

TAKING ACTION

Exciting Close to April 14 Equal Pay Day Rally

After a morning of meetings, inspiring speakers and marching, we set about as citizens' lobbyists to visit with legislators. We distributed copies of AAUW's booklet, *The Simple Truth*, while requesting their support to close the gender pay gap. To our surprise, we learned of the convening Senate committee hearing. We attended and witnessed bill SB 144 Equal Pay Legislation pass out of committee. The bill will next move to the floor of the Senate for debate.

SB 144 requires the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to establish guidelines relating to gender pay equality. Once this bill becomes law, we women's advocates will push for an amendment stipulating penalties to be applied to employers in violation.



AAUW-KC and -MO members in Jefferson City.



AAUW-KC Equal Pay Day event at UMKC.

Equal Pay Legislation is on the move in Missouri! What more fitting close to an exciting, productive day at the Capitol in Jefferson City, Missouri.

While our AAUW sisters were in Jefferson City, Patti Jackowicz and Winnie Weinrich went to UMKC to help set up for an Equal Pay Day event on campus in the Miller Nichols Library. Each of the four participating sponsors met with students and explained their connection and commitment to fighting the gender pay gap. Of the 139 students who visited our booth, 110 of them signed up to receive more information about AAUW and the free student membership. We have since followed up with these new young contacts and look forward to them joining us soon!

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

"WOMEN IN POVERTY" BY JAYNA GRAY & ELECTION OF AAUW-KC OFFICERS

TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2015 / 5:30-7:30 PM

COUNTRY CLUB CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

205 W. 65TH STREET, KANSAS CITY, MO 64113

The May program, "Women in Poverty" by Jayna Gray, promises to be informative and enlightening. Gray, a member of the MO Community Action Group, spoke at the AAUW Regional Conference in 2014. A light reception will be held prior to the program starting at 6:00 p.m. The AAUW-KC election of 2015-2016 officers will take place promptly following the program. There will also be a laptop available for member guests to vote in the AAUW National election online. Bring your *Spring/Summer AAUW Outlook* with you which provides details about the national election, and has your member ID and PIN which you will need to vote.

June Celebration Picnic



Come celebrate our accomplishments and achievements and look forward to an exciting new year with the installation of our 2015-2016 officers.

TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2015

5:00-8:00 P.M. / LOOSE PARK GARDEN CENTER
5200 Pennsylvania Ave, Kansas City, MO 64112

* RAFFLE DRAWING IN MEMORY OF PAMELA BURKE *
PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE!

Drinks and dinnerware provided. No reservations required.





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Remember the song “Sealed with a Kiss”? (Recorded by Bobby Vinton in 1972, lyrics written by Peter Udell and Gary Geld.) It went something like this: “I don’t wanna say goodbye for the summer, but I’ll fill the emptiness...I’ll send you all my love every day in a letter sealed with a kiss...”

I propose a re-write: “We’re not gonna say goodbye for all of the summer...It’s not gonna be a lonely summer because in August we’ll be filling the emptiness with Women’s Equality Week and maybe even an early Fall Fling...” And if you still want to “seal it with a kiss” be sure to read Mary Emily’s article.

Since this is my last message as your president, I’m looking back and see that with your help and persistence we have increased the membership by more than 10%, updated and/or rewritten the job descriptions for the Board, gotten our branch in front of the community via several different media outlets, and brought new faces and members into our branch thereby. Going forward I hope we see each other at the next Membership Meeting on May 19 or the Celebration Picnic on June 9, or maybe in Columbia on May 2? I understand a couple of us are even going to San Diego for the National Convention! For those who can’t make that last, how about a totally random something (lunch, brunch, tea?) sometime in July? Call me please, 816-808-7926 and let’s set something up!

And last of all, thank you most humbly for allowing me to serve as your Branch President – of course I’ll still be around, but this last year has been a special time in my life and I’m truly grateful.

As many of you already are aware, the National website (aauw.org) is a place to almost get lost, it has so much to offer the seeker. I encourage you to make a point of visiting at least monthly, if not more often, and get on the Mission & Action, LAF, Leadership and STEM email lists for their newsletters for the larger picture to keep your mental and emotional engines turning over. That is what keeps me moving forward most consistently for AAUW-KC.

URGENT REQUEST:

Tell Congress to move on pay discrimination! The Paycheck Fairness Act was reintroduced in April in both houses of Congress. Tell your representatives and senators to co-sponsor this crucial legislation! Visit <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/aauw-issues/gender-pay-gap/> for more information.

Winnie Weinrich

AAUW-KC President



BOARD MEETING: TUESDAY, MAY 5, WALDO LIBRARY, ROOM B, 5:30 PM (NO MEETING IN JUNE)

Place Your Vote in the AAUW National Elections

Voting for the AAUW Board of Directors, Public Policy Program, and AAUW Bylaws started on April 15. You recently received an email with your secure voting link or you can find your voter PIN on your Spring/Summer *Outlook* magazine. All AAUW members who have paid their full national dues by 9:00 p.m., EDT, May 19, 2015, are eligible to vote. Online voting is fast, easy and secure. To vote online, enter your member ID and voter PIN, and click on “Start to Vote.” You can click on the links beside each candidate and item on the ballot for more information. Online voting begins April 15 and ends June 19, 2015, at 9:00 p.m. (PDT.)

For more details about the voting process, read the FAQs at aauw.org, email connect@aauw.org, or call 800-326-2289.

WANTED: A Few Good Members

We need your many talents and infinite wisdom! There are some appointed officer positions as well as special projects and committee chair positions that need filled for the upcoming year: Communications Chair to work with Marian McClelland and Carrie Maidment; Funds Co-Chair to assist Mary Emily Kitterman; and a Public Policy Co-Chair to work with Joanie Shores. In addition to the above, we are looking for a branch member to serve as a liaison member of the Women’s Center board.

Our Branch serves the community with excellent projects throughout the year and we want to continue to do so but we need more members to step forward and volunteer their time and talents.

If interested, please call Stephanie Holthaus at 816-309-8021 or email her at steffi64110@yahoo.com.

Annual Planning Retreat – August 4

Attention incoming 2015-2016 board members, appointed officers and committee chairs: August 4, 2015, is the date set aside for the annual planning retreat. The tentative meeting location is at the Plaza Library, Small Meeting Room, from 4:30-7:00 p.m.

Sara Pedram, Program Vice-President nominee; Stefanie Hatfield, Membership Vice-President nominee; and Stephanie Holthaus, President-Elect, have spent time putting together a working calendar for the year. However, they are eager for your additional ideas to enhance members’ knowledge and enjoyment. This is also a good opportunity to review questions members may have about various event and program committee requirements.

Let’s make this another great year for the branch. Make plans to join us on August 4 for a terrific planning session!



KCKCC Corner

By Patsy Kile / Janice McIntyre

May 7 will be the semester's end celebration from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the KCKCC Conference Center by the pond.

Another Summer Retreat is in the works. AAUW-KCKCC will take time to reassess, reflect, and strategize for the upcoming academic year.

The Luna Film Fest, in March was a success. Approximately \$300 was collected (and donations are still being solicited) for student scholarships. The eight award-winning shorts "by, for, and about Women" were a popular campus activity with over 75 participants.

We hosted an informational table at the KCKCC Job Fair on April 15, focusing on membership recruitment, STEM jobs, and Title IX.

The Parker Elementary Study Buddies celebrated their final session with an Earth Day trash pick up on April 15. Inspired by Shel Silverstein's Sarah Cynthia Stout who "wouldn't take the trash out," students worked in teams for a neighborhood clean up.

If you would like to join us next fall as a volunteer, or make a visit to share a hobby or teach a skill, please call Patsy Kile, 913-484-6252.

Heartfelt Thanks!

The Finance Committee offers Heartfelt Thanks for the Valentine donations totaling \$705 from the following members: Earline Bentley, Ruth Engle, Stefanie Hatfield, Maureen Hurley, Janet Kannard, Brenda Kelly, Patsy Kile, Ann Kindred, Mary Emily Kitterman, Marian McClellan, Judith McGunegle, Mary Kay McPhee, Wanda Perkins, Dana Perry, Marion Shippee, Joanie Shores, Nicola Stanke, Frances Weeks and Winnie Weinrich. (We apologize for omissions or errors.)

Two Annual Events Award Education Scholarships to Local Women and High School Senior Girls

By Patti Jachowicz, Reentry Scholarship Chair and Maureen Hurley, 100 High School Girls Chair

On April 11 the Kansas City InterBranch Council presented the annual Reentry Scholarship Award to six outstanding women who returned to the college classroom after an absence of five or more years. While all applicants were very worthy candidates, these six women best exemplified the courage and personal resolve to overcome significant barriers to pursue their academic, career and life goals. Each of these women aspire to make a difference in the lives of others and in their community.



2015 KC-IBC Reentry Award Recipients: Cyrillian Ayoola, Nursing, Penn Valley; Natalia Zanders, Sociology-Family Studies, UMKC; Jennifer Christine Clark, Social Work, Park University; and Susanne Johnson, Social Psychology, Park University; Toni Thornton Award Recipients: Aubrey Kent, Radiology, Blue River; and Johnique A. Jordan, Business Management, Park University/Longview Community College.



The annual 100 High School Girls celebration was held on Sunday, April 19 at the Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center in Kansas City. This event sponsored by the AAUW-KC branch honored metro area senior girls who participated in an essay competition. Their submissions focused on academic goals, leadership experience, and volunteer work.

In attendance, along with the high school young ladies, were family members and friends, school representatives, and AAUW members.

These young women were recognized for their accomplishments and received certificates. The following girls received \$1,000 scholarships to the college or university in which they are enrolled: Mi Dohn, East High School; Hannah Wilczewski, Southwest Early College Campus; and Shereese Brown, Ruskin High School.

The guest speaker was Dr. Marjorie Williams, a former superintendent of the Hickman Mills School District and a well-known educator – she gave an inspirational presentation about opportunities for young women as they attempt to reach their educational and life goals.





SAVE THESE 2015 DATES

• **WOMEN'S EQUALITY WEEK IN KANSAS CITY** **AUGUST 23-29**

During this third annual event, many local organizations will come together to present programs to promote women's equality and celebrate women's accomplishments. Watch for more details at www.aauwkc.org and in the July/August *TAKING ACTION*.

AAUW Funds Drive Begins in May

By Mary Emily Kitterman, Funds Chair

The month of May has been designated by our KC Branch Board as the month in which we will conduct our annual AAUW Funds drive.

In May, each member will receive a letter from our KC Branch. The letter will review and discuss various funds that are maintained by the national AAUW organization, including the Legal Advocacy Fund, Educational Opportunities Fund, Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, Public Policy Fund, Leadership Programs Fund, and the special Missouri State Fund, the Richardson Fund. The letter will also outline how you can make your contribution either online or via mail.

Please watch your mail box for this KC Branch AAUW Funds appeal. We hope you will be in a position to make a 2015 gift to the ongoing and important mission of our organization, "Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research." We appreciate your consideration of this request.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Emily Kitterman at 913-381-9616 or mekgilk@aol.com.



MAY/JUNE BIRTHDAYS

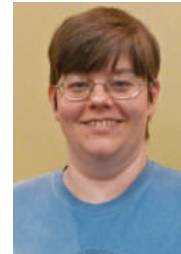
Madeleine Albright became the first woman to represent the U.S. in foreign affairs as the secretary of state in 1996. (5/15)

Linda Daugherty	5/14	Mary Emily Kitterman	6/14
Joyce Whitehead	5/16	Winnie Weinrich	6/14
Patsy Kile	5/19	Hortense Burr	6/15
Maschel Alverson	5/28	Mary Kay McPhee	6/22
Ellen Johnson	6/4	Pamela Baker Blood	6/26
Linda Vestal	6/7	Cynthia Ginn	6/28
Mary Wolfe	6/11	Dodie Murphy	6/28
Helen Montag	6/12		



New Member Spotlight

Kathleen Roy is a math professor at Avila College. She is new to AAUW-KC and joined at the March membership meeting at the National Archives. Kathleen brought an engineering student with her for the presentation about women in STEM.



Chris Wolfe, 2014 KC-IBC Reentry and KC Centennial scholarship recipient and engineering student from UMKC, made an outstanding presentation, "STEM and the Impact on Women's Equality," at the March meeting. She also talked about her past summer internship with NASA. Chris will graduate from UMKC in May 2015 and plans to relocate to Florida.

AAUW-KC MONTHLY EVENTS

FRIDAY FORUM

WALDO LIBRARY / 201 EAST 75TH ST / KANSAS CITY, MO 64114 / 10 AM

• **MAY 8 & 29 / JUNE 12 & 26**

An informal discussion group on current affairs. Participants bring articles of interest or summaries from newspapers, magazines, radio and TV to stimulate discussion.

Through May 2015 we will hold discussions based on *Great Decisions*, a briefing book published by the Foreign Policy Association, using video presentation. Meetings will take place at the Waldo Branch Library at times determined by participants to discuss controversial topics on the international scene.

Contact Joanie Shores for details, 660-200-5809 or joaneshores1010@gmail.com.

THURSDAY CUISINE CLUB

• **MAY 21 / CHARISSE**

1006 WALNUT / KANSAS CITY, MO 64113 / 11:30 AM

• **JUNE 18 / TACO REPUBLIC**

500 COUNTY LINE ROAD / KANSAS CITY, KS 66103 / 11:30 AM

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

4TH TUESDAY BOOK CLUB

WALDO LIBRARY / 201 EAST 75TH ST / KANSAS CITY, MO 64114 / 6 PM

• **MAY 26 / KING LEAR BY SHAKESPEARE**

• **JUNE 23 / HARRIET AND ISABELLA BY PATRICIA O'BRIEN**

• **JULY 28 / GIRL ON A TRAIN BY PAULA HAWKINS**

For Book Club details, contact Jane Hatch, 816-838-7626 or janehatch@yahoo.com.

JOIN NOW

New members can join for 2015-2016 and get 16 months of membership for the annual rate of \$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.

