



SHAWNEE MISSION GUIDELINES

May Update 2024 Volume 71 Issue 5

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members, Friends and Neighbors,

I hope you are well and enjoying spring so far. As is usual for Kansas we have experienced every kind of weather recently, but importantly some good rains!

The past few weeks have been busy for AAUW, first we had the Kansas state AAUW meeting, attended virtually by Terri Sullivan and me, on April 6. It was great to hear from Liz Rempel our state president. Donna Becker had arranged the speaker Micaela Ramirez, executive director of Kansas Hispanic Education and Development Foundation (KHEDF), based in Wichita and funded by grants and an annual fundraiser.

The KFEDF works hard to educate Hispanic students and their parents on the importance of higher education. They mentor 150 juniors in high schools, offer \$1,000 scholarships, work closely with college students. They educate parents on how to support their child financially and emotionally. A breakout group at the conference also discussed encouraging leadership in local government, contacting legislators, providing mental health resources in Spanish, and the importance of Spanish-speaking therapists.

Our SM branch held a very interesting meeting on April 6, and welcomed attendance by many of our members, thanks to all who attended and those who brought delicious refreshments! In addition Corinne Mahaffey current president of KCMO AAUW branch attended along with guest Margareta Knopik who is planning to transfer from Parkville AAUW branch to ours. Dr Gladys Mwangi of JCCC delivered an excellent speech on the Faces of Gender-Based Violence, including her work in reversing

the practice of female genital mutilation and the trauma associated with it. A big thank you to Gladys.

We hope to see you all at our next meeting, and last of this academic year, save the date:

Saturday May 11, 10.45am -12.45pm, at Tallgrass Creek, 13800 Metcalf Ave, Overland Park. Dr Sufi Thomas, PhD, cancer researcher at KUMed Center will talk on Navigating Science as a Female Researcher in the Eastern and Western Worlds. (Lunch menu and check mailing details to follow).

Happy Spring and see you or talk to you soon,

Best wishes, Jessica Hellings

Important Updates:

1. AAUW National is **holding another** national election **available to members online through mid- May to try and get enough votes this time to expand membership by removing the degree requirement. Only 25 % of the membership voted last time. Paper ballots will be mailed to those without email addresses. This would open membership to anyone who supports AAUW work. The goal is to align practices with the mission of equity.**
2. An IBC (inter-branch council) **has been formed to enable more collaboration between our branch, KCMO, Northland and Parkville branches. They also give re-entry grants to women returning to college after a hiatus, similar to ours at JCCC. We recently received a thank-you letter from Joy Ginsburg, director of the JCCC foundation. This was for supporting scholarships through our Phyllis Hansen Memorial Scholarship which it appears that one was awarded for the fall semester of 2023, and one for the full year 2023-2024. Scholarship recipient Han Pimental is now a Yale college student. We also received a thank you note from JCCC sophomore Lindsey Schneider who has our scholarship this year, and would like a career as a probation and diversion officer. She is married with two sons and is very grateful for our help.**

Treasurer's Report

Current Funds General Account	\$7301.98
Funds Account	95.25
Total	\$ 7400.23

Dues are due July 1st. Look for an email from national AAUW or contact Marcia Cook 913-492-2507

Marcia Cook, Treasurer

INTEREST GROUP NEWS

If you are interested in starting a new interest group, contact me at 816-943-8384.

SM AAUW BOOK Club will meet Tuesday May 28 11A.M.. at Corinth Library. The Keeper of Lost Things by Ruth Hogan, Facilitator Kari Sime. Followed by lunch (if you wish to join us) at Salty Iguana (It's Taco Tuesday).

SM AAUW Book Club Planning Meeting will be held in June at Rita Einsphar's home, 4217 W. 97 Ter., Overland Park. Pot luck salad luncheon.

Rose Ferguson, Interest Group Chair

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Sat. May 11 10:45A.M. – 12:45 A.M. Lunch meeting at Tallgrass Creek, 13800 Metcalf Ave. Overland Park 2nd floor, Cottonwood Room. Lunch will include salad, ½ sandwich, chips, cookie, drink for \$15. Please call your order to Marcia Cook, 913-492-2507 by Saturday, May 4 and pay at door. Choice of sandwich will include meat & cheese, egg salad, ham salad, grilled chicken, gluten free bread or regular bread
Speaker Sufi Thomas PhD, new member and cancer researcher at Univ. of Kansas Health System.

Membership News

Previous long time member and past president, Patty Busenbark, passed away, just one month before her 100th birthday. Donations to AAUW in her memory may be sent to Marcia Cook.

Membership Vice President, Jessica Hellings

AAUW National News

Be sure to vote by 5/15 on national issue to allow non-college graduate members. Dues are due by 7/1.

Terri Sullivan, Editor

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