



## Ferguson-Florissant (MO) Branch

Carolyn Herkstroeter, President

Shirley Breeze and Judy Holmes  
Program Committee Co-VPs

Ruth Field and Gwen Westbrooks,  
Membership Co-VPs

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Pat Kelemen, Editor

### **BOARD MEETING**

The board will meet on January 6. Time and location to be determined. Board members will be notified.

### ***CAROLYN'S CORNER***

#### **PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE!**

I love the beginning of each year. It is a time for remembering and evaluating the past 12 months, for planning, hoping and dreaming for the next 12. As I am thinking about AAUW, I am reflecting on what we have done, what we might do in the coming year, and what we can look forward to in the future.

In 2013, we supported the Robotics Girls (a STEM project), hosted a fantastic panel on bullying policies in local school districts, distributed *CROSSING THE LINE* to local schools, hosted Happy Hour in April to greet prospective members, welcomed six new members into our branch, established a website, contributed to The Girls scholarship fund, and sent five delegates to the BiState Conference in May. Not to mention a year of great programming, publicity, dedicated officers and hard-working committees.

We had a great Holiday Open House in December--thanks to everyone coming and for leaving all the goodies for me to eat--everything from cookies to shrimp and ice cream bars! Currently, we have been busy wrapping at Barnes & Noble, taking time out from our personal holiday activities. We raised \$281 for LAF, to support the cause of women in the military. We owe ourselves a great pat on the back and a huge thank you to everyone who gave up precious hours to help.

I am optimistic and enthusiastic about the coming year and all the things we can accomplish. Our branch will be represented at the Hazelwood STEM EXTRAVAGANZA on January 25<sup>th</sup>. We plan to do more networking with other women's organizations, help with voter registration, and become more involved with our College/University affiliates and sponsor more young women in leadership. We can raise more funds and enable our members to attend the Regional AAUW Conference.

With excitement and anticipation, I look forward to my final months as president. We may be a small branch, but we have high aspirations and a huge amount of enthusiasm. Thanks to dedicated members and hard-working officers, there is no limit to what we can accomplish for women and girls.

Looking back, we have 50 years of branch history of major accomplishments and outstanding women.

**Contact us by e-mailing Gwen.**

Looking forward, we shape the future. I am proud of who we are.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

*Carolyn*

### **THANK YOU TO ALL THE GIFT WRAPPERS**

A big thank you is due to all those branch members who volunteered to wrap books and other gifts at Barnes & Nobel at Cross Keys. Because of their efforts, we raised \$281 for the LAF. Those volunteers included Carolyn Herkstroeter, Lovene Hartman, Wilzetta Bell, Lillian Boly, Shirley Breeze, Ruth Field, Virginia Jost, Sylvia Miller, Martha Panetti, Dorothy Stade, Myra Talkington, Gwen Westbrooks, and Wanda Young.

### **JANUARY BRANCH MEETING**

The January meeting on January 20 will be our annual game day. In addition to board and card games, lunch, a silent auction and raffle will be part of the festivities. Members can contribute to our success by consulting the following information. Also, share the flyer that is included with this newsletter. [Game Day is open to the public.](#)

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**WANTED for January Game Day**

### **RAFFLE ITEMS**

Nice basket arrangements or gift cards/donations from local merchants

### **SILENT AUCTION ITEMS**

Nice items which can be regifted!

### **GOOD BOOKS FOR SALE**

### **HELP WITH THE FOLLING:**

**KITCHEN/LUNCH**

**BRING CARD TABLES**

**HELP SET UP TABLES AND CHAIRS AT 9:00 AM**

**SIGN UP AND WELCOME GUESTS**

**SET UP/HELP WITH SILENT AUCTION\*\*RAFFLE\*\*BOOK SALE**

**PAPER PRODUCTS FOR "THE GIRLS"**

**TAKE DOWN AND CLEAN UP**

**WE NEED SALAD AND DESSERTS TO SERVE FOR LUNCH.** Please let Lovene Hartman know what you plan to bring.

We hope this will be a great fund raiser for our branch. Be sure to invite friends and family. Contact us if you have questions or suggestions. Thank you from the Fund Raising Committee: Carolyn Herkstroeter, Nancy Gerber, Lillian Boly and Wilzetta Bell.

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Remember **we are across the street from our usual meeting place, in the basement fellowship hall of Immanuel UCC CHURCH.** Park and enter from the back parking, off Church Street.

## **LET THE FUN BEGIN!!**

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### **HAZELWOOD STEM EXTRAVAGANZA**

January 25, 10:00 am -2:00 pm at Hazelwood Central High School

Our branch will be participating, representing AAUW STEM activities, probably next to Toni Burrow and the PAKT YIPP Robotics girls. Great visibility for us and supportive of STEM education for girls. If you can give an hour or two that day, please let me know. We will have an information table there. Thank you. Carolyn

### **ERA FACT**

“If the 19<sup>th</sup> Century was About Ending Slavery and the 20<sup>th</sup> Century was About Ending Totalitarianism, then the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is About Ending the Degradation and Pervasive Discrimination Against Women and Fulfilling their Rights.” Hillary Rodham Clinton

### **FIRST FRIDAY VIDEO**

Due to the illness of Nancy Gerber, there will be no First Friday Video in January. We all wish Nancy a speedy recovery.

### **TUESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP**

Tuesday Afternoon Book Group will meet on January 7 at 11:30 at the home of Carolyn Herkstroeter. Carolyn will lead the discussion of *The Kitchen House* by Kathleen Grissom. Bring a sandwich. Please notify Carolyn if you plan to attend.

### **SPRING FLING**

The annual Spring Fling for 2014 will take place on Saturday, March 1, 2014. Please consult the flyer included with this newsletter for important details.

### **ADELANTE BOOK GROUP**

The Adelante Book Group features National Mentoring Month in January. On January 23, Sharon Gill will review Lean in: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead by Sheryl Sandberg. In Lean In, Sandberg examines why women’s progress in achieving leadership roles has stalled, explains the root causes, and offers compelling, commonsense solutions that can empower women to achieve their full potential.

The Adelante Book Group meets at 1:30 at Barnes & Noble on Clarkson in Chesterfield.

### **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS LECTURE SERIES**

The 2014 International Relations Lecture Series, presented by The Tuesday Women’s Association of Ethical Society and AAUW meets promptly at 10:45 in the lower meeting room of the Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Road, St. Louis, MO 63117. 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

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stay and discuss the day's topic. In case of inclement weather, you may call 314-991-0955, ext. 224.

January 14, 2014: Five Privacy Myths presented by Neil M. Richards, Professor of Law, Washington University, St. Louis, MO. Neil Richards is an internationally recognized expert in the fields of privacy, First Amendment, and information law. His recent work explores the complex relationships between free speech and privacy in cyberspace.

### **DOWNTOWN LUNCH GROUP**

The Downtown Lunch group will meet at 11:45 am on January 21 at Element, 1419 Carroll Street (east of Lafayette Square). Please make your reservation.

### **CALENDAR**

**January 6--Branch Board Meeting**

**January 7--Tuesday Afternoon Book Group**

January 14--International Relations Lecture Series

**January 20--January Branch Meeting--Annual Game Day**

January 21--Downtown Lunch group

January 23--Adelante Book Group

Hazelwood STEM Extravaganza

March 1--Spring Fling

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