOUIS BRANCH:

The branch will hold its annual May meeting and salad luncheon in the Cypress South Pavilion of Tower Grove Park. They are planning a number of fun activities – some ice-breaker games, lots of sharing time, a presentation on their top projects this year, and a celebration of the branch's 2022 Barb Lackritz Honoree, Susan Barley.

"Don't live life in the past lane."

Samantha Ettus

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Reckoning with Enslavement's Legacy: Moral Responses

Thursday, May 12, 7 p.m.

In-person program at The Heights

8001 Dale Ave.

St. Louis, MO 63117

Proof of COVID-19 vaccination and a mask will be required for entry.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., program begins 7 p.m.

Program will also be available on Zoom.

[Registration is required; please register here!](#)



The Society of Jesus, or Jesuits, like many religious orders, held people in slavery from the colonial era until the abolition of slavery in 1865. The enslaved helped establish and sustain Jesuit educational institutions across the United States, including Saint Louis University and the former St. Stanislaus Seminary in Florissant.

In 2016 the Jesuit Central and Southern Province and St. Louis University began the Slavery, History, Memory and Reconciliation research project, with the goal of restoring the humanity of the enslaved through their legacies. Using sacramental records and genealogy, the researchers have identified about 70 people the Jesuits enslaved in the St. Louis region between 1823 and 1865, and they have been working to locate and connect with those descendants.

Thousands of other descendants live in the United States today. The value of what has been taken from them is incalculable, and slavery led to racial inequities throughout St. Louis and the country. Is it enough to simply acknowledge the facts and wait for reconciliation to occur? Our speaker will explore that question as he focuses on slavery's aftermath in St. Louis and responses to honor those who were enslaved.

Speaker: **Rev. Jeffrey Harrison, SJ**, a St. Louis native, is currently the project coordinator for the Slavery, History, Memory, and Reconciliation project, having been a project researcher between 2017-2020.

Please take a moment to vote in the [AAUW National Election](#), which opened April 6th.

For this year's vote, you are asked to elect members to the national AAUW Board of Directors and to weigh in on changes to the bylaws that would streamline the nomi-

nations process and ballot administration.

You'll find all the information you need on the [National Election page](#), which includes key deadlines, board candidates' bios, and answers to members' most frequently asked questions. **Voting closes at 5:00 p.m. ET on Mon-**

May Lunch & Learn: Advocacy in Action

When: Thursday, May 19 | 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Where: Zoom - [Register Here](#)

The Missouri Legislature will wrap up its 2022 session on May 13th. From the Senate



infighting regarding redistricting and the budget to the myriad attacks on reproductive rights, it has certainly been a doozy of a session. It can often be very difficult for the layperson to navigate its intricacies.

For our May Lunch and Learn, we are absolutely thrilled to welcome **Emily Manley**, the chief capitol bureau reporter at Fox 2 News St. Louis.

Emily received her bachelor's degree from Western Illinois University, Macomb, and completed her Master of Arts with an emphasis in Public Affairs Reporting at the University of Illinois, Springfield. She worked as an intern for WICS's statehouse bureau in Springfield, Illinois. That is where she also covered legislative efforts, committee hearings, and a gubernatorial election during grad school.

She's originally from Highland, Illinois but has enjoyed becoming a Missourian and reporting on legislation that affects the state. She currently lives in mid-Missouri.

GATEWAY HUMAN TRAFFICKING

MMIWG Awareness Week

In honor of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls (MMIWG)

gateway
HUMAN
TRAFFICKING

May 5, 2022
12- 1:30 pm (CST)
Free Virtual Event

IT IS BELIEVED IF THEY GONE MISSING AND NOT BEEN MURDERED, THEN THEY ARE TRAFFICKED.

Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG)

Facilitator: Rev. Carol Lakota Eastin

Guests: Dawn Houser, Ragghi Calentine, And Heather Jim

R.S.V.P. at gatewayhumantrafficking.org

NCCWSL 2022: The Premier Leadership Conference for College Women, May 24-26

The 2022 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) will once again be entirely virtual. The workshops, panels, speakers and activities provide endless opportunities to learn from experts, while peer networking allows attendees to learn from one another and make lifelong connections. We are excited to offer this opportunity for safe, easy access to learning and networking for all.



AAUW believes NCCWSL provides valuable opportunities for students from all backgrounds, and each year awards scholarships to the conference.

AAUW St. Louis is part of the IBC effort to send women student leaders to the NCCWSL leadership conference and always sends money to IBC for an IBC attendee. Before Covid, the registration fee and airfare are covered for the student, who is selected from applicants of AAUW member institutions. Recently, students unfortunately had to attend virtually, and this year is no different.

Natalie Scheers, a directing major at Sargent Conservatory of Theatre Arts at Webster University, was nominated by Webster for the IBC scholarship and accepted by IBC. Her registration fee has been paid to NCCWSL. Natalie said she wants “to build and create inclusive theaters around the country, and further if I am able to have resources to do so. In further detail, I will produce and direct shows of high quality utilizing Actors’ Equity Association (AEA) adults, local adults, kids, and teens, but most importantly kids and teens of varying ability all throughout the cast and crew. I have worked with Variety the Children’s Charity that had, at one point, created something like this, and it was the most impactful atmosphere I have ever been a part of. Watching the Variety kids and teens grow up and learn so many skills, not only in the arts, but ones that they can take into their daily lives, was something that I will forever cherish and has inspired me to continue this legacy. “

Nikole Hannah-Jones, Pulitzer-Prize-winning creator of “The 1619 Project” and a staff writer at *The New York Times Magazine*, will keynote the 2022 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in May.



Hannah-Jones’s groundbreaking work reframed American history by putting the consequences of slavery at the center of our national narrative. She spent her career investigating racial inequality and injustice, and her reporting has earned her the MacArthur Fellowship, a Peabody Award, two George Polk Awards and the National Magazine Award three times.