

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

Message from Jolene:

I'm looking at the calendar in my office...NOVEMBER!
How can that be? Once over that dose of reality, I celebrate the special "Days" in this month.

Election Day: As I compose this message, we are still awaiting the results of the 2020 election. I reflect on all the efforts made by so many to insure a safe election during a pandemic. I am especially appreciative of the efforts of the Missouri AAUW Public Policy committee who worked with the League of Women Voters and the Missouri Voter Protection Coalition to keep both voters and their votes safe and secure. Wouldn't the suffragists be proud of all that women did in this election season!

Veteran's Day: I've always had a soft spot in my heart for those who served. I worked in the VA Hospital system twice in my career as a dietitian. My husband was a Navy veteran. I have one grandson who served and another who is interested in joining as soon as he graduates high school. For all who wears or wore the uniform, the country honors them on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

Thanksgiving Day: This holiday in 2020 will probably look and feel different for all of us. The rest of the holiday season will no doubt see some of our family traditions modified. Our own AAUW Christmas luncheon will be replaced with a Zoom Tea Party. We are nothing if not resilient! Know that among my blessings, I count the connection the relationships I have with our organization and with each of you.

Jolene



*****The November 17, 2020 Independence AAUW meeting will be presented in the same hybrid format as the September Meeting**

~ In-person and Zoom .

- **Follow the signage to the in-person meeting at the First United Methodist Church in Independence**
- **Look for an email from Sue Shineman with the Zoom link.**

For our November 17th program, Jason Windes, one of the robotics coaches for the Independence School District, will introduce us to members of the ISD robotics team. We will learn from team members as they demonstrate their current robot and, also, present information and skills that they are gaining from their participation on the robotics team.



Kathy Keeton, Programs

October AAUW Meeting Links:

- **Independence Covid-19 Task Force**

Christina Heinen, Acting Health Director, provided a Link to the September briefing by the KC area CMOs (Chief Medical Officers). The link follows:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hNTNcHbjoB8&feature=youtu.be>

- **Recording of AAUW October Meeting on Zoom**
Date: Oct 27, 2020

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/N5WavWKDsa-A1vgRlrQih4UJDDonAqmxzaV2uXBBwkSkwfGOXp_gkWRdSZYs4ScN1.eFZHDZgObqSczUsY

Passcode: gL4Kf0@?

Upcoming Events:

- November 16, 2020 ~ Member's Market! Watch email for items and updates!
- November 17, 2020 ~ AAUW Independence Branch November Meeting ~ 7 pm
Program: Jason Windes, Robotics Coach for Independence School District, and members of the Truman High School Robotics Team present projects and information.
- December 5, 2020 ~ Christmas Tea Party on Zoom, 10am (details/link to follow soon)
- No Book Club Meeting in December.
- January 12, 2021, AAUW Book Club ~ The Big Finish by Brooke Fossey. Led by Jolene Cerveney. For additional information contact Jane Campbell.

Sue Shineman

**Amendment 3 Letter to the Editor,
printed in the October 20, 2020
Independence Examiner
(text reprinted below)**

Amendment 3 is full of politicians' deceptions

To the editor:

Just two Years ago, Missourians made their voices heard in favor of transparency, ethics and accountability in government by overwhelmingly supporting Clean Missouri.

Clean Missouri called to reduce the power of special interests and ensure redistricting was done in a fair, nonpartisan way to eliminate gerrymandering and allow all Missourians a true voice in who represents them in Jefferson City.

Unfortunately, politicians don't like the idea of fair legislative maps and have placed Amendment 3 on the ballot to overturn the vote of 62% of the people. Amendment 3 is intentionally deceptive. It is presented as ethics reform, but it only reduces the lobbyist gift limit by \$5 and state Senate campaign contribution limits by \$100.

If Amendment 3 passes, it opens the door to extreme gerrymandering and would allow politicians to manipulate district boundaries that would dilute the impact of votes in those gerrymandered districts composed of mostly minority voters. It also eliminates the transparency established in the process by Clean Missouri, shutting the people out of the process and weakening minority representation. This is a form of racial injustice.

I am asking you to help protect fair maps, transparency and democracy in Missouri. It is important that we stand together as we did in 2018 and defeat this attempt to trick and deceive voters at the polls in November. All votes must carry the same impact regardless of what district you reside in or what political party you belong to.

Vote No on 3!

Sue Shineman

Missouri state president,

American Association of University Women

~Thank you, Sue!! ❤️



September – October 2020 AAUW Financial Report

CHECKING ACCOUNT

BALANCE ON HAND 8/31/2020			\$804.14
RECEIPTS			
10/2/2020	Deposit Members' Market sales	45	
10/31/2020	Deposit Fund, M.M.,P.R. tips, Memorials	383	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$428	
DISBURSEMENTS			
4612	9/22/2020 CAPA Sept speaker	40	
4613	9/29/2020 Copy Print yearbooks	80.07	
4614	9/29/2020 Laura Vernon Woman of Ach planter	29.37	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		\$ 149.44	
BALANCE ON HAND 10/31/2020			\$1082.70

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

BALANCE ON HAND 8/31/2020			\$10336.35
RECEIPTS			
9/30/2020	Dividend September	0.21	
10/31/2020	Dividend October	0.22	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$0.43	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		\$0.00	
BALANCE ON HAND 10/31/2020			\$10336.78

TOTAL ASSETS 10/31/2020: Checking \$1082.70+ Savings \$10336.78 = \$11419.48

AAUW Woman of Achievement Award, April 2021...

Information and nomination forms for the Woman of Achievement Award 2021 will be provided at the November meeting.*** Nominations should include Professional/Career Experience, Volunteer/Community Activities, Educational History Achievements and AAUW Activities, if a member. Please be thinking of women in the greater Independence area deserving of this distinctive award. Nominations must be submitted no later than 23 February 2021 for review and then Award presentation at the April 2021 meeting.

Joyce Gillespie, Chair

***The Form and Rules are included at the end of this newsletter.

AAUW-Independence Fund Campaign 2020

What a crazy year So many unusual events to challenge our minds and decisions! We have dealt with a disappointing Book Sale result, critical Covid19 health emergencies and protocol, a crucial election, and major changes to our daily lives. ZOOM and FaceTime are new words in our vocabularies. Through all of this, AAUW-Independence continues to focus on equity, education, and public policy.

Part of our local Strategic Plan is to achieve a \$30.00 per member branch contribution to national, enabling us to meet one of the goals of the Missouri Five Star Award for 2020. During the past few years, our branch fundraising efforts have been supplemented by our generous individual members.

A quick review of the 2020 individual donation possibilities---

- AAUW-MO has created the **Century Club recognition** – for a cumulative **\$100.00 donation** to national AAUW. (Last year our branch had 11 of these donors.) Payment may be made on-line at aauw.org or by check made out to AAUW.
- AAUW-Independence has created **Diamond Club recognition** – for a cumulative **\$75.00 donation** to Independence School District Foundation (ISD) for AAUW high school scholarships, for AAUW IBC Re-Entry scholarships, and/or national AAUW. Payment may be made by check to AAUW, with ISD or Re-Entry written on the Memo line.
- Donations can also be made “in Memory of” or “in Honor of” a special member or friend. Indicate that on the Memo line. Please include appropriate name and address for acknowledgment, if applicable.

The deadline for contribution credit is December 31, 2020. However, **December 15 is the deadline** preferred for allowing the checks to be processed and credited on time.

Send checks to Lois Domsch, Finance Officer, at 3349 S Scott Ave, 64052.

Please report **on-line donations to Patt Braley**, Fund Chair, 461-8555 or braleypatt@gmail.com.

October 27th Business Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Jolene Cervený who recited our Mission Statement: The Mission of the American Association of University Women is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, advocacy and education.

Old Business:

September's meeting minutes were approved as published in the newsletter.

New Business:

Public Policy: Renee Freers reminded everyone to vote and to take time to review ballot before going to the polls. The ballot can be found online. Jolene explained the procedure for surrendering mail-in or absentee ballots if a voter should decide to vote in person instead.

Program: Jolene reported for Kathy Keeton. Next month's program is scheduled a week early due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Tuesday, November 17th the program will feature the Independence School District's robotics team. We will hear from students who will demonstrate their current projects with an explanation of the skills they are learning. Even if the meeting has to be virtual, members are looking forward to this program. December's Christmas Luncheon at V's Italian Restaurant has been modified to be a Zoom Christmas tea party. More information will be sent as we get closer.

Membership: Sue Raymond reported that we have twenty-two members via Zoom for our meeting tonight.

Corresponding Secretary: Nancy Comtois sent sympathy cards to Renee Freers for her mother Margaret Carnahan and to Sherry Lane's husband.

College/Universities: Sue Shineman reported we had our second presentation with League of Women Voters, they are happy that we wanted to continue our efforts.

Fundraising Report:

1. Member's Market Results: September's market made \$45; October's Market made \$115. If you have items that you want to donate, let Jolene know.
2. Pizza Ranch Results: the 10% of sales was \$62.70; tips were \$141.00; pre-event contributions were \$112.00. Total raised was \$315.70. We are on the Community Impact Event schedule again for March 8th.
3. Idea! If you have books that you would have donated to the book fair, we will collect them in March and take them to Half Price Book Store. Books that are current &/or in good condition only please.

Newsletter/Website: Lisa Cox reminds officers/committee chairs she needs your reports by November 7th to have for the November 15th newsletter.

Publicity-Judy Tyson reported that Sue Shineman's editorial on Amendment 3 was published in the October 20th Examiner. A copy will be included in the October newsletter.

Re-Entry/Student Awards: Kathy Vest reported there will be a Zoom Re-Entry meeting November 13th. There are two components, the council and re-entry. Parkville branch is in charge this year (on a two-year cycle); we will go back to being the chair of Re-Entry next year.

October 27th Business Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Woman of Achievement-Sue Raymond reported for Joyce Gillespie. Joyce has revised the form to nominate someone for Women of Achievement in 2020-2021. Do be thinking of whom you would like to nominate.

Yearbook-Mailing out current yearbooks to members was discussed. Patty Chadwick will mail out yearbooks to members this week.

AAUW Inclusion and Equity-Sue Raymond/Courtney Yount-McGinnis. Courtney – Our active MO group continues to focus on informing ourselves and evaluating issues related to Equity and Inclusion. Discussion of the book Waking Up White is used to examine how we can move ourselves and AAUW forward. Courtney shared a quote from the next book to be read: White Fragility, "Diversity is being invited to the dance; Inclusion is being *asked to dance*".

Other Discussion:

We grieve the loss of two long time members: Margaret Carnahan and Sherry Lane. Renee thanked members for their condolences. Sherry's family selected AAUW as one of the memorial funds. Any contributions made will be divided between ISD Foundation and Re-Entry scholarships.

Jolene spoke about two AAUW issues. Increase in dues and a change in membership qualification. There is a town hall meeting on the AAUW website.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/2020-convening/>

Members will begin voting in April for the qualification changes; the AAUW national board will vote on the dues increase.

Meeting adjourned-

Recording Secretary

Jeanne Schneider

WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT GUIDELINES FOR NOMINATION

Fill out the nomination form for Woman of Achievement and return to Joyce Gillespie, Woman of Achievement Chair (See the form below...)

- 1) Nominations are to be made by branch members.
- 2) Nominee must work or have worked, or volunteer or have volunteered in the Independence, MO area.
- 3) Membership in AAUW is optional.
- 4) A branch member must submit a written nomination listing the Nominee's achievements in the areas of: Professional / career experience and Volunteer / Special activities and Educational background (college is not required)
- 5) A brief statement of personal recommendation by the AAUW member making the nomination.

Joyce Gillespie
6140 Raytown Rd
Raytown, MO 64133
816-260-2014
joyceannegillespie@yahoo.com

AAUW Independence Branch Woman of Achievement Nominee

(Please feel free to submit the information in your own words or in paragraph format. Include any recommendations, words of accolade from friends or co-workers). Attach additional pages as needed.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone _____ Mobile Phone _____

e-mail _____

AAUW Member making this nomination: _____

Member Phone/Mobile Phone _____

e-mail _____

NOMINEE'S INFORMATION Professional / Career Experience:

Volunteer / Community Activities:

AAUW Activities (if a member)

Educational History and Achievements:

On the reverse side, please write a brief statement telling the committee why you feel this nominee should be considered for this award.

Member Signature _____ Date _____

Send nominations to Joyce Gillespie