

TAKING ACTION

AAUW-KC partners with R.U.B.I.E.S. in support of women and girls

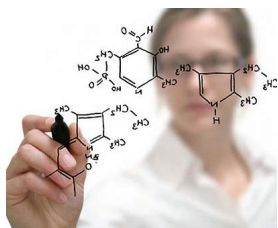
At the Dec. 2013 annual Wagy Awards event, our branch awarded grants to four non-profit organizations that support women and girls (see Jan. 2014 newsletter). One of these grants went to R.U.B.I.E.S. (Realizing yoUr Best in Every Situation), a group dedicated to girls who hope to become first-generation College students. Currently working with ten ninth-grade girls, R.U.B.I.E.S.' leaders and volunteers present a curriculum designed to help these girls prepare for college. Our grant will help sponsor a college-visit that the girls will make this spring.

As the mission of this group is so closely aligned with our AAUW mission and, in particular, with the goals of our annual "100 High School Girls" project, we are currently exploring ways in which our members may volunteer to provide additional support to R.U.B.I.E.S. Recently, AAUW members, Bambi Shen, Mary Emily Kitterman and Regina Lastiee (see New Member Spotlight, page 2) met with Chantell M. Garrett, the founder and president of R.U.B.I.E.S., to explore the development of such a partnership. As a result of this first meeting, Regina will serve

as our representative to the project and will attend some of the regular meetings held with the girls (first and third Saturdays of each month); she will also participate on a Planning Committee that is working toward a Fall conference. The conference theme is "No Boys Allowed", and it is to be held on Sept. 6 at Penn Valley Community College.

If you think you might be interested in volunteering with R.U.B.I.E.S. or would like more information, please contact Mary Emily Kitterman (913-381-9616 or mekglk@aol.com).

YOU'RE INVITED! MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING



**"WHY SO FEW WOMEN IN STEM PROFESSIONS?"
(SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY/
ENGINEERING/MATH)**

**THURSDAY / MARCH 13 / 2014
WALDO LIBRARY / 5:30–8 P.M.
201 E 75TH ST / KCMO 64114**

This meeting will address the question, "Why are women still not breaking the glass ceiling in key, typically male professions?" A three-generation panel of women with STEM careers will give their answers to this vital question and share their "glass-ceiling" stories:

- **Crystal Wolfe**—UMKC student-Mechanical Engineering, AAUW Re-Entry Scholarship and Centennial Scholarship winner
- **Marian McClellan**—Chemical Engineer, AAUW-KC Communications Chair
- **Dorothy McClellan** (Marian's mother)—Retired Civil Engineer and Florida business owner

For more information about Membership Meetings, please contact Pam Burke at 816-361-2098 or pamelaburke2729@gmail.com.

100

High School Girls



Honoring senior high school girls from Kansas City, Missouri public high schools, who show strong leadership skills, academic excellence and active community involvement.

You're Invited!

Sunday, April 6, 2014

2 p.m. / Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center

3700 Blue Parkway / Kansas City, MO 64130

Guest Speaker: Barbara Shelly, Columnist for the Kansas City Star.

Jane McClain's "Wall of Women's Achievements" will be on display and the Jazz Ensemble from Paseo High School will provide music entertainment.

The 100 High School Girls committee is asking you to get involved by attending the event, donating cookies, cupcakes and finger foods, and/or volunteering. For reservations, donations and to volunteer, please contact Earline Bentley (816-756-5608 / earline_bentley@att.net) or Dana Perry (dana.perry08@live.com).



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



March is Women's History Month:

“Men, their rights, and nothing more;
women, their rights, and nothing less.”

—Susan B Anthony, (1820–1906)

From President Jimmy Carter's declaration of Women's History Week in 1980: “As Dr. Gerda Lerner has noted, ‘Women's History is Women's Right.’ It is an essential and indispensable heritage from which we can draw pride, comfort, courage, and long-range vision. ... I urge libraries, schools, and community organizations to focus their observances on the leaders who struggled for equality - Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth, Lucy Stone, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Harriet Tubman, and Alice Paul. Understanding the true history of our country will help us to comprehend the need for full equality under the law for all our people. This goal can be achieved by ratifying the 27th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which states that ‘Equality of Rights under the Law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.’” President Carter was referring to the Equal Rights Amendment, which was never ratified.

Women's History Week became Women's History Month in 1987. This year's theme for the month is “Celebrating Women of Character, Courage and Commitment,” and that is certainly what we represent in AAUW. Throughout our history, we have influenced and shaped the debate over women's equality – in education, in the workplace, and under the law. Celebrate our AAUW! Advancing equity for women and girls since 1881.

Nicky Stanke

Nicky Stanke

President, AAUW-KC, 2013–2014

BOARD MEETING REMINDER:
MARCH 6 / 5 P.M. / WALDO LIBRARY



MARCH BIRTHDAYS:



Nancy Woodhull, editor of *USA Today* (1975–90), promoted women for leadership positions in public and private sectors with the motto, “Do something to help another woman every day.” (3/1)

Alice Jenkins	3/7
Doretta Perna	3/10
Janet Kannard	3/16
Patricia Pryor	3/27
Carol Duncan	3/29

**JOIN
OR RENEW**

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

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



New Member SPOTLIGHT

Our newest member, Regina Lastiee, joined AAUW-KC in Jan. 2014 at the Super Soup Supper, hosted by member and AAUW-MO President Linda Berube. With a particular interest in founding a non-profit organization that supports the education of girls, Regina's research led her to our website (www.aauwkc.org). Drawn to our mission statement, she called our president Nicky Stanke to learn more. To her surprise and delight, Nicky was a former UMKC colleague and they had both worked with the Upward Bound program at the university.

Regina holds an Associate of Arts degree from Penn Valley Community College, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from UMKC, and a Master's degree in Liberal Studies with emphases in Family Studies and African-American Studies, also from UMKC. Regina is currently employed as a Behavioral Health Case Manager at the Kansas City Care Clinic.

She is also working on the development of a non-profit organization, G.I.R.L.Y. (Gifted. Intelligent. Respectful. Leaders who are Young.) Its goal is to provide mentorship, leadership, and character development programs for girls ages 10–14.

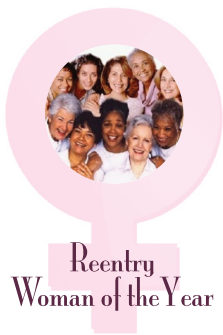
We are happy to welcome Regina to our branch, and we appreciate her special interest in our new partnership with R.U.B.I.E.S. (see cover story). She has also agreed to serve as the AAUW liaison for the Madam President girls camp on the UMKC campus.



It's all about equal rights, equal pay... simply all things equal!

AAUW and a number of supporting organizations are midstream in our ERA BLITZ! campaign to get the ERA passed in the Missouri legislature this year. We still need calls, emails, cards and letters going to legislators. Those who can visit Jefferson City to speak with legislators, or visit with them when they are in district, are urged to do so. If we are lucky enough to get a vote on the ERA resolution in committee or on the floor of either house, we'll put out a call for *carloads* to visit on those days. Questions? Call Jane Crigler at (816) 523-7781.

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The Reentry Woman of the Year Scholarship Awards Brunch will be held Saturday, April 19 at Unity Village in Lee's Summit, MO. This annual event awards scholarships to women returning to the classroom after an absence of five or more years, in pursuit of personal and vocational goals.

Interested branch members are invited to join the Greater Kansas City Interbranch Council members to help read and score submitted applications at 9 a.m. on March 15 at Christ United Methodist Church in Independence, MO.

History Corner

By Ardy Pearson / Dana Perry

It arrived at the George B. Longan Elementary School (3421 Cherry St. Kansas City, MO) only thirty years ago; yet technologically speaking that was light years ago. AAUW member Carol Duncan was a special education teacher at Longan then. She remembers seeing it for the first time from across the smoke-filled teacher's lounge after school the day it arrived. (Teachers could, and did smoke at school in those days.) Most of the staff did not know how to operate it; the rest were leery of touching it. Yet AAUW member Beverly Watkins had reported to the board that Longan needed it. The principal at Longan had previously assured Beverly of the school's interest in it and promised security of it. Therefore, the board enthusiastically got behind the purchase.

It was bought for \$1,396 from Ranch

Mart TV & Stereo with funds from the recent \$1,600 bequest to our branch from the estate of Estella McCafferty (1888-1980). There was an ample amount left in the funds to also purchase a brass plate, inscribe it with an appropriate memorial message crediting the McCafferty estate, and attach the plate to it. The day it was presented to Longan, AAUW member Frances Needles spoke a little about Estella McCafferty, who was with the Kansas City School District from 1926-1958, first as a teacher and then a principal. The donation of it made Longan one of the first schools in the city to have such equipment. The next month the minutes from the board meeting reflect that Longan had requested a volunteer to come to the school to show students how to operate it. The minutes also reveal that a very attractive and professional

DOLLAR\$ for SCHOLAR\$ EVENT

"Wadjda" Film Screening, Reception & Discussion

Friday, April 11, 2014 / Cinemark Palace on the Plaza

Kansas City FilmFest is partnering with AAUW-KC and KCWIFT to sponsor the award-winning film, "Wadjda", Saudi Arabia's first female directed feature film, written and directed by Haifaa al-Mansour.



Wadjda is a spunky, entrepreneurial 10-year-old girl living in a suburb of Riyadh, whose desire to purchase a bicycle and race her friend, pushes the boundaries of what is societally acceptable. The film has won 18 awards and 17 nominations, nationally and internationally. Saudi Arabia nominated Haifaa al-Mansour as its 2014 Oscar candidate.

A reception will be held at Cinemark Palace 526 Nichols Rd., Kansas City, MO 64112) in the evening, prior to the "Wadjda" screening, with a discussion following. A percentage of ticket sales will be donated to provide educational opportunities for young women and girls through AAUW-KC's DOLLAR\$ for SCHOLARS and KCWIFT's GLOW (Girls Leading Our World) programs. Information and ticket sales for the event will be available in March at kcfilmfest.org.

looking poster announcing the gift of it to Longan by AAUW-KC was displayed at the Regional Conference in Wichita, KS that spring. It aroused much interest!

What was it? Email your answer to Dana Perry at dana.perry08@live.com by 12 noon on March 6, 2014. One lucky person will be selected from the correct entries to have \$20 donated to AAUW-KC's DOLLAR\$ for SCHOLAR\$ in their name. If you don't have email, please call in your answer to Dana at (816) 255-5283.

This History Corner was made possible by the meticulous, detail-oriented, handwritten 1984 minutes of our branch secretary Betty Langworthy, now preserved by the State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City (formerly known as Western Historical Manuscript Collection) on the UMKC campus. Thanks also to Carol Duncan for sharing her memories of it during the Jan. 2014, interview for our branch's oral history project.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

• **SATURDAY / MARCH 8: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION / KANSAS CITY**
2 P.M. / NATIONAL ARCHIVES AT KANSAS CITY / 400 W. PERSHING

AAUW-KC, UNA Women, and other women's organizations invite you to a special program, "Women in the Age of Globalization: Setbacks, Promises and Possibilities". Guest speakers will be Martha Jalali Rabbani, Lecturer in Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Kansas, and Mona Ali, a refugee from Somalia who now has her own business in Kansas City. Following the program, stay and enjoy a coffee & dessert reception. For more information, email Sara Pedram at spedram45@kc.rr.com.

• **TUESDAY / APRIL 8: WOMEN'S EQUITY DAY / JEFFERSON CITY**

AAUW-Missouri is teaming with other women's organizations for an annual march for women's rights, coordinated with our Equal Pay Day rally in Jefferson City. Plans are to start with the march into the Capitol at 11 a.m. for the 11:30 a.m. rally. We will take carloads to Jefferson City for this event. Call Joanie Shores to sign up at 660-200-5809 or email joanshores101@aol.com. Look in April's newsletter for the final details.

EQUALLY IMPORTANT: Also on April 8, there's a campus happening for those not JeffCity bound! Our good friends and partners, the UMKC Women's Center, will be having an Equal Pay Day event at Royal Hall, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. AAUW-KC will have a table to hand out literature and promote membership. We are asking for volunteers to help with this KC event, please email Winnie Weinrich at winnieweinrich@gmail.com.

• **SATURDAY / MAY 3: AAUW-MO LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE & ANNUAL MEETING / COLUMBIA**

• **JUNE 13-14: AAUW MID-WEST REGIONAL CONFERENCE / LAKE OF THE OZARKS**
LODGE OF THE FOUR SEASONS / DETAILS AVAILABLE SOON!



Many AAUW-KC members showed their support for Equal Pay at the 2013 annual rally in Jefferson City.

KCKCC Corner

By Patsy Kile / Janice McIntyre

Our affiliate and satellite groups started 2014 with a bang by carrying out several projects:

- We provided food for a Brown Bag event in February as a part of our partnership with the Women's Center. Several satellite members prepared or paid for a savory or sweet dish for the event. Thanks to Maggie McCoy, for her terrific work as our volunteer coordinator for this event.

- We supported a student affiliate scholarship fundraiser – SPA Day at the Tech Center in February. Mayre Hoffman spearheaded our efforts in coordination with Ralph Bautista in Cosmetology.

- We are supporting a second student affiliate scholarship fundraiser – a KCKCC cookbook composed of recipes from the KCKCC campus students and teachers. The cookbook will be published and offered for sale to raise funds. The launching will be a recipe-sampling event. Barbara Clark-Evans is working with members on this project.

- Several of our members including Janice McIntyre, Sonny Singer, Hortense Burr, and Annette Choate, and others volunteered tutoring services for Parker Study Buddies. The first tutoring session for over twenty Parker Elementary students took place in February. Sessions will continue on Wednesdays from 2-4 p.m. through April 2014, except during Spring Break.

- To reach our goal of sending at least five students to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in June at the University of Maryland, Janice McIntyre had a Chinese New Year/Birthday celebration on Jan. 31, and asked for contributions toward AAUW scholarships in lieu of gifts. Over \$100 was donated, and donations are still being accepted.

AAUW-KC MONTHLY EVENTS

• **MAR 14 & 28 – FRIDAY FORUM**

WALDO LIBRARY / 201 E 75TH ST / KCMO 64114 / 10 AM

Our lively group convenes every second and fourth Friday in Room A, Waldo Library, 75th & McGee. AAUW members and non-members are welcome. Participants can bring a newspaper or magazine article, cartoon, book, etc. Topics may be educational, controversial, nostalgic, provocative, tragic or even hilarious! Our talk is well-seasoned with warm camaraderie. Afterward, there's the option to go out to lunch. For more details, contact Joanie Shores, 660-200-5809 or joanshores101@aol.com.

• **MAR 20 – CUISINE CLUB**

ALADDIN CAFE / 3903 WYOMING ST / KCMO 64111 / 11:30 AM

RSVP to Ellen Johnson at ellen.johnson@gmail.com or 816-931-5288.

• **MAR 25 – 4TH TUESDAY BOOK CLUB**

WALDO LIBRARY / 201 E 75TH ST / KCMO 64114 / 6 PM



Australian writer, Peter Kocan, writes clearly and beautifully about a youth's isolation, grief and longing as he becomes increasingly less connected to family and community. "Fresh Fields", a semi-autobiographical investigation of the development of a loner, is stark yet courageous and powerful. Sandy Steiner will lead the discussion. For more information and to join the Book Club, please contact Jane Hatch, 816-

838-7626 or janehatch@yahoo.com.

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