

# Newsletter of the Kirkwood–Webster Groves Branch Founded April 1971 ~ Celebrating 52 Years!

2022-2023, No. 9, April, 2023

"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).

#### Branch Officers, 2022-2023 Co-President: Jeanne Webdell 573-751-0943 jeannewebdell@amail.com

#### Co-President:

Marsha Koch 314-651-0321 mkwkoch@outlook.com

**Co-Program Vice President:** Chris Nobbe 314-323-0053 nobbechristine@gmail.com

**Co-Program Vice President**: Kay Meyer 314-962-7487 kicmeyer51@gmail.com

*Membership Vice President: Deb McWard* 314-607-2908 *debmcward@earthlink.net* 

#### Finance Vice President:

Carol Davis McDonald 314-623-1847 davis-mcdonald@outlook.com

Secretary: Cathy Gilbert 314-922-8367 Thursday, April 20, 2023 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Grant's View Library, Room 1 9700 Musick Road 63123-3935

Announcement of STEM Awardees

Affton Maplewood-Richmond Heights Valley Park

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### **STEM Presenter Erin Patton**

### Sales Director

### BioMonitoring Division of MilliporeSigma

Erin received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Xavier Universi-

ty and her Master of Science degree in Cell and Molecular Biology from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. In addition to her education, Erin has 21 years of experience as a scientist, with time spent in molecular biological research, microbiology Quality Control lab work, pharmaceutical regulatory compliance, and commercial leadership. Her work has al-



lowed her to peek at the secret inner workings of living cells, to stand inspection with the US FDA, and to travel the world teaching pharmaceutical microbiology. A lifelong Midwesterner, she is currently based in St. Louis, Missouri.

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Annual Meeting and Election of Officers immediately following our presenter

**AAUW Mission:** To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. **AAUW Vision:** Equity for all.

AAUW Values: Nonpartisan. Fact-based. Integrity. Inclusion and intersectionality.



# FROM CO-PRESIDENTS Marsha and Feanne

I like living in Missouri with its four season world, but I don't like all the times of year equally. No doubt spring is my favorite time with all the revival of the natural world after the colder winter months. Spring is a time of color when the world turns green with bright flowers and longer days. In Spring dormant plants, hibernating animals and many



people, including me, come to life. .There's even some science to the joy of spring. Research suggests that for many people, the extended daylight boosts mood, well-being and energy. Dopamine — a neurotransmitter associated with attention, motivation, pleasure and mood — seems to increase with more sunlight.

Besides the mood boosting of the increase in light, our outlook on life is helped by noticing and celebrating what's happening with the weather, temperature, animals, trees and plants. All of this can help us be more centered and connected.

In recent times women's rights seem to be in a winter mode. In the last 20 years research shows women have not made any strides in narrowing the wage gap. The Paycheck Fairness Act remains unpassed. In many states abortion rights have been restricted.

But spring is the time to be more centered and connected to the world around us. The annual IBC Spring Luncheon (March 18 in person) and the MO AAUW Conference (May 6 by Zoom ) help us connect and celebrate our accomplishments and each other. These events help us renew friendships and hear what other women have done to make this world a better place.

For Kirkwood-Webster AAUW, April is the time we celebrate our STEM scholarship winners. These young women have already accomplished a lot with well rounded educational backgrounds. They have responded to opportunities that many of us never had or even considered when we graduated from high school. They are living examples of progress.

These springtime events and celebrations strengthen my resolve to keep working for a more equitable world. Hope you can join us on April 20 when we will honor our STEM Scholarship Awardees and **BE REVIVED**!

# Calendar

STATE AND	
Apr 3	NCCWSL early bird registration ends
Apr 11	International Relations lecture, 10:45 am
Apr 20	KWG STEM Scholarship Meeting
Apr 27	Adelante book group, 1:30 pm via Zoom
May 5	NCCWSL registration closes
May 6	AAUW MO conference via Zoom
May 25	Adelante book group, 1:30 pm via Zoom
May 31-Jun 3	NCCWSL, U of Maryland
Oct 19-21	Regional Conference, Drury Plaza Hotel
	St. Louis



### MO State Conference Saturday, May 6, via Zoom 9:00 am

Speakers Malinda Gaul, AAUW National Board

Jenny Garmon, KC Library, Civic Engagement Specialist Topic: Intellectual Security/Protections

#### Awards and Installation of Officers

Watch for details and the Zoom link.

	It's Time to Renew Memberships!
44	UW opened its online membership renewal form April 1. Here's how to renew your membership:
ι.	Go to aauw.org and click on the menu item Log In (to the Community Hub); enter your name and AAUW ID# and
	click on www
2.	Scroll down and click on
3.	Select our branch #MO7070; scroll to the very bottom and click on the Next button
1.	If you belong to more than one branch, choose your primary branch using the drop down arrows; click on the
	Next button
5.	Ensure that the "MO-Missouri State Dues" box is checked; scroll to the very bottom and click on the Next buttor
5.	Choose to make a donation to the Greatest Need Fund; click on the Next button
7.	Scroll down to the "Payment Type" and select "Pay Now—New credit card"
3.	Enter your card information; click on sevents
411	ow time for the system to process your information. When completed, you will have the option to print a receipt.
	Moving forward>
	Existing memberships expire on June 30 each year and have a three-month grace period (until September 30) to
	renew and keep the same expiration month (June 30). Renewing after the grace period changes the expiration
	month.
	NEW memberships will expire 12 months from the date of joining with a three-month grace period to renew and
	keep the same expiration month IF they renew before the 16 <sup>th</sup> of the third month. Renewing after the 16th

changes the expiration month.

## **KWG Fundraiser**

We were again quite successful selling pecans at the IBC Spring Luncheon. We will continue to sell pecans throughout the year in order to raise funds to cover the three \$500 STEM scholarships we give to women graduates of Valley Park, Affton, and Maplewood-

Richmond Heights high schools. You can order them at any time by email to <u>Carol Davis McDonald</u> or <u>Kay</u> <u>Meyer</u>.



Fancy Mammoth Halves (\$13) Carmel Pecan Clusters (\$11) Cinnamon Glazed Pecans (\$11) Chocolate Covered Pecans (\$11) Dark Chocolate Covered Pecans (\$11)

## AAUW WEBINARS

To view past AAUW webinars, go to <u>aauw.org</u>, click on the search button (the magnifying glass), type in "webinars" in the search textbox, and press the Enter key. All saved webinars will be listed with descriptions. Click on the one you want to view.

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>

Click here to join us on Facebook AAUWKWG.

### **AAUW METRO ST LOUIS INTERBRANCH COUNCIL (IBC)**

KWG is **one of the five branches** that form the AAUW Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council, more commonly known as IBC. The purpose of IBC is to foster cooperation among member branches for the sharing of ideas and interests and to financially support programs and projects such as NCCWSL scholarships, publicity for AAUW, and the Lackritz Award.

## A Great IBC Spring Banquet!



The IBC Spring Banquet on March 18 to honor five members as Barbara Lackritz Awardees was delightful! It was fun to see everyone and catch up! The venue was lovely, and the food was excellent. Nichole Evelina gave a very interesting talk on Virginia

Barb Johnson, our Barb Lackritz Awardee

Minor and signed copies of her book!

The event raised over \$1,000 to support IBC projects including sending a student to AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. Thanks to everyone who bought raffle tickets or made donations. for College Women Student Leaders.

### **IBC iADELANTE! ZOOM BOOK GROUP**

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

- Where: Currently via Zoom
- 1:30 pm the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month in Sep-When: tember, October, January, February, March, April, May
- Contact: Deb McWard (314-607-2908).
- Apr 27 The Bookshop of the Broken Hearted by Robert Hillman; sexual assault awareness (304 p); Teri Brecht or Karen Francis facilitator
- May 25 This Tender Land: A Novel, by William Kent Krueger; Asian-Pacific American heritage; Lynne Roney, facilitator

### **2023 International Relations Lecture Series**

### Ethical Society of St. Louis 9001 Clayton Road, St. Louis, MO 63117

AAUW is a co-sponsor of the lecture series with the Tuesday Women's Group (TWA) of the Ethical Society for over 95 years. Each meeting begins at 10:45 am on the 2nd Tuesday of the months January-April. The public is invited. There is no fee, but contributions are appreciated. Free parking is at the rear of the building.

#### The April meeting will be in the lower level meeting room.

The 45-50 minute lecture will be followed by a question and answer period. Attendees are invited to bring lunch and to stay and discuss the day's topic. In case of bad weather, call 314-991-0955, ext. 224.

### April 11 Truly Global Problem: Coping with Climate Change—Speaker Dr. Marlene Katz

As a result of the warming atmosphere changes are occurring that are environmental, economic, and societal. On our planet everything is connected to everything else. This makes dealing with climate change more difficult while it also makes the impact of corrective changes more dramatic. This presentation will illustrate how human ingenuity is developing solutions to the problems that climate change brings and will emphasize the importance of recognizing both the difficulties of learning to cooperate on a global scale and the necessity for this kind of action.

### **PROGRAMS AT METRO ST. LOUIS BRANCHES**

All are welcome to attend.

Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch—April 13, 9:30 am **Ballwin Golf Course Events Center** 

Speaker: Joell Aguirre, Manager of Municipal Services at **Republic Services.** 

Ferguson-Florissant Branch—May 20 Spring luncheon.

St. Charles Branch—May 4, 6:00 pm Speaker Linda Lindsey, Afghans Living in St. Louis

**<u>St. Louis Branch</u>**—Check their website for updates.

## LOCAL EVENTS



#### ELECTION DAY—TUESDAY APRIL 4

The League's Voters Guide is available at VOTE411.org.

The polls are open from 6 am to 7 pm on Election Day. The new law requires a government-issued photo ID or passport to vote. Voters without a valid ID can cast a provisional ballot but their signature will have to match one on file with the election



### Tuesday, April 11, 6:30 pm Virtual Program: Black Maternal Health

In honor of Black Maternal Health Week, learn about the health disparities faced by Black women and how equitable health outcomes for families can be improved in our region. Presented by March of Dimes. <u>Registration required</u>.

Wednesday, April 12, 7:00 pm—<u>Lewis & Clark Branch</u> Opera Theater St. Louis: Treemonisha

This program examines "Treemonisha" by Scott Joplin, an opera which celebrates the strength, beauty, and wisdom of Black women. Presented by Opera Theater St. Louis.

Saturday, April 15, 11:00 am—<u>Thornhill Branch</u> Reading Women Book Discussion

This month we will be reading "House of Mirth" by Edith Wharton. Copies available at the circulation desk. <u>Registration re-</u>



Thursday, April 13, 7:00 pm Women Mayors Talking: How Gender, Race, and Politics Intersect In Our Communities

# AAUW of MISSOURI

October 19-21 AAUW Regional Conference at the Drury Plaza Hotel at the



Planning is under way for the 14-state AAUW Regional Confer-

ence. Plan now to attend and meet members from states in the Midwest, share program and fundraising ideas, and learn more about AAUW. There will be plenary speakers, large-group sessions, and smaller breakout sessions.

Discussions have begun on how best to carpool for driving and parking so that no one has to travel alone. Look for details in the next editions of *Missouri in Motion*. Let's make it a FUN weekend!

# **AAUW** National

AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (<u>NCCWSL</u>) will be in person this year.

May 31—June 3, 2023 - University of Maryland, College Park

Each year we bring together hundreds of college women from around the country for three days of leadership training, inspiration, and networking. NCCWSL has grown rapidly since its founding more than three decades ago, attracting over 10,000 student leaders. At our last in-person conference in 2019, the conference brought together 800 attendees representing 48 states and over 300 colleges and universities. The diversity of backgrounds and ideas at NCCWSL is part of what makes it such a transformative experience. The workshops, panels, speakers and activities provide endless opportunities to learn from experts, while peer networking allows learning and lifelong connections.