



TAKING ACTION

AAUW Partners in Coalition Rally for Equal Pay

By Joanie Shores, Missouri State Public Policy Co-Chair, joaneshores101@aol.com

On April 17th, a foggy morning gave way to bright sunshine at the Capitol in Jefferson City. It bode well for the outcome of AAUW Missouri's Equal Pay Day Rally, planned and implemented with coalition partners, NOW (National Organization of Women) and the League of Women Voters.

The mission of the rally was to educate our legislators and the public that, even though the Equal Pay Act was passed 50 years ago, women still make on the average 20-25 per cent less than their male counterparts. We reminded attendees that the gender pay gap still exists not only in unskilled job ranks but also at college-educated and even top executive levels.

We were gathered in the beautiful Rotunda by our Master of Ceremonies, Shirley Breeze, AAUW National Leadership Corps. AAUW Missouri President Linda Berube (pictured at podium) gave a stirring speech inspiring us all to work towards closing the gender pay gap. Proclamations from Governor Nixon and Kansas City Mayor Sly James were read, raising up Equal Pay Day. Several legislators spoke to the group. Educational packets containing facts and figures about pay equity and a 'special' Pay Day candy bar were distributed to senators and representatives. Rally participants enjoyed the warmth and camaraderie of sharing an important common cause!



AAUW-KC members (l-r): Stefanie Hatfield, Linda Berube, Winnie Weinrich, Dana Perry, Ellen Johnson, Jane Crigler, Nicky Stanke and Joanie Shores showed up in full force to show their support for Equal Pay.

• AAUW-KC ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION OF OFFICERS

THURSDAY, MAY 9 / 5:30-7:30 PM
THE BEACON TAVERN

5031 Main St., Kansas City, MO (downstairs)
\$10 per person / Heavy Appetizers



Jill Harmon of the Women's Foundation of Greater Kansas City will present *The Her Reports: A Look at the Economic Status of Kansas City's Women and Girls*

WE NEED YOUR VOTE to elect our new officers, so please plan to join us!
(Read more on p. 3)

Reserve your seat by May 6 by calling **Pam Burke** at (816) 361-2098 or email pamelaburke2729@gmail.com

June Celebration Picnic



Come and help celebrate AAUW-KC's 120th year! We will also be installing our 2013-14 officers and presenting Centennial Scholarships to two of the 2013 Reentry women.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2013

5-8 PM / LOOSE PARK GARDEN CENTER
5200 Pennsylvania Ave, Kansas City, MO 64112

PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE!

Drinks, plates, napkins and utensils provided. No reservations required.
For more details, contact **Pam Burke** at (816) 361-2098 or pamelaburke2729@gmail.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

[Eleanor] Roosevelt had the bravery to address issues that no women or men in her position would touch. Her legacy sets an amazing example for all women . . .

—Sara Kaplaniak, “Lessons from Eleanor,” *AAUW Outlook* (Spring/Summer 2013)

One of the many benefits of AAUW membership arrives in our mailboxes on a periodic basis. The recent Spring/Summer issue of *Outlook*, the magazine of AAUW, was delivered not too long ago, and I call it to your attention for a variety of reasons. Among the featured articles, I recommend “Lessons from Eleanor,” an inspirational piece reminding us of the courage exhibited by Eleanor Roosevelt, who overcame a number of serious obstacles in order to become “a globally respected advocate for human rights, racial and gender equality, children’s issues, and eradicating poverty.” Interestingly for us, we learn that Eleanor Roosevelt addressed the 1959 National AAUW Convention held in Kansas City, Missouri. Her address was titled, “Is America Facing World Leadership?” “Are we taking the interest that we should take in seeing that we do all we can really to make everything that we do of value in the world,” she asked.

It seems to me that our branch has been particularly effective in seeing that we are doing all we can to make everything we do of value in the world. It has been a year jam-packed with programs of great value and merit. As this is the last newsletter of my term as President, of course I want to express my gratitude and appreciation to each and every person in our branch; our branch members form a strong and dedicated community that is clearly focused on the mission and goals of AAUW. From August to June our calendar has featured programs and events dedicated to the advancement and empowerment of women and girls. I am especially grateful to the members of our Board and to the special projects chairs and special projects committee members, for they are the women who have planned and implemented our outstanding array of educational and motivational programs. Just look at what April alone has featured: the 100 High School Girls Scholarships, two programs highlighting Equal Pay Day, including the statewide rally in Jefferson City, and the ReEntry Scholarship brunch where we joined with the other AAUW branches throughout the metro to honor women who have returned to their college studies. May and June are also active months for us: the Missouri-Illinois state AAUW meeting in St. Louis on May 3 and 4, where our own Linda Berube will preside as Missouri President; our Annual KC Branch Membership Meeting on May 9, where we will elect our officers for 2013-14 and also listen to a speaker from the Women’s Foundation; and our celebration picnic on June 6, where our new officers will

be installed. In addition, the national AAUW convention will be held from June 9-12 in New Orleans; several of our branch members will represent us there, including our President-elect, Nicky Stanke. In addition, we are providing financial assistance to help send a student from KCKCC to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders at the end of May.

Speaking of the National Convention brings me back to the current issue of *AAUW Outlook*. Be sure you exercise your voting rights as a member of AAUW. Study the Voting Guide inside *Outlook* and cast your ballot according to the directions given. You will find your Voter Pin and Member ID on the outside back cover of your magazine. AAUW has a “One Member, One Vote” policy, so it is essential that we participate in these decisions about national officers and policy issues.

It has been a privilege and pleasure to serve as President of our KC Branch this year. I believe we have actively pursued our equity agenda with the enthusiasm and expertise of our Board and our members providing a firm foundation for our activism on behalf of women and girls. I look forward to continuing to work on our agenda under the leadership of our next President, Nicky Stanke. With her leadership, I know we will continue to serve as a strong voice for women and girls in the metro area and “to do all we can really to make everything that we do of value in the world.”

Moving Forward...Fighting the Backlash!

Mary Emily Kitterman

Mary Emily Kitterman

President, AAUW-KCMO

Reminder to Board Members: AAUW-KC Board Meeting, 4:30-6 p.m., Thursday, May 2, Waldo Library

JOIN
OR RENEW

We are making inroads on education equity, reproductive choice, health care, work place equality, civil rights and more. Join us and continue to make our voices heard!

Annual dues 2012-2013: \$79.00

For more information, please contact Janelle Ramsburg at ramsburg@kc.rr.com or (913) 831-9763.



Local Women and Girls Receive College Scholarships

At the 100 High School Girls annual event,

Keishana Washington from Van Horn High School, Quynh Nguyen from East and Saira Quezada from Northeast (pictured l-r) were awarded scholarships for their academic work, leadership and community service.

Our special guest speaker Missouri State Senator Yvonne Wilson presented an uplifting and inspiring message to all in attendance. AAUW-KC member Alice Jenkins provided entertainment with her impeccable piano playing.

Special thank you to the dedicated committee for making this event such a huge success (pictured



above l-r): Stefanie Hatfield, Dana Perry, Pam Burke, Ellen Johnson, Janice McIntyre, Dodie Murphy, Cynthia Ginn and Earline Bentley. (Not pictured: Mary Emily Kitterman and Ardy Pearson.)

The Reentry Woman of the Year

annual scholarship event, sponsored by the Greater Kansas City Interbranch Council of AAUW, took place on April 20 at Unity Village. Scholarships were awarded to six women returning to the classroom after an absence of five or more years in pursuit of personal and vocational goals. Congratulations to (pictured below l-r): Darla Edmiston, MCC-Longview; Crystal Wolfe, UMKC; Marie Jean-Baptiste, Park University; Joy Coleman, MCC-Maplewoods; and Kellie Carrender, MCC-Blue River. (Cynthia Hart, Park University who was unable to attend.)

Reentry Woman of the Year



Special thank you to Kansas City IBC Reentry Chair Marty Erickson, AAUW-Raytown President; Stephanie Holthaus, AAUW-Kansas City Reentry Chair; and all the other branch representatives for their work in creating another incredible event.



We Need Your Vote at the May 9th Annual Meeting

Your Nominating Committee (Sara Pedram, Chair, Mollie Caldwell, Ellen Johnson, Ardy Pearson, and Nicky Stanke) will present a revised slate of officers at the Annual Meeting on May 9th. Since our bylaws require that the list of nominees be presented 20 days in advance of the election, the following two nominations will be made from the floor:

President-Elect – **Winnie Weinrich**

Co-Secretary – **Dana Perry**

The following are the nominated officers published in the April 2013 newsletter:

Co-Program Vice Presidents – **Pamela Burke, Renee Carlson**
Membership Vice President – **Diane Krizek**

Co-Secretary – **Sara Pedram**

Finance Officer – **Stefanie Hatfield**

The following officers who were previously elected will move to their new positions starting July 1:

President – **Nicky Stanke**

Nominating Committee Chair (Immediate Past President) – **Mary Emily Kitterman**

PLEASE NOTE: This will be the last issue of *TAKING ACTION* until Sept. 2013. To keep abreast of AAUW-KC news, summer events and more information, visit us online at www.aauwkc.org





Thorpe Menn Literary Excellence Award Reading Committee Accepting Author Nominations for 2013

Nominations for the 35th annual Thorpe Menn Literary Excellence Award are being accepted until June 1, 2013. The award of \$500 and a certificate of achievement will be presented to the winning author at a luncheon on Saturday, October 5, 2013 at the Central Kansas City Public Library.

If you would like to nominate an author or you're an author published in 2012, please send two copies of the book by June 1 to: **Thorpe Menn Nominations, Attn: Pamela Chaudoin, P.O. Box 849, Liberty, MO 64069.** Please include a contact name, mailing address, email and telephone number. For complete details, visit www.aauwkc.org and click on Thorpe Menn under the Events tab, or call Pamela at (816) 728-1304 or email pamelachaudoin@sbcglobal.net.

AAUW-KCMO MONTHLY EVENTS

• MAY 10 & 24 - FRIDAY FORUM

WALDO LIBRARY / 75TH & GRAND / KCMO / 10 AM

This is an informal discussion group on current affairs, with participants bringing articles of interest or summaries of radio/TV shows to stimulate conversation.

Interested? Contact **Joanie Shores**, (660) 200-5809 or joanashores101@aol.com.

• MAY 16 - CUISINE CLUB

GRAND STREET CAFE / 4740 GRAND / KCMO / 11:30 AM

For over 20 years, Grand Street Cafe has been a Kansas City favorite for its modern American cuisine. Located in the heart of the Country Club Plaza, the restaurant offers exceptional cuisine paired with newly-remodeled upscale decor. RSVP to

Ellen Johnson at ellen.johnson@gmail.com or (816) 931-5288 by May 14.

• MAY 28 - 4TH TUESDAY BOOK CLUB



WALDO LIBRARY / 75TH & GRAND / KCMO / 6:00 PM
Ardy Pearson will lead a discussion of *AS YOU LIKE IT* by **William Shakespeare** to prepare for the Heart of America Shakespeare Festival theatre production, June 18-July 7, in Southmoreland Park. This story has everything you love about Shakespeare's comedies; mistaken identity, madness and mayhem. Ardy recommends www.sparknotes.com for a complete discussion. For details, please contact **Jane Hatch**,

(816) 838-7626 or janehatch@yahoo.com.

• MAY 31 - BRIDGE GROUP

10:30 AM THROUGH LUNCH

Help raise money for AAUW's mission-driven activities by paying a little to play. Please call **Fran Weeks** for location and more information, (913) 649-7048.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

• AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION

JUNE 9-12 / NEW ORLEANS

"Laissez les bons temps rouler!"

Let the good times roll!

Explore. Learn. Share. Join us in the Big Easy at the Sheraton New Orleans hotel for AAUW's 47th National Convention. Engaging speakers, interactive workshops, and insightful panels will guide us in an exploration of Breaking through Barriers: Leading across Generations.

Read more and register online at <http://convention.aauw.org/>

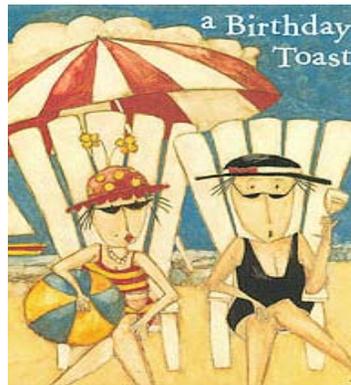


REMINDER:

Voting on AAUW national officers and policy issues is being conducted from April 15-June 10!

See your Spring/Summer 2013 AAUW *Outlook* for complete details or call 1-800-326-2289.

—Nicky Stanke, AAUW-KC President Elect



May your age spots be small, and your wrinkles be few, may you wear a bikini 'til you're 102!

MARCIA BUTLER	5/9	PAT BERGE	6/29
LINDA DAUGHERTY	5/14	RENEE CARLSON	7/12
JOYCE WHITEHEAD	5/16	RUTH ENGLE	7/18
PAMELA BURKE	5/18	CARRIE MAIDMENT	7/28
PATSY KILE	5/19	WILMA MAJOR	7/29
KAREN STELLING	5/28	FLORENCE PETRIDES	8/11
ELLEN JOHNSON	6/4	JOANIE SHORES	8/14
MARY WOLFE	6/11	BETTY HUTSON	8/15
FERN WELLES	6/12	GENE FOSTER	8/18
HELEN MONTAG	6/12	CORRINE MAHAFFEY	8/24
MARY EMILY KITTEMAN	6/14	MARION SHIPPEE	8/28
WINNIE WEINREICH	6/14	KAREN SMITH	8/29
MARY KAY MCPHEE	6/22	FRANCES WEEKS	8/30
DODIE MURPHY	6/28		