

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

From the President:



February brings a celebration of our career technical education teachers in my world. As I think about the wonderful work our teachers do, I can't help but think about how few young ladies I see in these classrooms. Few girls choose to pursue a career in high need, high wage job fields that many of our technical hands-on high paid workers enjoy. Today women can excel in technical careers like never before. Most factory jobs do NOT require employees to pick up heavy objects, they are clean, and offer excellent benefits. Working at one of our local car plants allows flexible shifts, paid education, and excellent benefits. A parking lot attendant, watching cars, makes more money than a daycare worker watching our precious children. We certainly need to pay higher wages to our female dominated careers, YET we also need to encourage our young ladies to pursue careers that already pay well. If we want women to receive higher pay and better benefits, one quick way to do that is encourage women to take those jobs that already offer these things. Never stop encouraging young ladies to strive for the best!

Renee

Upcoming Events:

February 12 ~ Deadline for Parkville Brunch Event on February 19. See the email and attachment from January 21, 2022 for details.

February 19 ~ 2022 Virtual MO Women's Network - Legislative Retreat – via Zoom 9:00 - 11:00 am. **See information below (p. 5) and Zoom information in the email delivering this newsletter.**

February 22 ~ AAUW Independence Branch Meeting ~ *This meeting will be held in a hybrid format = both in-person and via Zoom.* Social Time 6:30 pm/Meeting 7 pm. Program: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI): Opening Our Eyes, led by Courtney Yount-McGinnis, member Independence AAUW and State DEI Committee. **A ZOOM link will be sent closer to the meeting date.**

February 28 ~ Deadline for Woman of Achievement Nominations (see p. 8)

March 8 ~ AAUW Book Club ~ The Women's March by Jennifer Chiaverini Discussion led by Jolene Cerveney, Meet at Jane Campbell's home, at 10:30 AM. This time change is permanent starting in March.

AAUW MO State Meeting 2022

Friday and Saturday, May 6–7

100th Anniversary Celebration of AAUW Missouri

Friday, May 6, 6:30–8:30 p.m. 100th Anniversary Dinner and Program

Saturday, May 7, 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. State Meeting, Awards, Speakers, and Celebrations

Gloria Blackwell, AAUW CEO, will be joining us via Zoom and Cheryl Roberts, Senior Organizational, Development & Diversity Executive MODOT will present “Living Life Through and Inclusive Lens.” There will be committee reports and branch sharing and planning opportunities in the Moving Forward Session.

We know this conference will be a bit more expensive than in recent years; however, we think it is important to celebrate this milestone anniversary together! The Registration Form and full agenda will be available in late February.

Holiday Inn Executive Center – 2200 I-70 Drive SW – Columbia, MO #573-445-8531

A block of rooms is reserved for AAUW at \$140/night until April 6. DO register early to reserve your room. Up to four people may share a room.

DEI Corner:

Courtney Yount-McGinnis, Chairperson



Did you know?

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history. Also known as African American History Month, the event grew out of “Negro History Week,” the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month. (www.history.com)

There will be many exciting events happening around the Kansas City area and online to help celebrate. Plus, please see attached a list of Black owned restaurants and cafes in Kansas City. If you have some time, check them out.

Negro League Baseball Museum

In celebration of [#BlackHistoryMonth](https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/black-history-month), the Kansas City Royals and Royals Charities are covering admission to the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum for the entire month of February!

MCCKC Online Black History Month Zoom Speaker Series

Events begin at 6pm. Zoom link is the same for all three evenings: <https://mcckc.zoom.us/j/7761021335>

2/9- Lyle Gibson, History of Laws and Its Impact on African Americans

2/16- Dr. Warren Haynes, Courageous Conversations

2/23- Dr. Crystal Johnson, 2 Steps Forward 2 Steps Back: Historical Amnesia’s Impact on Social Progress

Swope Health Zoom Lunch & Learn Speaker Series

Each Lunch and Learn is 12pm-1pm. More information and Zoom links can be found here- <https://swopehealth.org/celebrating-black-history/>.

2/10- Bob Kendrick, President & CEO, Negro Leagues Baseball Museum

2/16- E. Frank Ellis, Founder of Swope Health

2/24- Emanuel Cleaver II, U.S. Congressman

Literacy Partners Virtual Public Reading of Toni Morrison’s The Bluest Eye featuring Angela Davis and a host of other amazing African American women writers and activists.

Sign Up to receive the Zoom link here-

https://events.literacypartners.org/bluesteye/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=paidsocial&utm_campaign=Hawke+%7C+Prospecting+%7C+CBO_Literacy%2FSocial+Justice+Interest&utm_content=Static_Prospecting_AngelaDavis_LandingPage&fbclid=IwAR0nAKjpf6fvAQ3eQkvn3qoj8JfzTz2uaMut33Z7xG0jup1ycoYrbeycJKA

DEI ~ Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Courtney Yount-McGinnis sent the following
List of Kansas City Black-Owned Restaurants and Cafes.
Enjoy!

KC BLACK OWNED RESTAURANTS & CAFES

Awaze 3415 Main St, Kansas City, MO - 816.756.5111	M&M Bakery & Deli 1721 E 31st St, Kansas City, MO - 816.924.9172
Big Momma's Bakery Cafe 4707 Bannister Rd Ste B, Kansas City, MO - 816.765.0800	Mesob 3601 Broadway Blvd, Kansas City, MO - 816.442.7311
Blue Nile Cafe 20 E 5th St, Kansas City, MO - 816.283.0990	Niecie's 6441 Troost Ave, Kansas City, MO - 816.444.6006
Cultivare 13366 Metcalf Ave, Overland Park, KS - 913.291.0051	Peach Tree Buffet 6800 Eastwood Trafficway, Kansas City, MO - 816.923.0099
Dream Muscle Coffee 2540 W Pennway St, Kansas City, MO	Queens Kitchen 816.207.5388
Elsa's Ethiopian Restaurant 8016 Santa Fe Dr, Overland Park, KS - 913.648.5000	Reggae Kitchen 5535 Troost Ave, Kansas City, MO - 816.492.6191
Equal Minded Cafe 4327 Troost Ave, Kansas City, MO - 816.561.2233	Ruby Jean's Juicery 3000 Troost Ave, Kansas City, MO - 816.321.1440
Fannie's African Cuisine 4105 Troost Ave, Kansas City, MO - 816.832.8454	Skratch Bakery 862 SW Blue Pkwy, Lee's Summit, MO - 816.434.5330
Gates BBQ Multiple locations	Soirée Steak & Oyster House 1512 E 18th St, Kansas City, MO - 816.214.5706
Island Spice Caribbean Restaurant 10 W 39th St, Kansas City, MO - 816.523.3974	The Food Factory KC Food Truck
Jazzy B's 1803 #B, NE Colbern Rd, Lee's Summit, MO	The Vegan Spot 816.301.3342
Jones Bar-B-Q 6706 Kaw Dr, Kansas City, KS - 913.788.5005	Topknotch Vegan Vittles 816.914.7517
Kaleidoscoops Ice Cream 6609 Parallel Pkwy, Kansas City, KS	Unk's Burgers 240 NW Oldham Pkwy #1520, Lee's Summit, MO
KC Daquiri Shop 1116 Grand Blvd, Kansas City, MO - 816.974.3275	Urban Cafe KC 5500 Troost Ave, Kansas City, MO - 816.442.8891
Kings Table Restaurant 5932 Prospect Ave #3626, Kansas City, MO - 816.444.0779	Vegan Crave 816.533.5381
Krab Kingz 3805 Broadway Blvd, Kansas City, MO - 816.569.2526	Wilson's Pizza 1801 Quindaro Blvd, Kansas City, KS - 913.621.4066
LC's BBQ 5800 Blue Pkwy, Kansas City, MO - 816.923.4484	Wings Cafe (Northland) 3927 Broadway Blvd, Kansas City, MO - 816.931.9464
Love is Key 3000 Troost Ave, Ste C, Kansas City, MO	Yogurtini 4853 Main St, Kansas City, MO - 816.531.2201
Lutfi's Fried Fish Multiple locations	

2022 Virtual MO Women's Network - Legislative Retreat –

**When: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2022, via Zoom
9:00-11:00 am**

Join with women from over twelve organizations who have strong advocacy positions and who monitor and work to influence Missouri Legislative action.



The Legislative Retreat allows organizations within the Coalition to share their activities with others at this free, open to the public, event. They will cover:

- (1) a brief overview of their organization
- (2) describe the current status of the most critical pieces of MO legislation they are following this session
- (3) share dates of their advocacy activities- lobbying, town halls, etc.

Typical legislation being followed includes bills affecting:

Gender Pay Equity
Title IX; Education
Voter Registration and Voter Rights
Human Trafficking
Gun Violence
Social and Economic Justice
Many others

Organizations participating include:

- o A Red Circle
- o American Association of University Women (AAUW) MO
- o Conversation for Critical Change
- o Empower Missouri
- o League of Women Voters, Metro St. Louis
- o Missouri Equity Education Partnerships
- o Missouri Health Care for All
- o Missouri Voter Protection Coalition (MOVPC)
- o National Council of Jewish Women
- o National Women's Political Caucus
- o Planned Parenthood St. Louis
- o Pro Choice Missouri
- o Women's Voices Raised for Social Justice

MO Women's Network (MWN) is a coalition of groups and individuals working for equity for women. The mission of the MO Women's Network is based on principles articulated in the "National Plan of Action" adapted in 1977. MWN was formed in 1983 in the aftermath of the defeat of ERA, to consider alternatives for keeping the quest for women's equality alive.

Contact Karen Francis at 9300guthrie@gmail.com regarding any questions.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81166200080?pwd=YUItRzA5VVJpbVdmTkZ2bmhmREt4dz09>

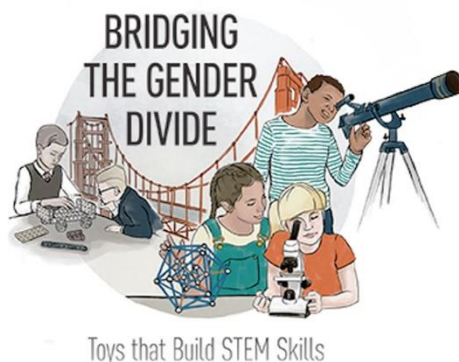
Meeting ID: 811 6620 0080

Passcode: 4264481

STEM Committee Report ~ Chairperson ~ Jolene Cerveney

The STEM committee recently sponsored a Community Impact night at our local Pizza Ranch. Many thanks to the members who worked that night: Nancy Comtois, Joyce Gillespie, Sue Raymond, Sue Shineman, and Jeanne Schneider. And a shout out to the members who came out to support the effort by eating dinner and generously contributing to the tip jar! This event plus the sale of some donated books raised \$289.14 that will be used to offset any expenses the committee may incur during the year.

A State STEM Zoom meeting was attended by several branch members in January. We related what our branch was doing, including the distribution of the WOMEN IN STEM coloring books to fourth graders. We obtained this resource from The National Museum of Toys/Miniatures in Kansas City. The coloring book was developed in conjunction with the Bridging the Gender Divide, Toys that Build STEM Skills exhibit that was featured there in 2020-2021. The Museum has been so gracious as to allow us to have these books free of charge. At the State STEM meeting, several other branches asked if they could get copies. Again, the Museum stepped up and to date has donated over 750 copies of this coloring book. It is gratifying to connect with them in our efforts to inform and inspire young girls about STEM.



The National Museum of Toys / Miniatures

is home to the **world's largest collection of fine-scale miniatures** and one of the **largest collections of historic toys** currently on public display.

January 2022 AAUW Financial Report ~ Lois Domsch, Finance Chair

CHECKING ACCOUNT

BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/2021			\$5695.48
RECEIPTS			
	1/29/2022	Deposit Pizza Ranch Tips + 1/2 price books	190.07
TOTAL RECEIPTS			\$190.07
	4639	2/2/2022 January speaker Emily Knox	20
	4640	2/2/2022 January speaker John Roach	20
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			\$40
BALANCE ON HAND 1/31/2022			\$5845.55

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/2021		\$8339.56
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$0.18	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$0.00	
BALANCE ON HAND 1/31/2022		\$8339.74

TOTAL ASSETS 1/31/2022: Checking \$5845.55 + Savings \$8339.74 = \$14185.29

The Gender Pay Gap ~ Public Policy Chairperson, Kelley Reetzke

It has been suggested AAUW members take the crusade for the Paycheck Fairness Act to state and local legislators. A tool-kit is provided at <https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/advocacy-toolkit/>.



Follow this link <https://www.aauw.org/resources/research/simple-truth/> for up-to-date information about this topic. I found the sections on the effects of COVID and institutional racist practices particularly interesting.

AAUW - Independence Fund Report – February 2022 News ~ Patt Braley, Fund Chair

2021 Century Club Success

The final national AAUW 2021 Fund Report credits AAUW-Independence branch with contributions of \$1,903.00. The total includes a \$140.00 branch gift for AAUW's 140th Birthday, 9 Century Club members (@ \$100.00), 2 Century Club Plus members (@ \$250.00) and other individual donations.

The successful Christmas Stocking fundraiser netted another \$870.00 for our local projects and scholarships. Those donations resulted in 4 additional AAUW-Independence Century Club members.

A huge "Thank You" goes to our generous members who are committed to the goals of AAUW. The Century Club donors will be recognized at the May luncheon.

Woman of Achievement ~ Joyce Gillespie, Chair

The 2022 Woman of Achievement nominations are due the end of February... Please be thinking about those talented successful Independence women or groups whom you believe are deserving of this annual award.

Need nomination forms? Please let Joyce know, 816-260-2014.

The annual award will be presented to the winning nominee April 26, 2022.

***The form for Woman of Achievement is included at the end of this newsletter and on the Independence AAUW website... <https://independence-mo.aauw.net/woman-of-achievement/2015-woman-of-achievement/nomination-form/>

AAUW Independence Branch January 25, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Gail Metcalf-Schartel, Recording Secretary

Members Present: Pat Bounds, Patt Braley, Jane Campbell, Jolene Cerveney, Patty Chadwick, Nancy Comtois, Lisa Cox, Lois Domsch, Maria Fleming, Renee Freers, Joyce Gillespie, Karen Johnson, Kathy Keeton, Kathy Kelley, Barbara Leabo, Virginia McMullen, Karol Palmer, Sue Raymond, Gail Metcalf Schartel, Jeanne Schneider, Sue Shineman, Courtney Yount-McGinnis

Guests: Det. Emily Knox, Det. John Roach, Kristen Bray

Renee Freers welcomed all in attendance at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. She asked Kathy Keeton to introduce the evening's speakers.

Kathy Keeton introduced Detectives Emily Knox and John Roach, both of whom have considerable experience working with the Independence Police Department's Special Victims Unit.

Detective Roach presented information explaining the differences in sex trafficking, labor trafficking, and domestic servitude. He went on to discuss the ways the department learns of incidents stressing that tips from the public or referral from the National Human Trafficking Resource Center were the most common. He explained that Independence's location in the middle of the country with major arteries including I-70 made it an attractive site for traffickers. He went on to describe things to look for or ask to ascertain whether someone was being used by traffickers. He cautioned that no one should approach a situation that might involve trafficking but said to contact the police by calling 911 in Independence or contacting the National Human Trafficking Resource Center. At 1-888-373-7888. The presentation ended with the officers answering a few questions.

At 7:43, Renee called the business meeting to order, thanking those who had arranged to have the speakers.

Lois Domsch gave the financial report, noting that there was about \$14,000 between the checking and savings accounts. She went on to report that the finance committee invited Ron Finke from Stewardship Capital to speak to them. He gave a presentation on what he could do if we chose to invest some of Independence Branch AAUW savings with his company. There are four basic levels of investment: ultra conservative, conservative, moderate and aggressive. We need to decide what we want to accomplish versus risk we are willing to take. He does a "technical analysis"—moving with the trends and matching conditions. His company provides monthly statements online. He provides quarterly statements. He would manage our account at no cost. There are no fees to set up an account. When he retires, maybe in 10 years, he would have prepped another agent to carry on with us under the same arrangements.

AAUW Independence Branch January 25, 2022 Meeting Minutes (Cont'd)

The Finance Committee moves to establish an investment account with Stewardship Capital, under the advisership of Ronald Finke, and invest up to \$5000 from our reserve funds. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Finance Committee moves to establish an Investment Committee comprised of the current Financial Officer, current Branch President, Immediate Past Financial Officer, a Finance Committee member, and one member-at-large. The Investment Committee is authorized to make transactions for the branch." This motion, too, was approved unanimously.

Renee asked for approval of the Nominating Committee consisting of Sue Shineman, Sue Raymond and Patty Chadwick. There were no objections. The Nominating Committee will be seeking candidates for Finance Officer and Corresponding Secretary. Please consider serving and say 'yes' when they call.

Sue Shineman then went on to review proposed Bylaws changes. She said that the changes were aligned with the State Bylaws and had been approved by the board. She made a motion, seconded by Patt Braley to approve the changes in the Bylaws. The motion was approved unanimously. She commented that the Bylaws had not been addressed or changed since 2009.

Lisa Cox asked that information for the newsletter be submitted to her by February 7th. Renee Freers said that an effort would be made to provide pictures and interesting information, such as the presentation by the Police Department to the state newsletter.

Jolene Cerveny reported that the Pizza Ranch fundraiser had garnered \$184.04 in tips and \$99.02 from purchases for STEM. In addition, someone donated books that were taken to Half-Price Books and garnered another \$6.08 for a total of \$289.14 to be used for STEM activities. A state STEM committee held a meeting. Jolene will pick up 200 free STEM coloring books from the National Museum of Toys/Miniatures for distribution to STEM committees across the state.

Joyce Gillespie said that she had nomination forms for the Women of Achievement and needed to receive nominations by the end of February.

Courtney Yount-McGinnis said that the Diversity Equity and Inclusion committee would present at the February meeting.

Sue Raymond said that she wanted to send a link to the evening's presentation to those who were unable to attend.

Sue Shineman noted that the State meeting would be held May 7th in Columbia, MO. A presentation by National CEO Gloria Blackwell would be included. The meeting will be available via Zoom to all members. She noted that could open the <https://aauw.us/emailoptions> link to check personal contact information and to select the information they wanted to receive prior to February 3 when a new national member database is installed.

The State Nominations Committee has recommended Lois Domsch as the new finance officer and Susie Watson from the Kansas City Northland branch as membership vice president.

A motion by Sue Shineman, and seconded by Patt Braley was made to change the wording of Member Services Database to Membership Database within the Bylaws previously approved in this meeting, was approved unanimously.

Pat Bounds noted that the February 22nd meeting is scheduled to be held at the First United Methodist Church and will feature a workshop presentation by the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Metcalf Schartel

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