



Kansas City, Missouri Branch

OCT 2013

TAKING ACTION

2013 Women's Equality Week in Kansas City

One wonders what it must have been like back in 1920 when women gained the vote. I can only guess at the excitement, the strong sense of camaraderie, the pure joy felt by those 'pioneering' suffragists! Some nine decades later, Aug. 25, 2013 at Mill Creek Park on the Plaza, like-minded women gathered to again celebrate that historic date. The kick-off Rally was titled "Women's Equality: Pushing Back/Marching Forward". Despite the hot weather, all were inspired by speakers, music, the Wall of Women's Achievements, and the Call to Action.

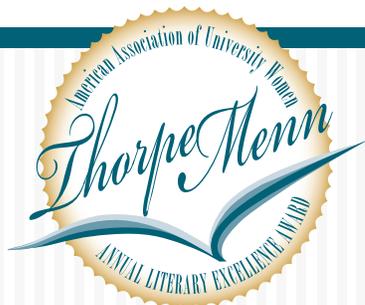
AAUW-KC held a tabling event promoting the 3-State Strategy: ERA, the Equal Pay Day Rally to be April 8, 2014, and a membership drive.

Sponsoring WEW were 20 organizations including AAUW, League of Women Voters, Greater KC Women's Political Caucus, KC Public Library, KKFI Community Radio and many others. Additional events were scheduled throughout the week.

On Aug. 27, AAUW-KC and LWV, KCJCP partnering with the National Archives, hosted a panel discussion on "3-State Strategy: Understanding Equal Rights Amendment Ratification". Our distinguished panelists (pictured above) responded to such questions as: Why is the ERA not ratified yet, and what is the 3-State Strategy? Why do women need it more than ever now and what can we do to enable ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment? The evening concluded with a Q&A session and engrossing, lively discussion.



3-State Strategy panelists: Barbara Clark-Evans, Director, Intercultural Center KCKCC; Deleta Williams, Former Representative, Missouri District 121; Judy Morgan, Representative, Missouri House, District 24; and Mary Mosley, Co-Chair Missouri ERA NOW.



You are invited to attend the 35th Annual THORPE MENN AWARD LUNCHEON

Celebrating the literary excellence of local authors.

Saturday, October 5, 2013

11:30 Social, 12:00 Luncheon and Program

Kansas City Public Library—Central Branch
Helzberg Auditorium, 14 West 10th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105

Special Guest Speaker Vivien Jennings, *Rainy Day Books*

\$35 Per Guest / Lunch Catered by Pierpont's / Please reserve your seat by Oct. 1st

Tickets available online at www.aauwkc.org (click on Thorpe Menn under the Events tab)

or call **Ellen Johnson** at **(816) 931-5288**.

Win a \$100 Rainy Day Books Gift Certificate!

Everyone who purchases a luncheon ticket will automatically be entered to win.

DOLLARS for SCHOLARS FUNDRAISING EVENT:

KANSAS CITY WOMEN'S CHORUS CONCERT

SUNDAY / OCTOBER 27 / 2:00 PM

AT THE HOME OF STAN & ARDY PEARSON

1012 WEST 66TH TERRACE, KANSAS CITY, MO.

A small ensemble made up of singers from the Kansas City Women's Chorus will be serenading us. Two of our AAUW members - Sara Pedram and Renee Carlson are members of KCWC.

Also at this magnificent event we will present a preview of the oral history project which celebrates the first 120 years of the AAUW-KC Branch.

ONLY 25 SEATS AVAILABLE! / \$25 PER PERSON / Reserve your seat by Oct. 7th.

Please contact Dana Perry at (816) 561-0323 or dana.perry08@live.com. Send checks payable to AAUW-KC, Attn: Dana Perry, 3716 Bell St. Apt. #2, Kansas City, MO 64111.

DOLLARS for SCHOLARS events help raise funds for additional scholarships awarded at the annual 100 High School Girls and funding of the annual Reentry Woman of the Year scholarships.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



With Women's Equality Week behind us, and the words of wisdom echoing still – *Don't let the fire go out!* (Deleta Williams), *Be ye steadfast!* (Frances Perkins) and *Be present, lean in, lean forward!* (Dr. Andrea Hendricks) – we at AAUW-KC look forward to an active and thought-provoking program year ahead. It never ceases to amaze me what momentum we can create when we come together as we did that week.

October begins with the 35th Annual Thorpe Menn Literary Excellence Award luncheon (Oct. 5th) and a true celebration of the 35 authors we – AAUW-KC – have honored and recognized over the years. "35 Authors: Where are they now?" will be presented by special guest Vivien Jennings, founder and president of Rainy Day Books. We look forward to you joining us as we also honor and recognize the 17 talented local authors nominated this year.

Later in October, yours truly will represent our efforts in a panel discussion in conjunction with United Nations Day and the new UN office, UN Women. Summarizing 120 years of initiatives that advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research into the ten-minute time slot will be a crash-course learning experience for me. Please contact me with any and all of your suggestions and advice!

The Wagye Grant Committee has already started its review of proposals for the year. The holiday lunch where the awards are presented is scheduled for December 7. Hold that date on your calendars for one of the most gratifying events on the AAUW calendar. Projects that improve the lives of women and girls in the KC community get the lift needed in the form of funds from the Wagye Trust that puts the AAUW name to its mission.

The Wagye Grants, funded originally by a bequest from Irene Van Der Veer Wagye, have expanded in part due to the generous donations of members and friends to the AAUW Leadership Memorial Fund at the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation. With the recent loss of beloved member Gloria Bandstra, AAUW member since 1993 and Branch President 1998-2000, donations are being accepted in her honor. (See page 3 for details.) I can't think of a better way to honor any AAUW member than this.

Pushing Back and Marching Forward!

Nicky Stanke

Nicky Stanke
President, AAUW-KC, 2013-2014



Reminder: Board Meeting, 5 p.m., Thurs., Oct. 3rd, Waldo Library

**JOIN
OR RENEW**

Annual dues 2013-2014: \$79.00
For more details, contact Earline Bentley at
earline_bentley@att.net or (816) 756-5608.

Attention Educators: National Gender Studies Symposium

On Saturday, October 26, 2013, AAUW invites you to join us as we host the first national gathering of educators who teach women's and gender studies in middle and high school, the AAUW Gender Studies Symposium, Creating Classrooms of Justice: Teaching Gender Studies in School. Featuring high school teacher and esteemed activist Ileana Jiménez (Feminist Teacher) and an exciting array of panel discussions, this one-day event at the University of Missouri, St. Louis, is open to attendees from across the country.

The AAUW symposium is an outstanding opportunity for those currently teaching women's and gender studies, both in college and at secondary schools, to connect in person and to form a supportive, nationwide network. Sessions will focus on providing educators who want to introduce women's and gender studies into their schools' curricula with guidance on how to do so.

We are very pleased to invite you to join the conversation, learn, and share your vision for bringing women's and gender studies to today's classrooms. There will also be a networking lunch and an afternoon session on creating collaborative partnerships.

Please forward this invitation to educators, professors, activists, and other leaders you think would be interested in joining the conversation.

For more information, including our agenda and list of speakers, please visit <http://www.aauw.org/gender-studies/>. Please register by Oct. 5th. Registration is \$25 and includes a full day of sessions, breakfast, and a networking lunch.

There are several affordable hotels near the campus. Email Holly Kearl (hollykearl@yahoo.com) if you would like help finding a roommate to share hotel costs or have any questions about the event.

Visit aauwkc.org for more news, information and calendar of events.





Remembering A Fallen Sister



The Kansas City branch lost one of its beloved members, Gloria Bandstra, on September 1, 2013.

Always cheerful and creative, Gloria served AAUW with distinction, as branch president, 1998-2000, and secretary from 2009-2012. Among her passions were the 100 High School Girls, Reentry Woman of

the Year, Wagye Grants and Thorpe Menn Award programs.

She was on the state strategic planning committee and served as assistant state membership chair from 2010-2012. She attended national conventions and numerous state and regional gatherings. In 2012, Gloria was named one of Missouri's Outstanding Members.

Always a teacher and librarian, she found time to pursue another major interest—theater. She was well known as a volunteer with the Heart of America Shakespeare Festival, Metropolitan Ensemble Theater, Unicorn Theater, and many other local theaters.

Gloria was always a teacher. She once said, "Education doesn't stop at the door of the school," and took many continuing education courses, as long as her health permitted.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation in her honor, please make checks payable to the Irene Wagye Fund, GKCCF (Memo: AMER01-Leadership Memorial) and mail to: GKCCF, 1055 Broadway, St. 105, Kansas City, MO 64105. If you have questions, please call Ellen Johnson at (816) 931-5288.

Welcome Aboard!

NEW MEMBERS SINCE APRIL 2013:

Hortense Burr—UMKC, M Edu

Doris F Givens—Univ of Texas, Austin, PhD

Keri Flanagan—Univ. of Kansas, MSW

Maureen Hurley—UMKC, PhD

Mayre M Hoffman—Washburn Univ., BA

Patricia Jachowicz—Northern Illinois, Ph D

Jane McClain—UMKC, MA

Awilda Olson—Univ. of Kansas, Masters

Doretta Perna—UMKC, M Edu

Anola Pickett—NW Illinois Univ., M Edu

Patricia Pryor—SW Mo State Univ., BA

Paula Schaaf—UMKC, Masters

Ada Wright—Bank St. College of Edu., Bach.

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Marian McClellan—Univ. of South Florida, BSChE

Marion recently took on the task of our Communications Co-Chair. She will be helping out with the monthly newsletter. She was a member of AAUW in Illinois for many years and is looking forward to getting settled in Kansas City. Formerly a Chemical Engineer with BP, she is training to become a Chemistry teacher with the dream of teaching in rural high schools. Her blog is at www.chemteachwannabe.com.

History Corner

By Ardy Pearson / Dana Perry

Bridge Club had been an integral part of AAUW for as long as the present members can recall.

Born in 1919, Frances Weeks joined AAUW right out of college, inspired by the example of her Aunt, Eva Marie Harrod (Mrs. Robert Metzger), who was a member. Frances remembers playing bridge on Friday afternoons at the Sophian Plaza, where AAUW rented space for 47 years. The Sophian building was converted to condominiums in 1979 and AAUW had to find a new location. Until then, on Friday afternoons AAUW women would show up at the Sophian to play their weekly bridge game, often keeping two or three tables busy. The hired "colored woman" Rosie cooked lunch for the ladies. After the Sophian was no longer available,

the bridge club temporarily dissolved, but soon began meeting in various members' homes or at the Rockhill Tennis Club. Audrey Shafer, Bridge Club player, was a member of the tennis club, so they could use the club house. They would arrive at 10:30 in the morning, play a few hands, break for lunch, and then play until 3 p.m. The AAUW Bridge Club played their last hand in the winter of 2012-13. (Audrey Shafer had recently died and they were down to just four members.) The club had been meeting at Kathy Dunn's retirement home, but first Margaret McGregor and then Florence Petrides had to go into a retirement homes, leaving Frances Weeks

the sole active member.

The thing that Frances liked best about the AAUW bridge club was the "friendships". Frances still plays bridge with her church bridge group. "Who knows, the club might one day return to life." Please call Frances at (913) 649-7048 if you are interested in playing and restarting the Bridge Club.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Members of the History Committee are hard at work compiling stories for a 120 year anniversary oral history compilation. If you would like to be a part of this project or if you have information, photos or artifacts to contribute, please call Historian Corinne Mahaffey, (816) 645-1350 or Ardy Pearson, (816) 444-6651.*



MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

- **JACKSON COUNTY CASA OUTREACH**
THURSDAY / NOVEMBER 14 / 6 PM
KC LIBRARY PLAZA BRANCH
TURNER ROOM / 4801 MAIN ST / KANSAS CITY, MO

Megan Hover, a staff member at CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocates - for abused & neglected children of Jackson County) will present information regarding the important work of CASA to secure safe & loving homes for children who have been hotlined for abuse/neglect & are under state custody. Her talk will be of interest to all of us who value mothers and children, and want the best for both.

Please feel free to bring a "brown bag" dinner as food will not be served.

AAUW-KC MONTHLY EVENTS

- **OCT 11 & 25 - FRIDAY FORUM**
WALDO LIBRARY / 75TH & GRAND / KCMO / 10 AM
This is an informal discussion group on current affairs. Participants bring articles of interest or summaries of radio/TV shows to stimulate conversation. *Interested?* Contact **Joanie Shores**, (660) 200-5809 or joanashores101@aol.com.
- **OCT 17 - CUISINE CLUB**
RIEGER HOTEL & EXCHANGE / 1924 MAIN / KCMO / 11:30 AM
RSVP to **Ellen Johnson** at ellen.johnson@gmail.com or (816) 931-5288.
- **OCT 22 - 4TH TUESDAY BOOK CLUB**
WALDO LIBRARY / 75TH & GRAND / KCMO / 6 PM
We will be participating in the KCMO Public Library Big Read. The featured title is **True Grit** by **Charles Portis**. Kaite Stover, Director of Reader's Services, KCPL, will lead the discussion Oct. 22, 6 p.m. at the Waldo Branch. Activities, a film series and exhibits are featured around the theme of grit and determination during Sept. and Oct. at various branches. AAUW member **Bambi Nancy Shen** presents her book, **The Uncrushable Rose**, as one of the signature Big Read events on Sept. 29, 2 p.m. at the Central Library. For all Big Read activities see www.kclibrary.org/bigread. For more details, contact **Jane Hatch**, (816) 838-7626 or janehatch@yahoo.com.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:



When Hillary Clinton was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2001, she became the only American first lady to hold national office. She became the 67th U.S. secretary of state in 2009, serving until 2013. **(10/26)**

Arzie Umali	10/4
Marian McClellan	10/14
Suzanne Carroll	10/20
Anita Parran	10/21
Rose Grinstead	10/27
Stephanie Holthaus	10/28
Marian Wade	10/28

KCKCC Corner

By Patsy Kile / Janice McIntyre

To kick off its membership drive, the AAUW satellite branch at KCKCC co-sponsored a legislative panel, "What's Percolating in the Kansas Legislature?" that included Kansas State Legislators, Pat Pettey, Kathy Wolfe Moore and Valdenia Winn. Ty Huynh, Eva Bett and Ramona Nelson along with sponsors Barbara Clark-Evans and Janice McIntyre presented a summary of activities to the KCKCC Board of Trustees, Sept. 17, 2013. Major activities to date included the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, the AAUW National Conference attendance and brief reviews of these events in addition to local activities. Patsy Kile is also working hard to organize all membership, calendar with collaborative activities, and a local AAUW-KCKCC newsletter.

After the first major meeting, goals were established for the 2013-2014 academic year: Topic discussion meetings for students; additional co-sponsoring of campus programs and events; continued fund-raising events; possible 100 Girls Program in Spring 2014; and development of STEM and other community-action projects grants.

The AAUW satellite and the KCKCC Women's Resource Center co-sponsored a brown-bag workshop: "Why Green Is Your Color and STEM Jobs for Women" on Sept. 24. Another is planned for Oct. 17: "Are Sexism and Racism Still Alive: Know Your Employment Rights." AAUW members and friends are invited to all of the satellite's programs.

AAUW-KC Represented at United Nations Women Event

AAUW-KC President Nicky Stanke will represent the Branch in a panel discussion with Kristin Hetle, Director of Strategic Partnerships, UN Women, on October 23, 2013, celebrating United Nations Day with Kansas City's Mayor Sly James and the UN Association of Greater Kansas City. UN Women is a new United Nations agency combining several UN initiatives relating to the advancement and empowerment of women and girls worldwide. Several other local women's service and political organizations will be represented on the panel, which takes place at 4 p.m. at the Kauffman Foundation building. The 43rd Annual Mayor's Dinner in celebration of United Nations Day will follow at 6:30 p.m. at the Intercontinental Hotel, where Ms. Hetle will speak on "Protecting and Empowering the World's Women and Girls."