



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 2023

Welcome to the AAUW-Independence 2023-24 year! It was a busy and productive summer. Here's a brief summary of our summer's activities that you can read more about in this newsletter:

- A brunch celebrating the first women's rights convention and hosting prospective new members
- A Pizza Ranch fundraiser
- Membership, program, finance, and board meetings
- Book selections made by the Book Club



I'm excited about the upcoming year with a slate of awesome programs. Our first meeting of the new year is September 26 at 6:00 at First United Methodist Church with a potluck dinner. Please mark your calendars and invite a friend.

The AAUW Central States Regional Conference is in St. Louis from October 19-21. Five members of the Independence branch are planning to attend. Please join us! It is not too late to register for this exciting, informative event.

What are you looking forward to this year? What is the value to you of AAUW membership? How are you going to help make this a great year for AAUW-Independence?

I believe as members of AAUW we are each supportive of and passionate about AAUW's goals including workplace and economic equity, education, and civil rights. As we begin a new year, let's challenge ourselves to work together to make this a successful year!

See you on the 26th,
Karol Palmer

"Stronger together as we advocate for women and girls"

AAUW Independence Branch Meeting ~ September 26, 2023, 6 PM

Potluck starts at 6:00 PM. Please bring a dish of your choice to share **and please BRING A FRIEND!** Bingo Mingle will be played and Sue Shineman will lead a discussion of what AAUW can do for you...and what you can do for AAUW! **Please look over the proposed budget before the meeting on the 26th.** It will be voted on in the business meeting.

See everyone on the 26th!!

Upcoming Events:

September 12 ~ AAUW Book Club ~ **Behind Every Great Man** by Marlene Wagman-Geller, Leader - Group. Meet at Jane Campbell's house, 10:30 am.

September 16 ~ **Early Bird Pricing Deadline/Reservation deadline for Central States Regional Conference** ~ see flyer for details or click on this link: <https://aauw-mo.aauw.net/aauw-midwest-regional-conference/>

September 26 ~ **AAUW Independence Branch Meeting** ~ **Bingo Mingle** ~ **6 pm start time** ~ Potluck dinner. Bring your favorite dish to share.

October 19-21 ~ **AAUW Central States Regional Conference** ~ St. Louis (see flyer link above)

October 10 ~ AAUW Book Club ~ **The Paris Architect** by Charles Belfoure, Leader - Patty Chadwick

Pizza Ranch Fundraiser Update ~ Patt Braley/Joyce Gillespie

July 24th Results:

Tips.....\$ 232.52
Percentage.....\$ 201.81
Members.....\$ 170.00

Total.....\$ **604.36**

Thanks to the AAUW volunteers and to our organizer, Joyce G.

Upcoming Pizza Ranch Scholarship fundraising event is.....

Monday, October 23, 5 pm to 8 pm.....

Seven volunteers are needed.....

Thank you, Ladies, for all you do in support of fundraising events.....

Joyce Gillespie



AAUW - OUR VALUES

Intersectional. Inclusive. Intergenerational. Empowering.

Though we are nonpartisan, we are not values-neutral: We fight to remove the barriers and biases that stand in the way of gender equity. We train women to negotiate for pay and benefits and to pursue leadership roles. And we advocate for federal, state, and local laws and policies to ensure equity and end discrimination.

Sue Shineman

Volunteer Opportunity ~ Independence Schools ~ Karen Johnson, Asst. Membership VP

We have a new opportunity for members who are interested in volunteering in the schools by reading with a child or small group of children or other activities assigned by the teacher. There is no background check required but you will need to fill out an application & email or mail it to the school in care of the school counselor.

1 hour or more a week is all that's required if you wish to participate. Members can choose the school where they would like to volunteer.



Karen Johnson



Special Event, August 2023 ~ Karol Palmer

Sue Shineman, Karol Palmer, and Lois Domsch enjoyed the afternoon of August 27 at the Gem Theater in Kansas City. "Making History: KC's Black Suffragists and Jazz Artists" featured local jazz musicians, Millie Edwards, Lisa Henry, Pam Watson, Mia Ramsey, and the Kansas City Girls choir. A history of Kansas City black suffragists was presented by Dr. Carmaletta Williams and Lisa White Hardwick. This inspiring program was

possible thanks to the contributions of many sponsors including the Black Archives of Mid America, the KC Black Women Suffragist Committee, the Women's Equality Coalition, AAUW-IBC and Independence, and the League of Women Voters.

AAUW - INDEPENDENCE**2023-24 Proposed Budget**

Financial Officer - Patt Braley

Balance in Community America Credit Union	7/1/2023	\$10,138.87
KC-IBC ReEntry Scholarship Fund		-\$1,084.69
Combined Checking & Savings Accts		\$9,054.18

OPERATING BUDGET

Proposed 23-24

Operating Expenses

President		80	
Program VP		350	
Membership VP		250	
Recording Secretary		10	
Corresponding Secretary		75	
Yearbook Editor		125	
Financial Officer		25	
AAUW Fund/Diamond Club Chair		10	
ByLaws/Parliamentarian		10	
College/University Relations		150	
Community Connections/ Publicity		350	
Historian		10	
Hospitality		100	
Newsletter/WebMaster		35	
Nominating Committee Chair		10	
Public Policy		50	
Liability Insurance		225	
Rent		165	
State Meeting Registrations - 2024		500	
Special Projects: STEM, Work Smart, etc		750	
Miscellaneous		300	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES		3580	\$3,580.00

DESIGNATED FUNDS FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

AAUW Fund (National)	40 X \$30 members	1200	
ReEntry Award		750	
ReEntry Student Luncheons		50	
Woman of Achievement		100	
Student Awards		50	
2023 Regional Conference		2000	
TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS		4150	\$4,150.00

TOTAL BUDGET AMOUNT**\$7,730.00****Projected Balance 6/30/24****\$1,324.18****Other Resources**

ISDF Account - July 2023	\$	14,426.55
Stewardship Capital Ltd - July 1, 2023	\$	4,883.40

AAUW-Independence Financial Report - June 2023

CHECKING ACCOUNT

BALANCE ON HAND		5/30/2023	\$6,817.58
RECEIPTS			
	6/27/2023	Deposit - Dues 2 members +	\$204.00
	6/29/2023	Natl Refund	\$16.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS			\$220.00
DISBURSEMENTS			
Visa	6/24/2023	National - Dues 3 members	\$246.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			\$246.00
BALANCE ON HAND		6/30/2023	\$6,791.58

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

BALANCE ON HAND		5/30/2023	\$3,345.87
RECEIPTS			
	5/31/2023	Interest	\$0.73
	6/30/2023	Interest	\$0.69
TOTAL RECEIPTS			\$1.42
NO DISBURSEMENTS			\$0.00
BALANCE ON HAND		6/30/2023	\$3,347.29

TOTAL CASH 5/30/23

Checking - \$6,791.58 + Savings - \$3,347.29 = Total Cash \$10,138.87
 (includes KCIBC ReEntry Fund - \$ 1,084.69)

**INVESTMENT
ACCOUNT**

		Stewardship Capital, Ltd.	
6/30/2023	BALANCE		\$4,883.40
		ISDF Temporarily Restricted Account	
1/23/2023	STATEMENT		\$14,426.55

AAUW Fund ~ Lois Domsch, Chair



It's that time of year again where we focus on donating to the national organization to help them carry out their work nationally on equity for women and girls. They are our voice to Congress and many national organizations to move legislation forward.

Some of our branch members have already shown their "powerful" voices through donations to the AAUW Fund. The rest will be encouraged to do so, also, in the coming three months. Our AAUW Fund year runs from Jan 1 – Dec 31. Be thinking about what you'll be able to contribute to advance our mission.



AAUW Book Club ~ 2023-2024 = Jane Campbell, Chair

Sept. 12 - Behind Every Great Man by Marlene Wagman Geller, Leader – Group

Oct. 10 - The Paris Architect by Charles Belfoure, Leader - Patty Chadwick

Nov. 14 - The Last House on the Street by Diana Chamberlain, Leader - Lois Domsch

Dec. 12 - No Ordinary Assignment by Jane Ferguson, Leader - Sue Raymond

Jan. 9 - The Japanese Lover by Isabel Allende

**Also read Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford (if you have time)
Leader - Jane Campbell

Feb. 13 – Horse by Geraldine Brooks, Leader - Doris McCartney

March 12 - The First Ladies by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray, Leader - Jolene Cerveny

April 9 - The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store by James McBride, Leader - Karol Palmer

May 14 - My Name is Barbra by Barbra Streisand, Leader - Gail Metcalf Schartel

Board Meetings 2023-24

The AAUW Independence Board met on June 27th and August 22nd.

The remaining board meetings for 2023-24 will be held at FUMC on:

- January 9, 2024 at 6:00 pm at FUMC
- June 25, 2024 at 6:00 pm at FUMC

Membership Event ~ July 19, 2023 ~ Brunch celebrating the 175th anniversary of the...

Seneca Falls Convention - 1848

- This was the first [women's rights](#) convention. It advertised itself as "a convention to discuss the social, civil, and religious condition and rights of woman".
- It was held in the [Wesleyan Chapel](#) of the town of [Seneca Falls, New York](#), it spanned two days over **July 19–20, 1848**.
- Attracting widespread attention, it was soon followed by other women's rights conventions, including the [Rochester Women's Rights Convention](#) in [Rochester](#), New York, two weeks later. In 1850 the first in a series of annual [National Women's Rights Conventions](#) met in Worcester, [Massachusetts](#).

Article for Missouri in Motion

August, 2023

Submitted by Karol Palmer, President
Independence Branch of AAUW

On July 19, 1848, the women of Seneca Falls, New York, including Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott, challenged America to social revolution with a list of demands that touched every aspect of life—property rights, employment, education, divorce and custody laws, and social freedoms. The Seneca Falls gathering became known as the first convention for women's rights. By the early 1900's a coalition of suffragists, progressive politicians and social welfare organizations gathered a successful push for the vote.



On July 19, 2023, the women of AAUW in Independence gathered to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the Seneca Falls convention. AAUW members invited prospective new members, and a delicious brunch was served. Members of the Independence branch took this opportunity to share the mission and vision of AAUW. Planned programs and events for the coming year were also highlighted. Our guests were very interested and asked many questions about AAUW. This was a successful event to help celebrate past achievements of the women's rights movement and to help promote the continued efforts of AAUW to advance gender equity for women and girls through advocacy and education.

Invitations were sent to 14 people. Five people responded, but two had previous commitments. The Membership Co-Chairs, Barbara Leabo and Karen Johnson, hosted the event. Of the three that attended, one has joined. She is Debra Horton.



See the next page for more information!

The Roll of Honor from the 1908 Woman's Rights Convention, Seneca Falls, New York. "This card was issued for the celebration held at Seneca Falls in 1908 and is added to this book by Harriet Stanton Blatch" (Elizabeth Cady Stanton's daughter)

