



Jeanne

From Co-President Jeanne Webdell

The Power of the Vote

The power of the vote was demonstrated this week in the State of Kansas. Their residents VOTED overwhelmingly to keep abortion rights as part of the state's constitution.

Recently with the *Roe v. Wade* ruling by the Supreme Court, it has seemed that the Court has become the most powerful part of the federal government, with the final word on abortion, gun laws, climate policy, voting rights, and more.

But the Constitution writers did not intend for the court to have such a dominant role. They viewed the judiciary as merely one branch of government. They gave Congress and the President, as well as state governments, various ways to check the court's power and even undo the effects of rulings.

Besides the voter's decision to protect abortion in Kansas, Congress has taken action on same-sex marriage. The House-approved measure protecting same-sex marriage is awaiting passage in the Senate. Never has voting to choose our leaders been more important than it is now.

I am glad we are doing a small part in our **Get Out the Vote** sign project that we initiated with the Metro St. Louis League of Women Voters. The sign includes the website VOTE411.org that has voter information by zip code.

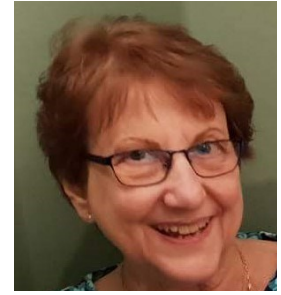


AAUW of Missouri funded 10 signs for every branch in Missouri. Eleven of the 16 Missouri branches have received their signs with Canton and Cape Girardeau waiting for delivery. The others, Joplin, Nevada, and Maryville, have yet to contact us about getting their signs. If no one is able to pick them up or deliver them to their area, we will ship their signs.

Our branch decided to give a sign to every member who wanted one. If you haven't gotten a sign, contact me (Jeannewebdell@gmail.com or 573.754.0943) to pick up a sign or have it delivered to your home or office. If your yard is not a good place, find someone else with a good location to put up the sign. Becky Clausen's sign is pictured at above left.

The 10 free signs we received from the State AAUW are being distributed to public places, elected officials, and media people. **If you know someone or some place in those categories that will accept a sign, let me know.**

It's important that we help voters be informed so they can make good choices.



Marsha





MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL GUIDE

Deb McWard
Membership VP

Online: Go to my.aauw.org

- 1) Scroll below the blue login button and click Forgot Password at the bottom.
- 2) Enter your email address, then click Reset Your Password to receive your login email. Note: If you do not receive the email, contact connect@aauw.org for help.
- 3) Once the email arrives, enter your email address and Create and Confirm your password and access your personal Snapshot.
- 4) Within your Personal Snapshot, click the blue RENEW button at the bottom to renew your national, add your branch, 7070/Kirkwood-Webster Groves and state memberships.

By check: As always, make a check payable to AAUW Kirkwood-Webster Groves and mail to Gloria Campion, Finance Vice President, 2308 Camberwell Drive, Des Peres, MO 63131-2116.

National dues: \$67.00 (\$64 tax deductible) — Branch \$15.00 — Missouri State \$10.00



**Welcome, Mary E. Giunta, to
AAUW Kirkwood-Webster Groves
Branch!**

Mary is a college and career counselor at Affton High School. She received a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education and History with a minor in Psychology from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in May 1999. She also received a Master of Science in Educational Leadership from Northwest Missouri State University in June (2022). Mary lives at 3725 Edwards Road, St. Louis 63125. Her phone number is 314-226-3925 (work: 314-520-8679).

**The U.S. Postal Service
commemorated the 50th
anniversary of Title IX**

with the release of four new Forever stamps, The stamps feature four female athletes: a runner, a swimmer, a gymnast, and a soccer player.



Mark Your Calendar

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Aug 8 | KWG board meeting |
| Aug 18 | Branch get-together at Webster Groves Library |
| Aug 20 | Missouri Women's Network's Equality, 10 am |
| Aug 22 | Movie Group with St. Louis Branch, Zoom → |
| Aug 23 | IBC meeting, via Zoom, 7 pm |
| Sept. 15 | Branch meeting |
| Sep 16-18 | Greentree Festival, Kirkwood Park |
| Sep 22 | Adelante book group, 1:30 pm, via Zoom |

Join the Movie Group



AAUW St. Louis has a movie group on the 4th Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. You are invited to join. Nancy Hutchins, Becky Clausen, and Carol Davis McDonald have already participated. If you would like to join, let Carol know so a Zoom link can be emailed to you. Each of us watches a selected movie on Netflix. The movie is then discussed by the group. The next movie is *Tick, Tick ... BOOM!* (August 22).

GREENTREE FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 16, 17 & 18



This annual Greentree Booth tabling event is an opportunity for our branch to fundraise and inform the public of our efforts for equity for all people. Our 2022 Kirkwood Greentree Festival Booth will continue to be designed to draw issues-oriented visitors.

Once again, visitors to the booth will be asked to share where they see inequities in their community. There will be a special display that allows people to vote for their choice of the three top issues facing women today. At our booth in 2021, reproductive rights gained the most votes. The 2021

poll voting results were

- preserve reproductive rights, 113
- health care for all, 74
- eliminate the pay gap, 73
- stop human trafficking, 70
- pass the ERA, 69
- protect voting rights, 66
- promote STEM careers, 38.

A number of people signed up to receive further information about AAUW and our branch.

The Kirkwood High School National Honor Society is scheduled to help us again with setting up our booth and taking it down. That happens on Friday afternoon between 3 pm and 5 pm and on Sunday at 5:00 pm.

Staffing the booth will begin at 9:00 am and continue to 5:00 pm on Saturday and from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on Sunday. We have four parking passes that can be shared, and the booth has chairs and a canopy. In the past, the staffing has been in two hour shifts with two people in each time frame. Can you help out with this important event for women's rights, for AAUW, and for our branch? We will have the schedule at the meeting on August 18. **Contact Jeanne Webdell if you have any questions or would like to sign up to help out.**



In case you missed it, last month the St. Louis County Council passed a 12-week, paternal, paid leave for full time St. Louis County employees, 5-2 vote! Hope to have the same news from St. Louis City 🙏 🙏

AAUW METRO ST LOUIS INTERBRANCH COUNCIL (IBC)

This is a great opportunity for one or two of you to get to know AAUW members in other St. Louis branches! Please consider volunteering for this low-key role!

KWG is **one of the five branches** that form the AAUW Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council, more commonly known as IBC. They meet 4 times a year, some virtually and some in person. Each branch is allowed 3 voting delegates, and historically the officers of each branch have served as those delegates. For the 2022-23 year, these officers are serving as delegates, each having ½ a vote when both attend a meeting or 1 vote when only one attends:

CO-PRESIDENT: Jeanne Webdell and Marsha Koch
CO-PROGRAM VP: Chris Nobbe and Kay Meyer
KWG is entitled to another voting delegate.

The purpose of IBC is

- To foster cooperation among member branches and to financially support programs and projects.
- To open channels of communication among branches for the sharing of ideas and interests.

What does IBC do?

- Sponsors an annual event at which Barbara Lackritz Awardees are honored
- Sponsors fundraising activities for student scholarships to NCCWSL (AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders)
- Printing of AAUW bookmarks with branch websites for placement in public locations such as libraries
- Special projects
- Share program, interest group, and fundraising ideas among branches
- Collaborate on new projects

Several committees exist to do the detailed work required for:

NCCWSL

- Solicit scholarship applications from C/U members
- Select scholarship recipients
- Lead fundraising activities
- Facilitate scholarship recipients' trips to NCCWSL

Barbara Lackritz Award (has guidelines)

- Provide branches with application information
- Plan and present awards at the IBC annual event
- Prepare a Barbara Lackritz printed program for the IBC annual event

IBC Annual Event (has guidelines and a playbook; one member from each branch)

- Determine date, venue, and menu of the event
- Coordinate selection of speaker/entertainment
- Coordinate fundraising activities at the event
- Publicize the event to branches

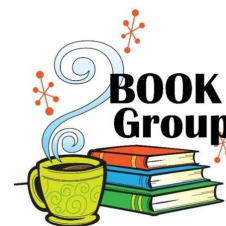
- Prepare a printed program for the IBC annual event
- Handle reservations, nametags, registrations, and evaluations

Here are the IBC guidelines: <https://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net/barbara-lackritz/>

The next IBC meeting is August 23, 2022, by ZOOM.

Call Jeanne or me if you have any questions. Let us know you want to get involved!

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 September, 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

Next Selections:

Sep 22 *Eternal*, by Lisa Scottoline; national Hispanic heritage (480 p); Jayne Kastens

Oct 27 *The Stranger in the Lifeboat*, by Mitch Albom; national disability employment awareness (288 p); Betty Takahashi

Jan 26 *Hidden Valley Road: Inside the Mind of an American Family*, by Robert Kolker; national mentoring (400 p); Jan Barrett

Feb 23 *Jackie, Janet & Lee: Secret Lives of Janet Auchincloss and Her Daughters*, by J. Randy Taraborrelli; black history (528 p); Deb McWard

Mar 23 *The Girl with Seven Names: A North Korean Defector's Story*, by Hyeonseo Lee (Lee Hyeonseo) with John David; women's history (320 p); Carol Davis McDonald

Apr 27 *The Bookshop of the Broken Hearted*, by Robert Hillman; sexual assault awareness (304 p); Teri Brecht or Karen Francis

May 25 *This Tender Land: A Novel*, by William Kent Krueger; Asian-Pacific American heritage; Lynne Roney



ITEMS OF INTEREST

A new state law could lead to more prosecutions in Missouri of human traffickers

A new state law could lead to more prosecutions in Missouri of human traffickers. Governor Mike Parson recently signed into law House Bill 1472 to change in state law definitions related to currency and money laundering. That might not sound like trafficking legislation, but advocates say it is.

“Remember, for traffickers human trafficking is about making the highest profit possible with the lowest risk to get caught by law enforcement. This is the key. For that reason traffickers need to find ways to eliminate anything, any ways that could lead law enforcement and authorities to them ... or be used as evidence,” said Dr. Shima Rostami, executive director of Gateway Human Trafficking based in Chesterfield. “For that reason, virtual currency and engaging peer-to-peer mobile payments has been playing a great role for payments concerning trafficking operations lately and because the laws haven’t been updated ... to help prosecutors and law enforcement use the evidence they can gather from these forms of transactions, it’s been very difficult for prosecutors and law enforcement to follow the footprints of traffickers in trafficking operations.”

Dr. Rostami says prosecutors are often left with no evidence aside from the testimony of victims, and victims often refuse to testify. This can be for many reasons stemming from their experience, including traumas they suffered or because trafficking organizations may still have leverage over them such as threats against their families or even holding family members hostage.

HB 1472 adds to state law definitions for “cryptocurrency,” “financial transaction,” and “transaction;” and replaces the definition for “currency” with one for “monetary instruments.” It was sponsored by Representative Patricia Pike (R-Audrian), who has worked on several trafficking issues during her 8 years in the House. She said those continue to be important in Missouri because its location makes it important for trafficking.

The House voted 141-2 to send that bill to Governor Parson.
https://newsroom.house.mo.gov/news/1517



Logo for Advocacy in Action with text: Thursday, August 18, 2022 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CT

Bill Freivogel

National Council of Jewish Women-St. Louis

August Lunch & Learn: The History of Journalism in St. Louis with Saint Louis Public Radio's Bill Freivogel

RSVP Here

St. Louis has a rich history of journalism that most of us tend not to think about when we are watching the weather forecast or listening to our favorite radio station. We may be familiar with Joseph Pulitzer, a Hungarian Jewish immigrant who founded the St. Louis Post Dispatch. Pulitzer paved the way for newspapers across the country and used his influence to advocate on behalf of immigrants. But there has to be more, right?

To help us learn about the history of journalism in St. Louis, NCJWSTL is excited to welcome Bill Freivogel, professor in the Southern Illinois University School of Journalism, contributor to St. Louis Public Radio, and publisher of the Gateway Journalism Review. Previously, he was director of the Journalism School. Before SIU, Freivogel worked 34 years at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, where he was assistant Washington Bureau chief and deputy editorial editor.

Links for K-WG, IBC, State, National, and Facebook group information.

AAUW Mission, Vision, and Values statement.

Don't forget to register!

**The food is good, and the program is always interesting and informative.
There will be AAUW members from other branches in attendance.
Come and say hello.**

**Missouri Women's Network
*presents the***

***33rd Annual
Equality Day Brunch***

Saturday, August 20

9:30 am Registration and Exhibits

10:00 am Welcome and Program

2022 Honorees and Legacy Tributes

12:30 pm Keynote Presentations by:

***Yamelsie Rodriquez, CEO
St. Louis Planned Parenthood***

***Hannah Dimer, Education Coordinator
Hope Clinic***

Clayton Plaza Hotel, 7750 Carondelet, Clayton, MO 63105

Free hotel parking on Orange Level

Contacts: Carol Davis McDonald at davis-mcdonald@outlook.com

or Shirley Breeze at sbreeze@mindspring.com



~~~~~ **Registration Deadline August 15, 2022** ~~~~~

|                      |                                                                   |         |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| _____                | Brunch and Program                                                | \$40    |
| Organization _____   | Brunch and Program Student                                        | \$20    |
| _____                | MWN Organization Dues                                             | \$30    |
| Name _____           | MWN Individual Dues                                               | \$20    |
| _____                | MWN Educational Fund Donation                                     | _____   |
| Address _____        | MWN Scholarship Fund Donation                                     | _____   |
| _____                |                                                                   |         |
| City/State/Zip _____ | Total                                                             | \$_____ |
| _____                |                                                                   |         |
| Email _____          | Make checks payable to MWN<br>and send with this registration to: |         |
| _____                | <b>Carol Davis McDonald</b>                                       |         |
| Phone _____          | <b>827 Bergquist Dr, Manchester, MO 63011</b>                     |         |