

"AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy."

AAUW is open to graduates who hold the associate, baccalaureate, or higher degree from a qualified college or university.

Who we are...

The Saint Louis Branch of AAUW supports the broad goals and actions of AAUW by holding public outreach events, engaging in political action, collaborating with local organizations and educational institutions regarding AAUW topics, and by supporting area young women and girls directly. We promote a "You Can Do It" approach. We are one of five branches in the Saint Louis, MO, area that comprise the AAUW Metro Saint Louis Interbranch Council (IBC).

Branch Officers, 2022-2023

Ellen Irons, President
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Carol Davis McDonald
Newsletter, Website

Web Sites:

Branch Web Site:
<http://stlouis-mo.aauw.net>

IBC Web Site:
<http://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net>

State Web Site:
www.aauwmo.org

National Web Site:
www.aauw.org

[AAUW St. Louis Branch | Facebook](#)

Please join us for our January 2023 Branch Program:

**Wednesday, January 18
6:30 - 8:00 pm, via Zoom**



**Unconscious Bias and Microaggressions:
How to Handle in Real Time**

This timely topic was the #1 preferred choice at our Oct 9th branch open house!

Program Description:

This program will focus on assisting women to identify the small and not-so-small attacks received daily and to provide a wide range of tips and tools to deal with these. This program invites participants to **share their experiences with bias and microaggression** and will **explore the difficult steps of responding in "real time."**

Background definitions and context will be shared, with discussion and group interaction the main focus of the event.

Key topics covered will be:

- Unconscious biases – we all have them; how these form the context for microaggressions
- Microaggressions
 - * Definitions and types
 - * Our personal experiences - how does it feel? 1000 paper cuts
 - * The true harmful impact
- Microaggressions – How to handle in real time
 - * If you are the receiver of them
 - * If you are generating them yourself
 - * Changing our responses over time with experience and support



Ellen Irons will be facilitating the discussion. Two articles are provided as pre-readings.

A Word From President Ellen Irons:

A new year starts with hope . . .

Our branch has continued to grow and emerge from the long pandemic months with our “new normal” of both in-person events and zoom programs.

Nov 16 was a virtual program on: “The Equal Rights Amendment - Updates and Why We Need It More than Ever – the Broad Perspective.” We explored where the ERA currently stands legally and especially looked at the broader perspective of why the ERA Amendment is still critically important today.

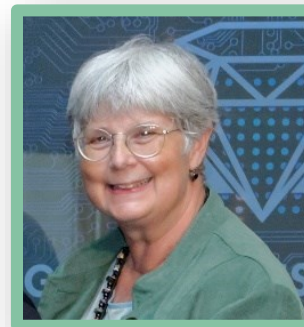
Participants were very inspired and recommend that the branch make the ERA a central focus of our activities this year (more to follow!).

Dec 18 was our wonderful Holiday Gathering at the home of Sue Barley. Eleven people attended, including one of our most recent members! See separate article.

Our monthly Movie Club on the 4th Monday of each month continues into its third year! Amazing. We have been joined by two Kirkwood-Webster Groves members on a regular basis - Becky Clausen and Nancy Hutchins. Becky was our October movie leader for *The Lost Daughter*, and Nancy led the November movie of *The Imitation Game*. Shelia Bassoppo-Moyo led the December movie discussion of *Enola Holmes 2*.

We always have an incredible range of movies, and the interaction and comments of our AAUW members are inspiring. If you haven't tried this out or have missed recent months, I strongly suggest joining us. Our January movie discussion is about Michele Obama's documentary movie *Becoming*.

Looking to the upcoming year, I am indeed hopeful. In preparing for the January 18th program on Unconscious Bias and Microaggressions, I have realized once again just how important our work is. We can enjoy each other's company and simultaneously tackle some of the toughest issues around regarding social injustice and equity for all. I strongly believe we will continue to grow and thrive this year! Together we DO make a difference.



Get Involved with the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri

2023 March Women's History Fun Patch Program!

The St. Louis Branch has collaborated with the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri (GSEM) to create a 2023 March Women's History Fun Patch. The fun patch is now designed and being launched by the GSEM programs group, with already over 100 girls signed up!

Your participation is requested!!

We are looking for women who want to get involved in two different ways:

1. **Put your name on a list of resources who can be contacted and interviewed** during the month of March by participating Girl Scouts. **Example** - You are a scientist who can share what it took for you to get into the field and what your job is like.
2. If you have an expertise/background in the categories listed below, **volunteer to be a panelist during one of the 60-minute virtual programs**. The programs will be led by a very experienced GSEM program manager, Denise Sallee. You would be part of a very well-designed Zoom program and need only a small amount of prep time. The programs are all from 6 - 7 pm and are scheduled as follows:

(continued on page 3)



Sorry if you were unable to attend

We had a delightful time at Susan Barley's home for our Holiday Gathering on Sunday, December 18, with a group of 11 attending. We chatted, shared, and enjoyed the wonderful food that Sue prepared for us. Then Sue led us through a fun game and presented a program on the various AAUW fellowships and grants. Sue is incredibly knowledgeable in this area and has served in national, state, and local leadership positions regarding AAUW Funds over many years. We reviewed the current fellowship awards across the country, and Sue showed us that although there is no Missouri awardee this year, Missouri funds are supporting a candidate who is not from Missouri. Very interesting! We all learned a lot and want to stay more on top of this important area of AAUW.



Kathleen Farrell and Linda Lindsey

highest percentage of members donating to the AAUW Fund of all the Missouri branches. The time frame for giving is by calendar year, ending December 31 of each year.

Ellen Irons shared a calendar of upcoming AAUW events and described the 2023 March Women's History Fun Patch program we are co-creating with the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri (GSEM). Diane Sher has also been involved in the GSEM partnership, and she shared some of the history of this collaboration which has spanned almost two years.

Sue also discussed the importance of contributing to the Greatest Needs Fund and encouraged branch members to make any level of donation they choose so that the branch can have a high level of participation again this year. Last year our branch held the



The last few words with the hostess: Carol Davis McDonald, Christine Nobbe, Susan Barley, Diane Sher, and Ellen Irons (taking picture).

(continued from page 2)

Date	Topic
Wednesday, Mar. 1	Women Entrepreneurs: Then and Now (Business & Activists)
Tuesday, Mar. 7	Health, Wellness and Women's History (Medical and Social Sciences)
Thursday, Mar. 23	The Art of Women's History (Artists)
Wednesday, Mar. 29	Invent the Change: Women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

Both Denise Sallee and the other program manager involved, Brooke Stochl, went to NCCWSL during their college days and are big on AAUW. This is a great collaboration, and we look forward to getting more members involved! Contact Ellen Irons for more information.

AAUW Community Hub Tips: The new AAUW Community Hub is every member's personal portal into AAUW. It allows people to self-manage their membership, donations, contact details, and personal preferences. Using Community Hub, you can now:

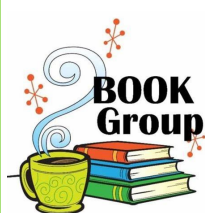
- Renew your individual membership through the Community Hub Personal Snapshot. [Login or create your account](#) to get started.
- Access the [training videos](#) for detailed instructions on how to manage your membership and make donations.

AAUW METRO ST LOUIS

KWG is **one of the five branches** that form the AAUW Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council, more commonly known as IBC. They meet 4 times a year, some virtually and some in person. Each branch is allowed 3 voting delegates, and historically the officers of each branch have served as those delegates.

The purpose of IBC is to foster cooperation among member branches and to financially support programs and projects and to open channels of communication among branches for the sharing of ideas and interests.

The next IBC meeting is at 7 p.m. on February 21, 2023, via ZOOM. The website is <https://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net/>.



IBC ¡ADELANTE! BOOK GROUP

This group meets in September, October, and January through May to discuss books written from diverse perspectives.

Where: Currently via Zoom

When: 1:30 pm the 4th Thursday of the month in September, October, January, February, March, April, May

Contact: Deb McWard (314-607-2908).

Send suggestions for book selection titles/authors to Teri Brecht tebrecht@yahoo.com.

Jan 26 *Hidden Valley Road: Inside the Mind of an American Family*, by Robert Kolker; national mentoring (400 p); Jan Barrett, facilitator

Feb 23 *Jackie, Janet & Lee: Secret Lives of Janet Auchincloss and Her Daughters*, by J. Randy Taraborrelli; black history (528 p); Deb McWard, facilitator

Mar 23 *The Girl with Seven Names: A North Korean Defector's Story*, by Hyeonsoo Lee (Lee Hyeon-seo) with John David; women's history (320 p); Carol McDonald, facilitator

Apr 27 *The Bookshop of the Broken Hearted*, by Robert Hillman; sexual assault awareness (304 p); Teri Brecht or Karen Francis, facilitator

May 25 *This Tender Land: A Novel*, by William Kent Krueger; Asian-Pacific American heritage; Lynne Roney, facilitator

Metro St. Louis Branch Programs

Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch—January 12—Branch meeting at 9:30 at Ballwin Golf Course Events Center. Speaker: Nicole Adewale—They Think It's a Man's World, But It Would be Nothing Without a Girl.

Ferguson-Florissant Branch—No information

Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch—January 19—Branch meeting at 7 pm via Zoom. Speaker: Emily Hines, middle school librarian, will share how her school district is dealing with SB775 and book challenges.

Saint Charles Branch—No meeting

2023 International Relations Lecture Series

Ethical Society of St. Louis
9001 Clayton Road
St. Louis, MO 63117



AAUW is a sponsor of the lecture series, which has been a joint venture with the Tuesday Women's Group (TWA) of the Ethical Society for over 95 years. Each meeting will begin promptly at 10:45 am on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, January through April, in the upper auditorium. The public is cordially invited. There is no fee, but all contributions are greatly appreciated. Free parking is available in the rear of the building. The 45-50 minute lecture will be followed by a question and answer period. Attendees are invited to bring lunch and to stay and discuss the day's topic. In case of inclement weather, you may call 314-991-0955, ext. 224.

Feb 14 Afghan Refugees and their Resettlement in St. Louis: Focus on Education of Women, by Dr. Linda Lindsey.

Dr. Lindsey's presentation will spotlight the issues, challenges, and resilience of Afghans as they resettled in St. Louis, and the specific issues faced by Muslim women caring for their families under the Russians, the Taliban, the Americans in Afghanistan, and now in the United States.

Dr. Lindsey is a member of AAUW St. Louis Branch. She recently retired as senior lecturer at Washington University and is professor emerita at Maryville University. She received her PhD in sociology from Case Western Reserve University and later an M.A. in education from St. Louis University. Her academic career is under a gender and intersectional umbrella, focusing on inequality, diversity, globalization, and health and society.

Celebrating Strong Women

Join us on March 18, 2023, for the AAUW Metro IBC Luncheon

The IBC planning committee is looking forward to our IBC Spring Luncheon to be held at the **EdgeWild Winery and Restaurant** located at 550 Chesterfield Center on Saturday, March 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. **Registration is now open! Our event includes:**

Barbara Lackritz Honorees: After 19 years, the AAUW IBC Barbara Lackritz Award continues to honor the memory and legacy of Barbara Lackritz. The 2023 honorees will be recognized for upholding the mission to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy; providing service to AAUW at any of the local, state, regional, or national level(s); providing leadership to AAUW at any of the local, state, regional or national level (s); and providing service and leadership in non-AAUW areas in the community, religious, professional, and/or political arenas.



Entertainment: Our program will be presented by *USA Today* bestselling author and nationally recognized speaker **Nicole Evelina**. Nicole has a passion for stories of strong women from history and within contemporary society. She writes both fiction and non-fiction and has two critical books about to be published: *Raising Our Voices, the League of Women Voters in St. Louis 1960 – 2020* (Fall 2022) and *America's Forgotten Suffragists: Virginia and Francis Minor* (March 1, 2023). In the spirit of our 2023 IBC annual luncheon theme, Celebrating Strong Women, Nicole will share about her love of history, why it is important to keep re-telling strong women's stories, and provide highlights of her book on St. Louis suffragists Virginia and Francis Minor. Explore more about Nicole's mission, biography, and list of published books at: <https://nicoleevelina.com/>.

Fundraising: With the loss of gift wrapping at Barnes and Noble, our Spring Luncheon is our primary way to raise funds to support the multiple operations of AAUW Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council (IBC). We really hope you participate in our offerings this year!

We are continuing with a gift card raffle as our primary fundraiser, and the theme this year is gift cards from our St. Louis cultural institutions. Also, available at the day of the event, will be lottery ticket scratch-off cards and 50/50 raffles.



Venue: This year our venue is the beautiful EdgeWild Winery and Restaurant in Chesterfield. The event will be held in the Belmont Room. There will be a choice of four lunch entrees to choose from at the time of ordering (no advanced selection needed). There are eight handicapped parking spots with a large parking lot and ramps on both sides of the front door. For more information, see their website <https://edgewildwinery.com/>.

Look for the registration flyer at the end of the newsletter and on the IBC website (<https://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net/>). Contact Ellen Irons, ironnew82@gmail.com, for more information.

*You must find time for reading or surrender yourself
to self-chosen ignorance. — Confucius*

*No entertainment is so cheap as reading, nor
any pleasure so lasting. — Mary Wortley*

Let children read whatever they want and then talk about it with them. If parents and kids can talk together, we won't have so much censorship because we won't have as

Programs of Interest



The Big Chill: How Extremism Is Eroding Our Rights

Wednesday, January 18, 7 p.m. (NOTE NEW DATE)

In-person program at The Center of Clayton
50 Gay Ave., St. Louis, MO 63105

Proof of COVID-19 vaccination and a mask will be required for entry.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., program begins 7 p.m.
Program will also be available on Zoom.

[Registration is required; please register here!](#)

“The Big Chill” will be the topic of the Women’s Voices program, rescheduled for Wednesday, January 18, reflecting not only the probable winter temperature but also the chilling effect of current extremism and fundamentalism in our society. Our speaker will be Dr. Marie Griffith, who directs the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics at Washington University. Dr. Griffith’s research and writing focuses on American Christianity, including the changing profile of American evangelicals and ongoing conflicts over gender, sexuality and marriage.

Co-sponsors: League of Women Voters of Metro St. Louis, the National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis, and the Tuesday Women’s Association of the Ethical Society.

FDR in our Lives Today

Thursday, January 12

10:00 - 11:00 am (online)



To many, Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR) is among the greatest U.S. presidents. FDR intervened during the Great Depression, led our country through WWII, and is the longest-serving president in American history. Before FDR, many Presidential papers and records were lost, destroyed, sold for profit, or ruined by poor storage conditions; FDR consulted historians and scholars for a better alternative and established the National Archives. Join Jeff Urbin, Education Specialist at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, to discuss the impact FDR’s policies, priorities, and politics continue to have on our lives today. This three-week program (1/12, 1/19 & 1/26) is part of Mirowitz Center’s continuing “Presidential Legacies” series.

To register, [click here](#), call (314) 733-9813, or email skemppainen@mirowitzcenter.org.



January Lunch & Learn: Shopping Ethically with David Cook

When: Thursday, January 19 | 12:00 N - 1:00 PM

Where: Zoom - [Register Here](#)

Ethical shopping has been a rising topic for some time now. The phrase “vote with your dollars” has even become a common rallying cry for making ethical decisions with daily purchases. However, as ethical shopping is a broad and sometimes complex topic, it can be difficult to know where to get started.

Fortunately, making ethical purchases is well worth the benefits it can bring to your local community and the world at large (like when you shop at [NCJWSTL's Resale Shop!](#)). Plus, some methods of ethical shopping can be easily added to your normal shopping routine. For our January Lunch and Learn, we are thrilled to welcome David Cook to help us navigate this landscape.

David Cook serves as President of UFCW Local 655. David joined Local 655 in 1977 as a courtesy clerk for Kroger. In 1987, he began his career with Local 655 in the Organizing Department and has worked as a service representative prior to his current position. In addition to his duties with the Local, he is also a delegate to the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, and a trustee for the UFCW Local 655 Pension Fund and the UFCW Local 655 Health and Welfare Fund.

Questions? Email Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org or call (314) 993.5181.

Reading to children at night, responding to their smiles with a smile, returning their vocalizations with one of your own, touching them, holding them—all of these further a child’s brain development and future potential, even in the earliest months. — T. Berry Brazelton

Let children read whatever they want and then talk about it with them. If parents and kids can talk together, we won’t have so much censorship because we won’t have as much fear. — Judy Blume

AAUW Metro St. Louis Interbranch Council

2023 Spring Luncheon Celebrating Strong Women

Recognizing Barbara Lackritz Honorees

Entertainment: Nicole Evelina, *USA Today* bestselling celebrated author and nationally recognized speaker, will share about her love of history, why it is important to keep re-telling strong women’s stories, and provide highlights of her newly published book on St. Louis suffragists Virginia and Francis Minor.

Saturday, March 18, 2023, 11:30 am—2:30 pm
Doors open at 11:15 am

EdgeWild Restaurant & Winery

[Google Map Link to EdgeWild Location](#)

550 Chesterfield Center, Chesterfield, MO 63017

Choice of one of four lunches at the event: Dijon Chicken; Salmon and Grits; Center-Cut Sirloin; OR Stuffed Mushrooms w/ Roasted Vegetables. House salad, water and iced tea, and Ultimate Chocolate Cake (dessert included). *Indicate special dietary needs on back of form.*



Registration fee: \$45 - includes meal, program, and entertainment

Registration deadline: March 3, 2023

For more information, contact Ellen Irons, ironnew82@gmail.com.

Make check payable to: **AAUW Metro St. Louis IBC**. Mail form and check, no later than March 3, to Carol Davis McDonald, 827 Bergquist Drive, Manchester, MO 63011-4215.

----- Please cut here and send form below with your check -----

Print Name Branch

Address City Zip

Email Phone

_____ I plan to attend **Celebrating Strong Women** \$45.00

_____ I am pre-purchasing gift-card raffle tickets as follows:
 3 tickets for \$10 _____ 6 tickets for \$20 _____ 9 tickets for \$30 _____ \$ _____

_____ I am unable to attend but want my tickets entered in the drawing.

_____ I am paying for _____ # of guests x \$45 (list names and branch/guest on back) \$ _____

_____ Here’s my additional donation to support IBC projects. \$ _____

Check enclosed total \$ _____