



EMPOWERING WOMEN SINCE 1881

INDEPENDENCE BRANCH

Empowering women since 1940

Vol. 80 No. 7 March 2020

AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

Dear Members,

March...The month we celebrate of St. Patrick's Day, the beginning of daylight saving time, Women's History and Take a Walk in the Park Day (March 30). If you are an active member of the Independence branch of AAUW, you are especially busy during this month. The used book sale, scholarship selection, voter registration, parade marching...seems like I'm forgetting something. It's all a walk in the park when we come together to support the mission of AAUW!



In case you had some spare time and energy, there are some outstanding programs in the area celebrating the centennial of women's votes. The KC Library is sponsoring the program entitled, "The Golden Lane: How Missouri Women Gained the Vote and Changed History." If you are interested in more information on this and other programs visit kclibrary.org

I am looking forward to March's activities, including the program at our next meeting. Kay Meyer, State President and Pat Shores, State Public Policy Chair will be joining us to address what we should know about public policy changes.

"March winds and April showers bring May flowers." I can't wait!

Jolene

Book Club News: Jane Campbell, delandjane@comcast.net

The March meeting will be switched from Tuesday, March 10 to Wednesday, March 11. The meeting will still be held at 9:30 AM at Jane Campbell's home, 2815 B Chatelain Ct. The Moment of Lift by Melinda Gates will be our book review.

Upcoming Events:

- ~ **March 3, 9** = **Voter Registration**, Blue River Community College, 11am-1pm.
- ~ **March 11** = Book Club Meeting, 9:30 am, at Jane Campbell's home. Book: The Moment of Lift by Melinda Gates, led by Kathy Keeton.
- ~ **March 13** = "Born Criminal: Matilda Joslyn Gage, Radical Suffragist," Midwest Genealogy Center, 2 pm. (Registration Required)
- ~ **March 14** = Brookside St. Patrick's Day Parade, 2pm. Wear White.
- ~ **March 15** = "The Golden Lane: How Missouri Women Gained the Vote and Changed History", Sunday, March 15, 2:00 pm, Central Library. (RSVP Requested)
- ~ **March 24** = **Monthly AAUW Meeting** = "What We Should Know About Public Policy Changes," presented by Pat Shores, State Public Policy Chair, and Kay Meyer, State President.
- ~ **March 31** = **Equity Day**=Blue River Community College, 11am-1pm.

March Program News = Kathy Keeton, Chairperson

Pat Shores (Missouri State AAUW public policy Chair),
Kay Meyer (Missouri State AAUW President),
and Mable Davis (Missouri State AAUW Diversity and Inclusion Chair),
will be the guest speakers for our March 24th program. Your attendance
will bring you new insights into the
purpose of our state AAUW program.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU...

...to everyone who helped make our **Book Sale** a success!! Special thanks to our team of Book Sale Minions who worked Saturday mornings for the last 8 weeks---we had 17 members and 3 husbands on our team. 10 of those



minions were responsible for picking up book from our 5 library locations and bringing them to the UHaul. We also had 9 more minions who helped unload and process the books each week. Another busy minion took care of scheduling shifts for the Sale. Next, we had 10 people helping set-up at the Center on Wednesday night and 35 members helped during the sale. As you can see, it “takes a village” to complete this major fundraiser and we appreciate ALL of your help!

~~Kathy Keeton, Chairperson

Nominating Committee News ~ Judy Austin, Lois Domsch, Patt Braley
judyaustin64055@comcast.net

The nominating committee is very pleased to nominate Lois Domsch and Nancy Comtois to continue in their respective positions as Financial Officer and Corresponding Secretary, and Debbie White to join Sue Raymond as Membership Vice President.



We thank these members for agreeing to serve.

College/University Information = Barbara Leabo, Chairperson

AAUW will be well represented at Blue River Community College in March. Members will be registering voters on March 4th and March 9th. Equity Day is March 31st and students will be made aware of what Equity Day is. Members Sue Shineman, Sharon Royer, Judy Tucker, Sue Raymond, Jolene Cerveny, Teresa Powell, and Barbara Leabo will be volunteers.

Independence Branch Grant Donations



Jolene Cerveny, Sue Raymond and Deborah Karlson from Van Horn



Sue Shineman, Jolene Cerveny and Morgan Parrish from William Chrisman

Financial Report = Lois Domsch

February 2020 AAUW Financial Report

CHECKING ACCOUNT

BALANCE ON HAND 1/31/2020			\$450.95
RECEIPTS			
	2/21/2020	Transfer from savings	1000
TOTAL RECEIPTS			\$1000
DISBURSEMENTS			
	2/7/2020	Debit USPS PO stamps Jolene	33
4603	2/21/2020	Indep Mall Holding LLC Book Fair Rental	750
	2/21/2020	Debit USPS PO stamps Jolene	22
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			\$805
BALANCE ON HAND 2/29/2020			\$645.95

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

BALANCE ON HAND 1/31/2020			\$9086.01
TOTAL RECEIPTS	Dividend January	\$1.05	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	Transfer to checking	\$1000	
BALANCE ON HAND 2/29/2020			\$8087.06

TOTAL ASSETS 2/29/2020: Checking \$645.95 + Savings \$8087.06 = \$8733.01

Minutes...Meeting February 25, 2020

At the request of our AAUW president Jolene, four members presented the program on Women of the Suffrage Movement in Missouri.

Lisa Cox was our first speaker; her story was on **Anna Clapp**. Anna was the only elected president of the Ladies' Union Aid Society (LUAS) of St. Louis, until the group disbanded in 1869. She gave help to wounded soldiers and their families. She encouraged women to get outside their home in an effort to help soldiers during the war. Anna often referred to her "union loyalty".



Karen Johnson was our second speaker; her story was on **Virginia Minor**. In 1866 Virginia launched the woman suffrage movement in Missouri. In 1867, she took an active role in founding the Women Suffrage Association of Missouri, which was the first organization to take aim of enfranchising women. During the woman suffrage convention held in St. Louis in 1869, Virginia made a speech urging women to no longer submit to their inferior condition. Her husband Francis drafted a set of resolutions which asserted the right of woman suffrage under the U.S. Constitution, based on the wording of the 14th Amendment. In October 1872, Virginia register to vote for an upcoming election, but was refused by St. Louis sixth district registrar, Reese Happersett. Happersett refused to let Virginia register because she was a female. This issue sued in a civil action case against Happersett, (by her husband, because married women could not sue in Missouri courts until after the passage of the Married Women's Act of 1889). Virginia appeared before the U.S. Senate committee on women suffrage in 1889, to once more state her case. She also served as vice president of the Interstate Woman Suffrage Convention, held in Kansas City in 1892.



Sue Shineman was our third speaker; her story was on **Phoebe Jane (Routt) Ess**. Born in 1850, died at the age of 84. Phoebe was described as passionate and energized force in Kansas City public life. She began teaching upper grade students at the first public school, Washington School; located at Independence Avenue and Cherry Street. Phoebe was fondly remembered as the "dean of Missouri-club women." She also was a forerunner to what we know has Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs). Phoebe also was the first woman in city history to run for election for a public office. She is widely remembered for her work on behalf of women's suffrage. She was an advocate for passage of the 19th Amendment. She was also one of the founders of the Susan B. Anthony Civic Club and served as the only president for 23 years. Jackson County was the first county to adopt women's suffrage. Phoebe didn't wait at home; she made a difference.



Added to our program was our own Patty Chadwick, who spoke about her grandmother Ida Lee Williams. Ida came from a farming family, starting in a cotton field. Patty told of her grandmother's experience of casting her first vote following the ratification of the 19th amendment. With fabric she ordered from Sears & Roebuck, Ida made a new suit to wear as she cast her first vote in the county seat of Nevada, MO.



Minutes...Meeting February 25, 2020... Continued

President's Report – Jolene Cerveny.

1. **Fundraising Letters:** Letters asking for a onetime donation to our branch was approved as an alternative fundraiser. 60 letters were mailed last week to past members, past women of achievement, and others. Current membership will also be receiving this letter. The cost per mailed letter was \$.68, letters distributed at this meeting is \$.11.
2. **Centennial of Women's Right to Vote: Their Fight, Our Right.** Sue Shineman and Jolene delivered the donation items of a book and DVD to William Chrisman High School. Sue Raymond and Jolene will deliver the donation to Van Horn on Wednesday, February 26.
3. **Book Sale & Bookmarks:** Bookmarks commemorating the Centennial of Women's Vote are available and will be distributed to book buyers until the supply is gone. Cost per marker is about \$.03.
4. **Parades:** Sue Shineman is our "parade master". My sincerest thanks to her for doing the groundwork for this activity.
5. **Community Activities:** "The Golden Lane: How Missouri Women Gained the Vote and Changed History" program at the Central Library on Sunday, March 15th, 2 p.m. The story of the 1916 Democratic Convention in St. Louis and how women there advanced the achievement of women's suffrage.
6. **AAUW Art Contest:** We hear a lot about the gender gap—in salary, leadership roles and in the fields of math and science. But one of the most long-standing discrepancies is in the art world. For centuries, women artists were not encouraged or even recognized. Times have changed but inequality persists. Only 30% of artists represented in commercial galleries are women and they are paid \$20K less per year than men artists. That is what motivated the annual AAUW art contest, the goal is to give women artists the attention they deserve. You can view the six winning entries online. Note cards with the featuring the winning entries will be mailed in the spring. Again, thanks to Mary Morgan and Lisa Cox for working together to submit an entry featuring the STEM project at Proctor Elementary.

Sue Shineman- we have been approved to march in the Brookside parade. It will be held on March 14th, starts at 2 p.m. She will send additional information to members after she attends a planning meeting. As it is a St. Patrick's Day kick-off parade, the wearing of green is one requirement.

Jane Campbell- Book Club for March has changed to March 11th at her home, gather @ 9 a.m., book club starts @ 9:30 a.m.

Patt Braley- announced Vice-President, Membership will be Sue Raymond and Debbie White. Financial Officer will be Lois Domsch, and Corresponding Secretary will be Nancy Comtois.

Sue Raymond- Membership, we have a new member Sharon Royer. She attended UMKC and Mizzou. Please make her feel welcome.

Kathy Vest- Student Awards, she has talked to the Independence foundation about the criteria for the scholarships. The students must pass the first stage of rules of accomplishments. We have received applications from twenty-nine students at Truman, nine students from Van Horn, and nine students from William Chrisman. We will pick three girls from each school.

Re-Entry- MCC Blue River we have not been given much response. They are a young group, with not many as re-entry students. They need to carry a 3.0 grade point average at semester, they don't have accumulate grade **point** average. Not much communication from MCC Longview College. Re-Entry Brunch is on April 18th.

Minutes...Meeting February 25, 2020... Continued

Kathy Kelly-Book Fair. The Book Sale is almost here! Thank you, in advance, for ALL your hard work that will be done during the sale. If you haven't scheduled your time, Jan Horner will be happy to help you! Just a couple of reminders before the event begins...please don't have cardboard boxes showing on top or beside the tables...we have worked hard to make the boxes we are using more attractive. Also, NO food is allowed at the table...water is fine, but it would be better to have it under the table when not in use. I will have a price list at the cashier and several places around the tables. Just a reminder, ALL paperbacks are \$1.00 this year, regardless of size, hardbacks are \$3.00 and anything different from that will be marked with a sticker on the front cover. Also, I have a few more posters available on the back table. Please help us get the word out so we can have LOTS of shoppers. Any community groups that you think would like free books can come anytime after 5:00 p.m. on Saturday---please help me get that word out also.

Now, it's time for a few thank yous...several of us have been hard at work at the U-Haul for the last 7 weeks. Sometimes I like to complain about how much work it is, and that is certainly true, but I'm definitely NOT doing it all by myself, We have had 17 members and 3 husbands working together to collect and sort 3 U-Haul storage units full of books. I would like you to meet our Book Fair Minions now...1st of all, I have 2 co-chairs...Jan Keeler and Sherry Lane. We have also had an awesome crew picking up books at all 5 locations. Please come forward when you hear your name...Jane and Del Campbell, Karol and Jack Palmer, Laura and Jerry Vernon, Jolene Cerveney, Judy Austin, Patty Chadwick, Sue Raymond, Patt Braley, and Lois Domsch, Helping this crew sort these books were Jeanne Schneider, Kathy Keeton (who is also our contact with the Boy Scouts), Kelley Reetzke, Barb Bickham, Sue Shineman and Kathy Vest. Finally, Jan Horner joins our crew of minions by doing our scheduling. Please help me Thank these ladies for All their hard work in preparing for our sale.

Barbara Leabo-College/University. We have 3 opportunities at MCC-Blue River. March 3rd, March 9th and March 31st (Equity Day). If you can help let Barbara know.

Judy Tyson- Publicity. She has submitted two articles to the Independence Examiner, and they have made it to the press!

Jeanne Schneider

Recording Secretary