



EMPOWERING WOMEN SINCE 1881

## INDEPENDENCE BRANCH

Empowering women since 1940

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

### President's Message September 2024

Greetings! Hints of fall have been in the air, but no doubt, we'll have some more hot, humid days ahead.

Welcome back to a new AAUW program year! Sue Shineman, our AAUW Missouri State President, has selected the theme of "Action and Advocacy" as our state's focus. During our Independence Branch program year we will hear from and learn about local organizations in our community that are helping support women and families such as Hillcrest Transitional Housing and Mothers' Refuge. In addition, we can put our advocacy for women and families into action with planned opportunities for volunteering for these organizations.



We are rapidly approaching November 5<sup>th</sup>, which is, of course, Election Day 2024! This election will have a major impact on the issues for which AAUW advocates: equity, women's economic security, and reproductive and civil rights. Here are some ways to engage in this important election year:

- Join us for voter registration and voter education events at Blue River Community College September 17, October 8, and October 29.
- Read AAUW's elections resources and voter engagement campaign, "It's My Vote!" at [aauw.org](http://aauw.org).
- Mark your calendars for November 2, 2024, for the Women's March in Kansas City at 10:00 AM at City Market Park in the River Market area. The Kansas City Inter Branch Council is planning to get a group together to participate in this event. More information can be found at Women's March Kansas City 2024 on Facebook.

I'm looking forward to an exciting year! Get informed! Get involved! Get out the vote!

"When women vote, we change the conversation."

Gloria L. Blackwell, CEO AAUW

Karol Palmer



**Welcome!**

*Jump into Fall with AAUW!*

*Please join us and bring a guest for  
a potluck dinner at 6 pm and a meeting to follow  
on*

*Tuesday, September 24, 2024.*

*Sue Shineman will present  
information about AAUW  
at both the local and state levels.*

*This event is held at the First United Methodist Church,  
400 W Maple, Independence, MO 64050*



AAUW BOOK CLUB 2025-2025

10:30 AM

OCT. MEETING AT PATTY'S, 5128 SW MARGUERITE, BLUE SPRINGS  
OTHER MEETINGS AT 11501 NW NORTH RIDGE #109 BLUE SPRINGS

Oct. 8 - Becoming Madam Secretary by Stephanie Dray  
Leader - Lois Domsch

Nov. 12 - Remarkably Bright Creatures  
by Shelby Van Pelt  
Leader - Doris McCartney

Dec. 10 - The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post  
by Allison Pataki

Jan. 14 - The Tide Between Us  
by Olive Collins  
Leader - Jolene Cerveny

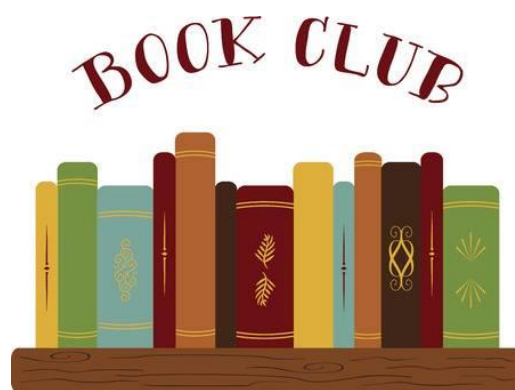
Feb. 11 - Something Lost, Something Gained  
by Hillary Clinton  
Leader - Jane Campbell

March - Lady Tan's Circle of Women  
by Lisa See  
Leader - Gail Metcalf Schartel

April 8 - The Frozen River  
by Ariel Lawhon  
Leader - Sue Raymond

May 13 - Uncle Tom's Cabin  
by Harriet Beecher Stowe  
Leader - Karol Palmer

June 10 - The Women  
by Kristin Hannah  
Leader - Patty Chadwick



## ***College/University Opportunities ~ Gail Metcalf Schartel***

Volunteers are needed to assist with voter registration and representing AAUW at Blue River Community College from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the following dates:

September 17, 2024    October 8, 2024    October 17, 2024 and October 29, 2024

Please notify Gail at [gailmetcalfschartel@gmail.com](mailto:gailmetcalfschartel@gmail.com)

### **Independence AAUW Volunteers!**

Kelley Reetzke, Sue Raymond, Karol Palmer, Patt Braley, and Lois Domsch are pictured here volunteering at the Community Services League's Back to School Fair. The event was held at the Cable Dahmer Arena on Saturday, August 17. The Fair is a long-time tradition in our community to help families prepare their students to return to school. CSL provided over 3,000 school children with new backpacks, school supplies, and a new pair of shoes and socks for the new school year. More pictures of the Fair plus a news story from KMBC 9 can be found on CSL's Facebook page.



### **"4 Women: Tea+ 19"**

On August 18, Kathy Vest and Karol Palmer attended the play "4 Women: Tea + 19" at Englewood Arts.

This special live performance was presented by Englewood Artist in Residence Karen E. (KE) Griffin and her sister re-enactors. Depicting the four women were Mary Schmidt (Susan B. Anthony), Wendy Thompson (Carrie Chapman Catt), Jessica Whitfield (Alice Paul), and Griffen (Ida B. Wells). Celebrating the anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, which was ratified on August 18, 1920, this play imagined how the suffragists engaged, educated, and empowered women to win the right to vote. The play was recorded and can be viewed on Instagram at [englewood.arts](https://www.instagram.com/englewood.arts).





## Pizza Ranch Fundraiser ~ Joyce Gillespie, Fundraising Chair

Our next Pizza Ranch event is Monday, October 28, 5–8 pm...

Thanks ladies for all your help making sure that we continue growing our Scholarship fund benefitting young women in the greater Independence area as well as funds for other branch projects.... Please highlight your calendar for October 28....

We always need seven volunteers.



Build the Branch ..... Work the Ranch...

### July/August Financial Report ~ Patt Braley

2024 July-August		AAUW INDEPENDENCE Financial Report			
Patt Braley, Financial Officer					
Community America Credit Union					
<b>CHECKING ACCOUNT</b>					
Transaction	Date	Description	Disburseme	Deposits	Balance
<b>Balance on Hand, July 1, 2024</b>					\$ 3,451.46
Deposit	7/9/2024	Schartel/Book Sales		\$ 43.50	
Deposit	7/9/2024	Leabo Memorial Fund		\$ 100.00	
Deposit	7/9/2024	Dues - 5 members		\$ 492.00	
Deposit		Book Sales - final		\$ 42.00	
Deposit	7/25/2024	Pizza Ranch - cash		\$ 273.16	
ACH-Natl rebate	7/29/2024	1 member		\$ 16.00	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENT			None		None
TOTAL DEPOSITS				\$ 966.66	\$ 966.66
<b>Balance on Hand, August 31, 2024</b>					\$ 4,418.12
<b>NO ACTIVITY IN AUGUST</b>					

<b>SAVINGS ACCOUNT</b>						
<b>Balance on Hand, July 1, 2024</b>				\$	<b>3,354.69</b>	
	7/31/2024	Interest		\$	0.71	
	8/30/2024			\$	0.71	
		Reverse Bank Charge		\$	1.00	\$ 3,357.11

**July/August Financial Report (Continued) ~ Patt Braley**

SUMMARY OF ALL ACCOUNTS				
<b>TOTAL CASH ASSETS -</b>				
	Checking Account			<b>\$ 4,418.12</b>
	(includes KC-IB)	\$ 984.69		
	(includes Leabc)	\$ 100.00		
	Savings Account	7/1/2024		<b>\$ 3,357.11</b>
	CACU - CD	7/1/2024	\$ 2,604.69	
	Interest	Bank Glitch		<b>\$ 2,604.69</b>
	Interest	Bank Glitch		
147	CACU - CD - Lea	7/1/2024	\$ 3,000.98	
	Interest	7/31/2024	\$ 13.10	
	Interest	8/21/2024	\$ 8.90	
	Interest	8/31/2024	\$ 3.97	<b>\$ 3,026.95</b>
<b>INVESTMENTS</b>				
6/30/2024	StewCap/Schw	7/1/2024	\$ 5,158.74	
	Interest	2 months	\$ 161.63	
				<b>\$ 5,320.37</b>
Summer 2024	ISDF Temporarily Restricted Account			<b>\$ 13,426.55</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL - AAUW-INDEPENDENCE</b>				<b>\$ 32,153.79</b>

## AAUW Independence Branch Board August 15, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Patt Braley, Patty Chadwick, Lisa Cox, Karen Johnson, Kathy Kelley, Karol Palmer, Kelley Reetzke, Gail Metcalf Schartel, Sue Raymond, Sue Shineman

Karol called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**FINANCE:** Patt Braley reviewed the budget. She indicated her committee had met via Zoom to develop the budget. She reported that donations to the Barbara Leabo account has exceeded \$3,000. The initial \$3,000.68 was put into a Certificate of Deposit. She questioned whether closing the investment account and establishing another CD would be more profitable.

Official membership is 27 which will impact the amount required to meet the amount noted for the AAUW Fund (National). The state meeting will be virtual so that expense may be less.

It was noted that fundraising should be noted as for 'scholarships and projects' rather than just scholarships.

The Finance Committee recommended approval of the proposed budget (a second is not necessary when a committee presents a proposal). The proposed budget was approved by the board unanimously.

**PROGRAMS:** Sue Raymond presented ideas from the Program Committee for the coming year. She said that a goal was to include activities and service projects as part of programming. She provided a handout with proposed meeting/activities for the coming year. It was noted the State Meeting will be May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY:** Gail Metcalf Schartel reported that she and Sue Shineman met with staff at Blue River Community College to discuss upcoming visits to campus. In preparation for the national elections, AAUW will go to Blue River on the following dates: September 17<sup>th</sup> to encourage voter registration on Constitution Day with some posters of what the actual responsibilities are for positions to be voted upon; October 8<sup>th</sup> will be more information on state and federal sample ballots. This is the last date for individuals to register to vote; October 17<sup>th</sup> will focus on taking the pledge against domestic violence and taking the pledge to wear purple on October 24<sup>th</sup>; and on October 29<sup>th</sup> to hand out voter information and review the non-partisan voter guide. She noted the plan to be more involved throughout the year. Sue Shineman said plans for potentially meeting with MCC faculty and setting up a self-defense program, possibly in coordination with other organizations on campus. Gail said that AAUW will be able to post information about upcoming meetings and scholarship opportunities on BRCC's community bulletin board to encourage participation in meetings.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Karen Johnson is considering ideas for attracting new members. She will prepare invitations to future events, including the September potluck and have them sent to members who could in turn forward them to individuals they want to invite.

**FUNDRAISING:** The next Pizza Ranch event will be Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. It was suggested that an attempt be made to create business and community partners for AAUW, possibly providing ad space in the newsletter and a sign to put up in their businesses. The July Pizza Ranch outing raised \$273 plus a percentage of sales. The check for the percentage had not yet been received.

**FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS:** October 14, 2024. via Zoom; January 14, 2025 in person; March 24, 2025 via Zoom; and June 10, 2025 in person are dates for future board meetings, all starting at 6 p.m. In-person meetings will be held at First United Methodist Church. All members will be invited to participate in board meetings. With the addition to the two Zoom meetings, we will attempt to eliminate or significantly shorten the business meeting portion of our monthly program meetings.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Sue Shineman noted a program to be held at the Englewood Arts Center on Sunday August 18<sup>th</sup> featuring historic women and encouraged all to attend.

Upcoming AAUW Webinars on "It's My Vote" are scheduled for August 21 and October 16. A webinar on Project 2025 will be held on August 16<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting ended at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Gail Metcalf Schartel