

# Missouri in Motion

**Our Mission:** AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

**Our Vision:** Equality for all.

**Our Values:** Intersectional. Inclusive. Intergenerational. Empowering.

## Remembering a Valued AAUW MO Leader



**AAUW MO Public Policy Chairwoman Alice Kitchen**, will be remembered as a local activist known for her advocacy for women and children’s rights. She passed away on November 14, 2025, at age 83. Alice was a force to be reckoned with and was never afraid of asking for what she wanted. Alice dedicated decades of her life advocating for people who often went ignored. She served as director of social services for Children’s Mercy Hospital for many years, and sat on several boards and committees serving marginalized communities. She never gave up on a cause she felt strongly about. Alongside other community members, Alice helped establish Amethyst Place, a supportive housing program that has served mothers and children in Kansas City for 25 years.

Throughout her career, she won many awards for her activism and even gained recognition from the White House for her work. In 2012, Alice was tapped as the volunteer co-chair of the Affordable Care Public Education Committee for the Kansas City area, raising awareness about the ACA across six counties in Missouri and Kansas. She received the Champion of Change award from **President Barack Obama** in recognition of her efforts.

### A reflection from **Mayor Quinton Lucas, Kansas City**

“In recent years, Alice may be known best for her strong work for gender equity, but her efforts include almost any issue that could help people in our community succeed: gun violence reduction, low-barrier shelter for the unhoused, human rights here in Kansas City and anywhere in the world. She held us accountable as elected officials and community leaders, nudging us respectfully, but regularly in areas that we needed to do better. She was usually right.”

**Jill Katz**, a niece of Alice, said, “Her light has extinguished, it is now our obligation to make sure our lights shine brighter.”

Alice was the role model of Public Policy. She was involved in many organizations, coalitions, and advocacy groups where she left her legacy of leadership, working to create a better world for women and girls. Alice was the light that lit many flames to carry on the mission of AAUW. Let’s all make her proud and keep the flame shining bright in her honor!

Rest in peace, our dear friend.

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## A Message from AAUW MO President Sue Shineman

We are deep into the excitement of the year-end holidays. There is much for which to be thankful. I am thankful for each one of you and the work we accomplish when we come together in coalition. I look to the new year with determination and continue to advocate for social justice—AAUW Missouri will be part of changing the climate on women's issues.

I am thankful for **Alice Kitchen** who chaired our public policy committee for four years. Alice passed away on November 14, 2025. Those who knew Alice have shared that she never gave up on a cause she believed in. She was recognized for her advocacy work from Kansas City to Jefferson City, and to the White House. It was an honor to work with her.

Branches are encouraged to work together, and in coalition with other like-minded organizations to create a more impactful presence. The newly defined AAUW Missouri Public Policy Priorities will focus on voter mobilization, public education, and women's health issues. The Missouri public policy committee will provide a checklist of action items for advocacy in a variety of ways. The action and advocacy checklist will help each member find their niche. There is much work to be done by all members and branches. All AAUW members should have the same vision – Equity for All. Our work is not a sprint – it is a marathon.

On January 10, 2026, at 1 p.m., we will host the first AAUW MO Pathway Program. **Elizabeth Haynes**, member of the national governance committee, will present 'Branch Right-Sizing.' She will lead us through steps for addressing current membership trends, leadership, how to accomplish branch and national goals, build in sustainability, prevent volunteer burnout, future planning, engage members, and free up time for mission-based work and recruitment and retention. This meeting will be available live on Zoom and recorded to be used as a branch program at a time convenient for your branch members and board. Add this important call to your calendar.

Together we are stronger and have a greater impact.



## Call for Nominations for AAUW MO Officers

**Chair Lynne Roney**

The Nominating Committee of the AAUW MO Board reminds members that two officer positions will be voted on at the annual meeting next spring. The positions are Membership Vice President and Finance Officer. Nominations will be submitted by the committee and announced in the Winter 2026 *Missouri in Motion*.

Suggestions for these officer positions may be submitted by December 31 to any of the Nominating Committee members: **Lynne Roney**, chair (ronyeditorial@gmail.com); **Jane Biers** (biersj@missouri.edu); **Patt Braley** (braleypatt@gmail.com); **Kay Meyer** (kicmeyer51@gmail.com); and **Sandra Murdock** (sesandram@aol.com).

## It's My Vote! — And We're Just Getting Started

Off-year elections across the country showed what we know to be true: when women vote, we can change the conversation. This year, AAUW is leveling up our [It's My Vote!](#) campaign with new Partner Spotlights, kicking off with the League of Women Voters and the Unite and Rise 8.5 initiative.

Watch for tools, stories, and co-branded resources to help your branch register voters, fight disinformation, and keep equity on the ballot all the way through 2026. We will hear more about this coalition effort with League of Women Voters as more action and advocacy items become available.

## AAUW Missouri Public Policy

### Chair Ann Schultis

The AAUW MO Public Policy committee, under the leadership of the late **Alice Kitchen** and now **Ann Schultis**, set the 2025–27 priorities for Missouri Public Policy and developing a list of action and advocacy items for branches to use as a guide. Due to the ever-changing landscape of the political scene, the committee continues to strategize and plan how to best make our efforts impactful on the local level.

Education has been the focus of the public policy committee. Many Missouri members, working with People Not Politicians, have carried petitions to help gain the 107,000 signatures needed to place the issue of redistricting congressional maps on the ballot for Missouri voters' voices to be heard. The mid-term redistricting would further endanger AAUW public policy priorities. Fair voting standards, public education, women's health issues, diversity, equity, and inclusion are all at risk.

Our goal is to use our time and energy in the most productive, effective, and successful ways we can.

## AAUW MO STEM

### Chair Pam Kulp

Make STEM happen! The goal of the AAUW MO STEM committee is to inspire the next generation of innovators by spearheading projects listed on our state website, <https://aauw-mo.aauw.net/stem-branch-programs/resources-for-branches/>.

AAUW seeks to ignite curiosity and passion for the STEM fields. Collective efforts can break down barriers and equip them with confidence and skills necessary to shape the future of technology and discovery.

Look for the following on National's STEM page, <https://aauw-mo.aauw.net/stem-branch-programs/resources-for-branches/>.

- ✓ New STEM toys (top 10 from Good Housekeeping of 2025)
- ✓ Websites to explore: Sky watching (tips, guides and activities) NASA Kids Science (seven sites to explore,) online field trips (Memphis Zoo) and more.

The STEM committee has been hard at work for you and your branch. Do you need encouragement? Copy and paste the following video: <https://stemeducationworks.com/blog/youtube-as-a-resource-for-stem-learning/>.

## AAUW MO Membership

Membership Vice-President Susie Watson

**Educate your friends about AAUW's Mission!** Encourage all your members to share your branch newsletters with their friends. Newsletters and branch websites are the heartbeat of your branch with programs, socials, public policy issues, and book groups. Share your praise for our organization that supports gender equity in the workforce and the availability of AAUW community grants and graduate fellowships for women.

**Location, Location, Location** KC Northland and Parkville meet in the Community Room of the North Kansas City Library. Notices of the meetings can be put at the building entrance where library patrons can see them. We have partnered with the League of Women Voters for the last two years and have had excellent programs attended by both women and men. Seek available public spaces in your community to hold events.

**Encourage Younger Members** Invite local school board members, STEM teachers, local business owners, and those new to the neighborhood.

**Publicity** List your meeting dates in your town newspaper. Promote the speakers/program names, dates and time. Post upcoming meetings in libraries, churches, schools, YMCA, and community centers.

Missouri AAUW branches now have a NEW standing banner sign to display at events. You might take a picture of some members with the sign and use it as a handout for new members, along with AAUW Public Policy documents.

**ALWAYS wear your name badge at meetings** For a professional look, GO to the AAUW Store and purchase a name badge with a magnetic back—the cost including shipping is \$16. Include your name, branch, and leadership position. AAUW National President Gloria Blackwell led by example when she wore her AAUW name tag on at the St. Louis Regional conference in October 2023.

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## College/University Relations

Debra McArthur (for C/U Chair Karen Francis)



C/U committee members brought AAUW information to college students in both the St. Louis and Kansas City areas this summer and fall, with information tables at Maryville University (St. Louis), University of MO-Kansas City, Park University, Maple Woods Community College, Blue River Community College, and Kansas City Kansas Community College. Debra McArthur also held focused meetings with the Student Advocates for Equity group at UMKC and the Empower Her group at Maple Woods Community College. Students signed up for their AAUW student membership at all these college events!

Photo: Students at Park University were eager to join AAUW!

## **AAUW MO Fund**

### **Chair Sage Taber**

**AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell** stated that there “have been unprecedented attacks on higher education this year: civil rights dismissed, education funding threatened, and lawsuits used to force policy changes. Targets to diversity, equity, and inclusion, even campus leadership and curricula have created a chilling effect for academic freedom, narrowing access, and opportunity, especially for women and students of color. It’s a devastating betrayal of our students and their futures. “

According to the Women’s Philanthropy Institute, **only 2% of charitable giving** goes to women’s and girls’ organizations in the United States. Now it is more important than ever to double down and give! AAUW is the only national organization combining funding, advocacy, and grassroots member mobilization to advance women’s equity through higher education and beyond.

Missouri branches have been generous through the years. I encourage each of you to support the mission of AAUW through your individual and branch donations to the National Greatest Needs Fund, or with your donations to Public Policy Fund or Defend Higher Education Fund.

If you need assistance with your contributions or have questions, please contact me.

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## **AAUW Bylaws**

### **Marianne Cole Fues**

#### **Governance, Bylaws, Parliamentarian**

The AAUW Bylaws contain the rules and regulations enacted by AAUW to provide a framework for its operation and management. Periodically, the bylaws need to be revised. Branches are required to revise their bylaws now to reflect changes approved by the AAUW membership in 2023.

The Missouri state bylaws have been submitted to national. Now, it is up to branches to update their bylaws. The first seven articles are to be replaced exactly as written and are required by national by June 30, 2026. They are found on the national web site: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/leader-resources-tools/>. Replacing these in your branch bylaws does not require a membership vote.

It is a wise decision to also review Articles VIII to the end of your bylaws. Ask your officers to review their office responsibilities to see if changes are needed. A revision in these articles will require a vote of your board.

A question has been asked about the timing: “Why are we doing this now? We have plenty of time until June 30. Some branches may not meet every month. Meetings may not have a quorum if a vote is needed, which would then require another meeting. Time is needed to review the bylaws. The revised bylaws need to be sent to me. If a suggestion is made, the branch may need additional time for consideration. We don't want to come up “short” at the last minute.

Since bylaws are being revised, it is a good time to review policies. Tasks and responsibilities that need revisions periodically should be placed in policies, so a branch does not have to constantly revise bylaws which require a vote. Policies reflect the role and responsibilities of the board and officer job description, committee roles and descriptions, number constituting a quorum, preparation and custody of minutes and much more.

Questions? Please contact me to help! Marianne Fues [marfues@hotmail.com](mailto:marfues@hotmail.com)



## Remembering Julie Triplett, AAUW MO President 2011–12

**Julie Triplett** passed away on October 11, 2025, just four days before her 96<sup>th</sup> birthday. Julie loved AAUW and served in many leadership capacities. She was a co-president of Ballwin-Chesterfield, a Missouri state president, a national AAUW trailblazer, and a staunch supporter of LAF, to name a few of her leadership roles and contributions. We have all been the beneficiaries of her dedication to the AAUW mission.



I was Julie's administrative assistant when she was the president of AAUW MO. During that time, I observed her making sure that the branches got what they needed and that the members were appreciated; bringing new projects to the state; and exactly meeting the AAUW priorities. Julie was an exceptional leader in every way, at every level, of AAUW. **Pat Shores**

Julie was a key force behind the joint 2013 Illinois – Missouri convention in St Louis during my term as president. She was the one who connected the leadership of the two states (incoming presidents) at the national convention to start planning the convention during her last year as president. Without Julie that convention would not have happened. **Linda Berube**

**Julie Triplett** led AAUW MO through the challenging transition from delegate voting to one person one vote. What I remember most is the enjoyment of sitting around a table with her and a handful of other members at Barnes & Noble, discussing books at our Adelante meetings. Julie always had interesting points of view and wisdom to share. **Lynne Roney**

## AAUW 2025 –26 Fellowships and Grants

This academic year, AAUW awarded over \$5.3 million in fellowships and grant to 228 women scholars and community projects. Fourteen endowments established by Missouri state and Missouri branches and individuals helped sponsor 11 awardees. Two of these awardees are studying in Missouri.

**Bridget Kelly**, at right, was awarded an **American Dissertation Fellowship**. She is seeking a doctorate degree at Washington University. Her project is *The Harlem Uprising of 1943: Black Self-Determination & the Formation of Probationary Citizenship*. Her dissertation reinterprets a so-called "riot" in Harlem during World War II as a political uprising for Black self-determination. Her work highlights the government's response, which produced a new political and legal category of degraded sub-citizenship called "probationary citizenship."



**Jolie Kpaka Sifa**, at left, was awarded an International **Master's/First Professional Degree Completion Fellowship**. She is completing a masters of business administration degree from Missouri State University at Springfield. Jolie researches women's access to education and economic empowerment in conflict-affected regions through sustainable business models and policy analysis. Her work addresses gender disparities, environmental challenges, and promotes inclusive development in her home country, the Democratic Republic of Congo. She aims to lead transformative initiatives that empower women through entrepreneurship, education, and environmental sustainability.



## Diversity Means Variety and Is All About What Makes Us Unique.

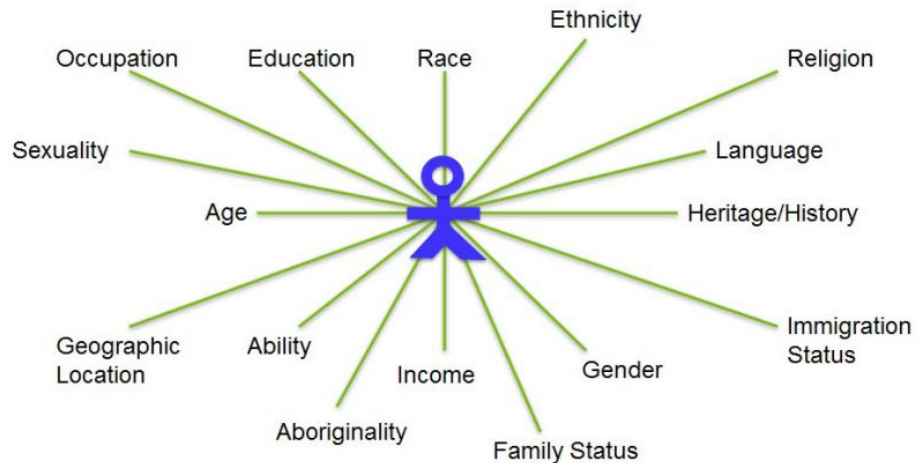
### Learn more about specific dimensions of diversity

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/leader-resources-tools/dei-toolkit/dimensions-of-diversity/>

What are some of the dimension of diversity? They can be anything that has been historically used to differentiate groups, such as ethnicity, gender, religious beliefs or socio-economic status.

Some of these dimensions are more visible than others, and some are more salient in the United States than in other parts of the world, given our history of discrimination and exclusion.

Dimensions of diversity can be broken down into two categories – **primary** dimensions, which can't be changed, and **secondary** dimensions, which we have some control over.



### AAUW MO Calendar

#### 2026

##### January

17 AAUW Board Meeting 9:30 a.m.

##### February

##### Black History Month

21 Check-in Meeting for State Board Cancelled

28 Legislative Briefing

##### March

##### Women's History Month

21 AAUW Board Meeting 9:30 a.m.

##### April

18 AAUW Board Meeting 9:30 a.m.

##### May

2 AAUW Annual Conference, Columbia MO

### AAUW Incentive Grants

#### Chair Carol Cox

Did your branch request a discounted AAUW banner in September as part of the group buy, organized by AAUW of Missouri? If your branch paid only \$34 for the banner, you benefitted from a Missouri Reserve Fund Opportunity Grant. The banner project utilized all of the Missouri Reserve Fund for the 2025–26 year. However, the Peg Witt Grant still has \$450 that can be used through the end of July 2026.

If you have a project that qualifies for the Peg Witt Grant (<https://aauw-mo.aauw.net/files/2025/09/2025-Opportunity-Grants-Information.docx>), please apply so an Incentive Grant can help with the costs.

You'll be glad to know that both funds will be refilled for the 2026–27 year. If you're planning for programs, events, projects, or panels, and need help with costs, consider applying for an Incentive Grant.

## AAUW Legacy Circle Welcomes New Member



**Susan Barley (R) presents Kay Meyer (L)  
with her Legacy Circle pin**

**Kay Meyer**, member of the Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch and the Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch, was welcomed into the AAUW Legacy Circle at the September Kirkwood-Webster Groves branch meeting. Kay has included AAUW National in her estate plans. Kay is one of 25 Legacy Circle members in Missouri.

AAUW thanks our Legacy Circle members for their generosity and lasting commitment to our mission. Their unwavering support and vision inspire us, and we are all deeply grateful for their dedication.

For further information and answers to your questions:

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/ways-to-give-aauw/leave-a-legacy/> or **Legacy Circle Liaison for Missouri Susan Barley** @ [barley702@gmail.com](mailto:barley702@gmail.com).



## AAUW MO Legacy Circle Members

### **Susan Barley**

Ballwin-Chesterfield

### **Lucy Barrington**

Kirkwood-Webster Groves

### **Linda Berube**

Kansas City

### **Patricia Braley**

Independence

### **Shirley Breeze**

Ferguson-Florissant

### **Bette Bude**

Ballwin-Chesterfield

### **Theresa Ciccolella**

Ballwin-Chesterfield

### **Jane Crigler**

Kansas City

### **Erlaine Eltomi**

Ballwin-Chesterfield

### **Karen Francis**

Ballwin-Chesterfield,

Ferguson-Florissant

### **Darlene Harris**

Ballwin-Chesterfield

### **Nancy Hutchins**

Kirkwood-Webster Groves

### **Jayne Kasten**

Ballwin-Chesterfield

### **Pam Kulp**

St. Charles, Ballwin-  
Chesterfield

### **Jeanie Latz**

National

### **Diane Ludwig**

Columbia

### **Kay Meyer**

Kirkwood-Webster Groves  
Ballwin-Chesterfield

### **Yvonne Morrison**

Ballwin-Chesterfield

### **Charlotte Parsons**

Kirkwood-Webster Groves

### **Sue Shineman**

Independence

### **Patricia Shores**

Ballwin-Chesterfield

### **Joanie Shores**

Kansas City

### **Karen Smith**

Kansas City

### **Jeannie Webdell**

Kirkwood-Webster Groves  
Ballwin-Chesterfield

### **Winnie Weinrich**



## *Leaves From the Branches*

### **The Kansas City and Independence Branches of AAUW**

The Kansas City and Independence Branches presented a November program “Aligning Missouri’s Legislative Actions with AAUW Priorities.” Members and friends from the Parkville and KC Northland branches also attended. The program, at All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church in Kansas City, could be attended in person or via zoom. A recording is available upon request to [ljbaauw@hotmail.com](mailto:ljbaauw@hotmail.com).

Presenters were **Senators Patty Lewis**, 7<sup>th</sup> District (D), and **Joe Nicola**, 11<sup>th</sup> District (R). **AAUW-KC Branch Public Policy Chair Carol Cowles** moderated. Each senator reviewed legislative philosophies and accomplishments. Senator Lewis has served as a representative, and her legislative agenda supports women’s issues, especially healthcare. Senator Nicola assumed office in January 2025 and stated that he is “still learning.” Both senators indicated that they listen to constituents, appreciate building relationships, and respond best to individual emails and phone calls, especially concerning pending legislation specified by its number. They also collaborate in their work.



**L-R: Senator Joe Nicola, Carol Cowles AAUW MO, and Senator Patty Lewis**

During the question-and-answer portion of the meeting, the definition of DEI was raised, and both senators stated agreement with a broad DEI definition from **AAUW Missouri State President Sue Shineman**. Several in attendance expressed frustration and disappointment with the legislature’s penchant for overturning or failure to act on legislation passed through the Ballot Initiative process. The audience called out gerrymandering as an attempt to decrease voters’ voices. After the formal meeting, the senators and their aides joined attendees for refreshments and further discussion. The senators’ offices both received a recording of the program.

### **The Parkville Branch**



**There’s no  
slowing us  
down!**

The Parkville Branch celebrated the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding on September 24, 2025. Our theme was “Speed Limit 90: There’s No Slowing Us Down!” Members of the Parkville and KC Northland branches hosted the event on the campus of Park University, the site of the founding in 1935. We were joined by members of the Kansas City and Independence branches, as well as faculty and students of Park University.

Displays featured photos and documents from the history of the Parkville Branch, and we were thrilled to welcome a new member, **Dr. Tamara Jenkins**, a faculty member at Park. Our speaker, **Lisa Maatz**, Gender Equity Expert and former AAUW Director of Public Policy, gave us some timely advice for navigating and coping with the current political climate and the messaging that surrounds us every day.

## Leaves From the Branches

### The Kansas City Branch: 2025 Thorpe Menn Book Award Event

The Thorpe Menn Literary Award was again held at Woodneath Library on Saturday October 4, with 61 attendees for the awards ceremony and luncheon. Thorpe Menn is a program run by the Kansas City branch. **John Moessner**, who won the 2024 award, was the keynote speaker, and read from his soon to be published next book of poetry, *The Room and the Window*.

The winner was awarded \$300, and the two runners-up each received an award of \$100. Each received a framed certificate of their award. This year's winner was **Lilian West** (aka Tiffaney Killoren) for the murder mystery *Pretty Dead Things*. The second-place winner was **Paul Lamb** (aka Paul Lamble) for his novel *Parent Imperfect*, and third place went to **Deborah Shouse** for her memoir *Letters to the Ungrateful Dead: A Grieving Mom's Surprising Correspondence with Her Deceased Adult Daughter*.

We thank the Woodneath Library for hosting us, and the members of all the branches of KC Metro area for their unwavering support.

### The Independence Branch



#### Celebrates 85th Anniversary September 23, 2025

L-R: Kelley Reetzke, Sue Raymond, Sue Shineman, Karen Johnson, Kathy Kelley, Karol Palmer, Jan Keeler, Patty Chadwick, Gail Metcalf Schartel, Kim Meyers, and Lois Domsch  
Lisa Cox, not pictured



#### Voter Education and Registration & Domestic Abuse Awareness Event Blue River Metropolitan Community College, October 15, 2025

L-R: Sue Shineman, Karol Palmer,  
and Gail Metcalf Schartel

## Leaves From the Branches

### The Kirkwood-Webster Groves and St. Louis Branches

The Kirkwood-Webster Groves and St. Louis Branches have been holding joint monthly meetings this year. Starting in September, we met for Coffee and Convos: Caffeinated Calculus–Fueling AAUW’s Future. **Christine Nobbe**, St. Louis Branch program vice-president, led afternoon brainstorming sessions. In October we had Reframing Aging: New Narrative 4 Longer Lives, led by **Dr. Nancy Morrow-Howell**, distinguished professor of social policy and international leader in gerontology, followed by a lively discussion on ageism. November was Duct Tape Mysteries by **Jenny Smith**, a leading forensic science investigator who has appeared in *Forensic Files*, the TV series. She retired with 28 years of experience with the Missouri State Highway Patrol Crime Lab.

St. Louis has been busy working on a grant application to national for an art and science exhibit to be held during March 2026, thanks to **Christine Nobbe**, **Jo Taylor**, and **Ruth Reese**. Kirkwood-Webster Groves’ public policy committee, led by **Jeanne Webdell**, has been developing a checklist to aid members in protecting democracy. In addition, they were able to publicly display the new banner outside at a local high school craft fair.



Kay Meyer, program VP, selling pecans for K-WG’s local scholarships at the Affton High School craft fair in early November

### The Columbia Branch

One of the highlights of our year was the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Student Scholar Awards in the Columbia Public Schools, which included presentation by former **NASA astronaut Linda Godwin**. Branch fall sessions included:

The **Holly Burgess Public Policy Forum**, which is held in conjunction with the League of Women Voter’s National Constitution Day, attended by **AAUW MO State President Sue Shineman**.

A program by the Better Business Bureau on avoiding scams in today’s world; and insights from **Robin Westphal**, executive director of the **Daniel Boone Regional Library** and president-elect of the **Missouri Library Association**, on the state of public libraries in Missouri.



Pictured at left, BBB Presentation on Avoiding Scams in Today’s World. Presenter **Khesha Duncan**, regional director, stands at right of banner.



## Leaves From the Branches

### The Columbia Branch, *continued*



The Holly Burgess Public Policy Forum  
attended by Columbia Branch Members

Center back row,  
keynote speaker, Professor Emily  
Regier, Ph.D., Kinder Institute on  
Constitutional Democracy, MU  
and  
Sue Shineman, AAUW MO president.

### The Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch of AAUW

The September branch kickoff to the new year was a brunch prepared by the branch's hospitality committee. Activities included a competition to solve an AAUW mission/activities crossword puzzle. The first pair finishing at every table won a gourmet cupcake. Committee chairs and interest group leaders described their activities and invited members to join. At the October branch meeting, we celebrated with new **Legacy Circle Member Kay Meyer** receiving her pin presented by **Sue Barley**. For November, speaker **Joe Regenbogen's** topic was "America's Evolving Role in the World."

The branch's annual Eleanor Roosevelt Walk, a scholarship fundraiser for Dollars for Scholars, was chaired by **Pat Shores**, and raised \$1,370 (pictured at right). Other DFS events included "Go Loopy for St. Louis," which explored the historic Delmar Loop and a trip to visit the Ulysses S. Grant Historic site.

The very popular Munching Matters Interest Group resumes for the months of November through February. November's speaker was member **Ann Hirshfield**, who spoke about her lifelong hobby of "Managing a Turtle and Tortoise Small Business." The annual B-C Winter Party occurs at the December branch meeting. The Valley Park School Choir will entertain along with raffles, a silent auction for Elegant Edibles gourmet and baked items, and poinsettias for sale. The Winter Party starts the annual branch B-C Boosters, a fundraiser that runs from December to April to raise money for the branch operating fund.



L-R: Karen Francis, Ellen McGaughy, Nancy Pierson, April Walgren,  
Jane Hemer, Michele Magnall, Pat Shores, and Susan Fenwick

## Leaves From the Branches

### The Boonville Branch

The Boonville Branch has had a great start to 2025–26. In September, **Sandy Selby** spoke about the first 100 years of Arrow Rock history that she gathered from newspapers, business records, and correspondence, and compiled into a book called *Arrow Rock Ink*. It was fascinating to learn about Arrow Rock in 1829–1928.

In November we had a scholarship tea, with the theme “Edenton Tea Party,” to tie in with the upcoming 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States. In October 1774, 51 women of Edenton, North Carolina, formed an association, and signed a statement supporting the North Carolina

decision to boycott British goods. The 51 signers' statement, known as the "Edenton Resolves," is one of the earliest-known protests written and organized by women in the American Colonies, and this protest later became known as the Edenton Tea Party. The program was presented by local historian **Elizabeth Davis**. Boonville branch members made and served pies, cakes and beverages of the era.



**Sandy Selby**



**The Edenton Tea Party, Boonville Branch**

## Breaking News for the Branches

### AAUW MO Public Policy Priorities 2025–27

AAUW's focus on advocacy led the Missouri Public Policy Committee to set three priorities.

1. Voter Mobilization
2. Support Public Education
3. Women's Health Issues

There are several action items associated with each priority. Branch members are invited to select the number of actions they feel they can accomplish, whether it is just five or as many as 50, since each person's efforts make a difference. Activity options range from action you can take from the comfort of your favorite chair to working with the local librarian, attending a rally in support of women's rights, to supporting NCCWSL and women in leadership, and the list goes on. There are approximately 70 suggestions to choose from – or you may have another idea or two. The attached document with this newsletter includes priorities and action items.

Be sure to take pictures of yourself and others' advocacy actions to share in the next issue of *Missouri in Motion*. Working together as AAUW members always make an impact to support women. Be part of that impact!

**Sue Shineman**



## AAUW MO State Board 2025–26

To contact a state officer, go to <https://aauw-mo.aauw.net/contact-us/>

<b>President</b> Sue Shineman Independence	<b>Program-Co VP,</b> 10-Star Award/ 5-Star Recognition Su Bacon Parkville	<b>Secretary</b> Gail Metcalf Schartel Independence	<b>Public Policy Chair</b> Ann Schultis Kansas City
<b>President-Elect</b> Pam Meyers Ferguson-Florissant	<b>Deb McArthur</b> Parkville	<b>Directory Editor</b> Diane Ludwig Columbia	<b>Governance/Bylaws</b> Parliamentarian Marianne Fues Columbia
<b>Finance Officer</b> Lois Domsch Independence	<b>Communications</b> Diana Curry-McGuirk Kansas City Northland	<b>Inclusion &amp; Equity</b> (I&E) Jan Scott St. Louis	<b>Administrative</b> Assistant Karol Palmer Independence
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### ***Missouri in Motion, Community Hub, and AAUW MO Website***

To contact a state officer, go to <https://aauw-mo.aauw.net/contact-us/>.

- Newsletter items are requested for branch news, announcements, and photographs. Please send items to **Editor Mary Jermak**.
- *Missouri in Motion* and branch newsletters are available for download at [aauw-mo.aauw.net](https://aauw-mo.aauw.net).
- Send a copy of your branch newsletter to **AAUW MO Historian Jane Biers, AAUW MO President Sue Shineman, and AAUW MO Communications Chair Diana Curry-McGuirk**.
- For website additions or corrections, contact **Lynne Roney** via the website contact form.
- Update your contact information in the Community Hub at [aauw.org/](https://aauw.org/).