



## INDEPENDENCE BRANCH

Empowering women since 1940

Vol. 78 No. 2 October 2017

EMPOWERING WOMEN SINCE 1881

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

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Don't you just love Fall with all the beautiful colors? Trees and bushes are putting on a new look, the temperature is changing and once again, we move to a new season. AAUW Independence Branch is also moving into a new season with some exciting changes!

If you missed our September potluck meeting, you missed a lot of exciting things that are happening with us. First, our speaker, Karen Francis, National Public Policy Chair, shared so much information. We now have a better idea of what our National Association does in the 'big picture' and we also were given tips on how to make our voices heard and help support the National and State Programs. The focus is on two main issues: Title IX – Gender Discrimination, and Student Loan Debt. AAUW's new research publication, "Deeper in Debt" focuses on women and student loan repayment.

Members agreed we need more fundraising options, in addition to our Book Fair. Two members made suggestions for small events requiring just a few members. They are Pizza Ranch table bussers and Barnes & Noble gift wrapping. Members interest indicates these are great opportunities and also an easy way to get our name out in the community. You will be seeing signup sheets soon. Please be thinking about other possibilities that are not labor intensive. ☺

Remember this is the year of "Invite a Friend"! October 24 is a great opportunity as we will be meeting at Blue River Community College for a 4:00 p.m. program. See you there!

Enjoy the beauty of the earth!



**Sue Shineman,  
President**

#### OCTOBER MEETING AND PROGRAM

Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at 4 PM

At Blue River Community College, Campus Center, Room 101

PROGRAM: Helen Hatridge – "Women and Children in Poverty"

HOSTESSES: Deborah Barkley, Courtney Yount-McGinnis, Kathy Keeton, Laura Vernon

### DONATIONS FOR HOMELESS YOUTH IN INDEPENDENCE

At our branch meetings in September, October, and November, there will be a special collection jar for our monetary gifts for homeless youth in Independence. Our donations will be given to our December speaker, Sarah Wimberly, president of the Independence Ministerial Alliance. We will be meeting at Hawthorne Bed and Breakfast for a luncheon at 11:30 on December 9. Even if you cannot attend the December meeting, please take the opportunity to donate during fall meetings for this worthy cause. Thank you!

**Karol Palmer  
Vice-President, Programs**

### YEARBOOK CORRECTIONS

Kathy Keeton – Cell phone 816-204-1896

Karen Johnson – Cell (and home) phone 816-213-5352

Sue Russell email [edandsue4@gmail.com](mailto:edandsue4@gmail.com)

## MEMBER NEWS

*Anytime a member has something to share with others (such as a family crisis, illness, surgery, award, or special recognition) we are happy to pass on that information, but we will only do so with the approval of the Branch member or her family.*

Our very own, **Alyse Stoll**, was honored by the AARP of Missouri with the Andus Award. The Andus Award is AARP's most prestigious volunteer tribute recognizing outstanding individuals who are sharing their experience, talents, and skills to enrich the lives of others.



We missed **Barbara Leabo** at our September meeting because of a fall. She is on the road to recovery and we hope to see her back soon.

## GET TO KNOW OUR OFFICERS

**Lois Domsch – Financial Officer** is a graduate of Mankato University, received a Masters Degree from UMKC as a reading specialist and gifted certification from KU. Lois and Dave are the parents of 3 boys and 1 girls who have blessed them with 8 grandchildren. Reading, baking, traveling, water aerobics, and yoga are her hobbies and interests

**Mary Anderson – Co-VP of Membership** is a retired interior designer. She holds a BFA in Interior Design from University of Central



Missouri. Mary and husband, Kenneth, have three sons, two grandchildren and one great grandson. Art, reading, and fitness/yoga are some of the areas that are of interest to Mary.

**Sue L. Raymond – Recording Secretary** graduated from Georgetown College with a double major in biology and English. She has a Masters in Library Science from University of Missouri and a Masters in Cognitive Systems from University of North Texas. In 1967-68 Sue worked for the American Red Cross in Korea as a “Donut Dolly” and there she met her husband. She and Harvey (deceased) are the parents of one daughter, Emily. Emily and her husband, Matt Ware, live in Independence with their three sons William, Blake, and Kieran.

## ADELANTE BOOK CLUB



The group meets at Barnes and Noble the second Tuesday of each month at 9:30 AM and everyone is welcome to attend.

Tuesday, October 10 - *Pretend We are Lovely* by Noley Reid with discussion led by Myla Gentry.

Tuesday, November 14 – *Firebrand and the First Lady* by Patricia Bell Scott with discussion led by Alyse Stoll.

**Jane Campbell,  
Adelante Chair**

## PUBLIC POLICY

**The next step in AAUW Advocacy: Two Minute Activist Mobile**

As a committed member of AAUW's Action Network, you receive urgent e-mail notices when your advocacy is needed most and spring to action. Last year, Two-Minute Activists sent over 200,000 messages to their members of Congress, ensuring our mission of gender equity was heard in the halls of power.

This exciting new tool will allow AAUW to send more timely and targeted communication straight to your cell phone via text message. That means we can provide you with more strategic opportunities to take action when your advocacy can make the difference. Simply text the word “AAUW” to phone number 21333 now to join.

The Two-Minute Activist Mobile program includes new advocacy features, like the ability to connect you by phone directly with your legislators' offices.

**You provide the voice – we'll provide the megaphone.**

## Equal Pay and Data Collection

The latest numbers are out and they confirm what we already know – the gender pay gap is persistent and it's pernicious. U.S. women make on average only 80 cents for every dollar men are paid. On September 14, 2017, 223 members of the House of Representatives voted against equal pay for our nation's workers.

If asked, these members of Congress would almost certainly say that men and women should receive equal pay for equal work and that pay discrimination based on gender and race is a scourge that should be eliminated. Yet when the opportunity arose to support an equal pay

initiative that is critical in achieving these goals, they voted no.

The DeLauro-Frankel-Scott amendment that came to the House floor for a vote would have preserved federal funding for a new equal pay data collection initiative by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), the federal agency that enforces our nation's antidiscrimination laws. This initiative was developed during the Obama administration and updated an existing survey, called the EEO-1 report. The EEOC equal pay data collection was developed after years of study and two rounds of public comments, and it would have taken effect in March 2018. It is an essential tool in our fight against pay discrimination because it would have lifted the cloak of secrecy that shrouds pay decisions in this country. Voting to defund the equal pay data collection is a vote against equal pay

### **Secretary of Education Announces Title IX Rollbacks**

In a speech at George Mason University, Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced that the Department of Education would be reviewing Title IX regulations and guidance. Later in press interviews she confirmed that the Department intended to rescind a 2011 Dear Colleague letter on Title IX and sexual violence, taking the first step toward rolling back the progress made toward preventing and ending discrimination in our schools. DeVos' speech noted many situations in which schools have failed to adhere to the law. AAUW believes the appropriate response to this assertion is to enforce Title IX, not to undermine it. AAUW stands with survivors and remain committed to protecting and defending Title IX, and to pursuing its enforcement.

### **Nine Facts about sexual assault and Title IX**

Listed below are nine fast facts about Title IX, courtesy of the National Women's Law Center.

1. Title IX prohibits sex discrimination in education programs that receive federal funding. (This means all public and charter K-12 schools, some private K-12 schools, and nearly all colleges and universities.)
2. Sexual harassment, including sexual assault, is a type of sex discrimination that's banned by Title IX.
3. Sexual assault = a physical sexual act done against a person's will. This includes situations in which a person is incapable of giving consent due to drug or alcohol use.
4. One in five women are victims of completed or attempted sexual assault while in college. That's over two million women.

5. Sexual harassment creates a hostile environment when it is sufficiently serious that it interferes with or limits a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an education program. (Rape is sufficiently severe to create a hostile environment.)
6. If a school knows (or reasonably should know) about sexual harassment, including sexual assault, that creates a hostile environment, Title IX requires the school to take immediate action to eliminate the harassment, prevent its recurrence, and address its effects.
7. Schools are required to adopt and publish grievance procedures for students who complain of sex discrimination, including sexual assault.
8. If you file a complaint with the school, regardless of where the assault occurred, your school must process the complaint under its grievance procedures.
9. Because a Title IX investigation is different from a law enforcement investigation, even if you file a police report your school is independently required to investigate the assault. This investigation must be prompt, thorough, and impartial.

**Jolene Cerveny,  
Public Policy Chair**

## **MINUTES**

Monthly Meeting September 26, 2017

Hostesses: Sue Raymond and Jolene Cerveny

Members and guests gathered at 6:00pm for fellowship, and a potluck dinner at 6:30. President Sue Shineman welcomed 26 members and our guest speaker.

**Program** 7:10pm. President Shineman introduced Karen Francis, National AAUW Public Policy Chair and MO state Public Policy Co-Chair.

### **Reports given:**

**Program:** Karol Palmer. Membership approved list of programs as printed in the Yearbook. A sign-up sheet was circulated for those interested in attending a play about Barbara Jordan on Oct 12; a fund raiser for League of Women Voters. The December Lunch will be at Hawthorne B & B. Members will have the opportunity to make voluntary contributions to the Homeless Youth in Independence, at Sept, Oct, Nov and Dec meetings. This is an individual member service project.

**Membership:** Mary Anderson and Edwina Forke reported current membership of 57. This year's theme

is "Invite a Friend" and all are encouraged to focus on inviting guests this year.

Financial Officer: Myla Gentry for Lois Domsch. 2016-2017 financial reports were successfully audited by Melissa Morawitz and filed. The proposed budget, previously approved by the Board, though not available for review, was approved by membership. It will be attached to the minutes and included in the Newsletter.

Recording Secretary: Sue Raymond. Minutes of the May 14 Annual Meeting were approved by Committee and printed in the Newsletter. Anyone wishing to present a motion at a meeting is asked to provide a written copy to the Recording Secretary.

Corresponding Secretary: Barbara Leabo (absent). Please contact Barbara with information of any needed correspondence.

Yearbook/Historian: Patty Chadwick asked for corrections to phone numbers or emails: Some members took extra yearbooks for absent members.

College/University Team: Sue Shineman. Sue met with Richard Monroe, Director of Campus Life, last month. He is looking forward to partnering with us on various campus events & activities. Courtney Yount-McGinnis, our on-campus liaison, is talking with several counselors/staff to begin a student group on campus, as well as some events/activities we can support. Kathy Keeton is Co-chair of this team.

Newsletter: Jan Horner. Submit info to Jan by the first of the month for publication mid-month. Please also send info for the website. Both new and old members are requested to complete the committee and interest groups interest sheet. Thank you to Evelyn Trigg for sending the Newsletter by regular mail to those without email. If you are supposed to receive the email electronically or by regular mail – and are not getting it; let Jan or Evelyn know.

Hospitality: Thank you to Evelyn Trigg for calling and lining up our monthly hostesses. Sue Raymond and Jolene Cerveny are assuming the responsibility, previously held by Kathy Kelley, setting up for meetings and assisting hostesses each month. They plan to ask members to help with clean up after meetings.

Public Policy: Jolene Cerveny requested that members contact her if interested in working on the Public Policy Committee. All are encouraged to sign up to be a Two

Minute Activist on email; or via text, can send text to 21333 text AAUW to participate via mobile app.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing – Nancy Comtois. November 11 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. A Sign up sheet was circulated and will be available at October meeting. OR you can call Nancy to let her know when you want to RING.

League of Women Voters – Sue Shineman for Deborah Barkley. We are in the beginning stages of working with them. Karol mentioned the Barbara Jordon one woman play on Oct. 12; a fundraiser for LWV. Carolyn Weeks has volunteered to be our liaison.

Woman of Achievement – Laura Vernon – it's not too early to think about candidates for this recognition.

Adelante Book Group – Jane Campbell invited all to attend; one or all meetings at 9:30am the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at Barnes and Noble. Jane also invited any bridge players to become a sub for the day bridge group. They meet the first Wed of the month at 1pm.

### New Business

Other Fundraising Opportunities:

Jolene Cerveny: We are scheduled to buss tables at Pizza Ranch March 19, 2018 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. This is part of their Community Impact Program; we keep all tips we receive, get a percent of the take for that evening; and wear our AAUW t-shirts. Two members are needed each hour. Several indicated interest in participating; let Jolene know if you will work. A W9 has to be turned in.

Sue Shineman: Barnes & Noble Gift Wrapping. The shifts are 4 hours: 1 – 5 or 5 – 9. A minimum of 2 people are needed for each shift. An average of \$50 is possible per shift. They provide wrapping paper, tape, scissors and table/chairs. Sue will have a sign-up sheet for those willing to work.

### Announcements

October 12 – 7:00 p.m. Barbara Jordon play – let Karol know if you are interested

October 24 – 3:30 p.m. Social Time at BRCC Campus Center Rm 101 prior to our Regular Meeting at 4:00 p.m. Speaker: Helen Hatridge, "Poverty and the effect on Women & Girls"

Adjourned at 8:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

**Sue L. Raymond**

**Recording Secretary**

July-August-September 2017 AAUW Financial Report

CHECKING ACCOUNT

BALANCE ON HAND 6/30/2017		<b>\$286.73</b>
RECEIPTS		
7/8/2017	Deposit - 1 membership	75.00
	Deposit - 1 membership	75.00
7/31/2017	Void Check # 4476	5.00
9/21/2017	Transfer from Savings to Checking	500.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$655.00
DISBURSEMENTS		
4506 7/31/2017	AAUW for 2 memberships	118.00
4507 8/10/2017	V's Ristorante deposit May Brunch	100.00
4508 9/26/2017	Sept Speaker	40.00
4510 9/22/2017	CopyPrint for Yearbooks	72.70
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		330.70
<b>BALANCE 09/22/2017</b>		<b>\$611.03</b>

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

BALANCE ON HAND 6/30/2017		<b>\$6827.17</b>
TOTAL RECEIPTS		
8/31/2017	Dividend – July & August	0.58
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		
9/21/2017	Transfer to Checking from Savings	\$500
<b>BALANCE 09/22/2017</b>		<b>\$6327.75</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS 9/22/2017: Checking \$611.03 + Savings \$6327.75 =</b>		<b>\$6938.78</b>

**AAUW BUDGET 2017-2018**

Balance carried forward for budget – July 1, 2017 **\$7,113.90**

(Branch Dues 51 @ \$16 + \$816 already in bank)

Estimated Receipts:

Branch Renewing Dues 3 @ \$16

Interest/Dividends \$3

**TOTAL RECEIPTS** **\$7,164.90**

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**OPERATING EXPENSES**

President	\$60.00
Program VP	\$355.00
Membership VP	\$195.00
Recording Secretary	\$10.00
Corresponding Secretary	\$15.00
Yearbook Editor	\$85.00
Financial Officer	\$20.00
AAUW Funds @ Diamond Club Chair	\$25.00
ByLaws/Parliamentarian	\$10.00
Historian	\$35.00
Hospitality	\$100.00
Newsletter	\$75.00
Nominating Committee Chair	\$10.00
Publicity	\$15.00
Public Policy	\$40.00
Liability Insurance	\$190.00
Rent	\$90.00
State/Regional Conference Registration	\$300.00
National Association Convention	\$1,000.00
College Relations	\$150.00
Miscellaneous	\$200.00

**TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES** **\$2,980.00**

**DESIGNATED FUNDS HELD FROM PREVIOUS YEAR**

AAUW Fund (National)*	\$1,770.00
Community Projects (Ongoing)	
Re-Entry Award	\$400.00
Re-Entry Student Luncheons	\$50.00
Re-Entry Chair Expenses	\$10.00
Woman of Achievement	\$85.00
High School Scholarships	\$1,500.00
Student Awards	\$185.00

**TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS** **\$4,000.00**

**PROJECTED Balance in ACCOUNTS – June 30, 2018** **\$184.00**

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\*Meet 2017 AAUW Fund goal of \$30 per member

