



Ferguson-Florissant (MO) Branch

Shirley Breeze and Pat Kelemen
Co- Presidents

Wilzetta Bell
Program Vice President

Gwen Westbrooks
Membership Vice-President

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Pat Kelemen, Editor

BOARD MEETING

The board will meet at 11:30 on Monday, February 13, at the Corner Coffee House in Ferguson.

GAME DAY

The Game Day fundraiser on January 16 was a great success. Members and guests played cards and other games, bid on items in the silent auction, and entered the raffle of donated objects. The raffle included things like a set of wine glasses, baskets of spa goodies or pampering gifts, a kaftan from Egypt, and an amazing miniature stuffed “donkey.” Virginia displayed books for sale to benefit the Legal Advocacy Fund. The food committee arranged for a delicious lunch buffet featuring chicken salad on croissants.

Carolyn Herkstroeter, fund raising chair, and many members planned the event and worked hours to make it such a success. They included Carolynn Henning, Pam, Lillian, Sylvia, Thelmarene, Judy, Joyce, Lovene, Virginia, and Wilzetta.

The event raised \$199.86 after expenses.



Pat arranges jewelry from Nancy Gerber Joyce and Virginia
Pictures by Carolyn Herkstroeter

Guests enjoy a game of cards

Contact us by e-mailing Gwen Westbrooks at gwestbrooks@hotmail.com
Visit our website at fergusonflorissant-mo.aauw.net.



Pam, Sylvia and Wilzetta with raffle items



Overview of silent auction items

FEBRUARY BRANCH MEETING

The media presentation *One AAUW--Changing the Climate* will be shown at the February meeting. The video reviews the current and upcoming initiatives and programs of AAUW, including work on STEM activities for young women, pay equity initiatives and AAUW's extensive grant and fellowship programs.

This meeting will be February 20, 2017, at **10:00 am** in the Educational Building of Immanuel UCC Church, 211 Church Street. The program is free and open to the public.

We will conclude with a potluck lunch. Volunteers are needed to bring salads, desserts, or small sandwiches. A limited selection of drinks will be provided. Please contact Lovene Hartman to let her know what dish you will bring.

PRESIDENTS' LETTER

After a few weeks of reduced activity, some planned and others forced by bad weather, we are ready to go again. The Game Day Fundraiser kicked off the year, followed almost immediately by our table at the STEM fair and members joining others at the St. Louis Women's March. The Diversity Committee is planning to meet soon. Our proposed bylaw amendment has been accepted to be presented at the national convention in June. The branch committee is now studying the intersection of gender and race in policy and politics. Book group is meeting as planned and Afternoon at the Movies resumes this month. After a break, the board will meet in February and the February branch meeting will include a potluck lunch.

There is a sense of renewed energy as we move into 2017. Be sure to join us!

B.J. WALTERS

B.J. Walters passed away Friday, January 20; B.J. was a member of the Branch for 25 years from 1988 until recently. She was a dynamic woman, active in many community organizations. She loved to travel, taking a trip to the Amazon in her 80s. Many of us remember her for always attending the special functions (and even hosting some of them) of the Branch and the monthly meetings. For a number of years, she taught in the Riverview Gardens School District, both at the junior high and high school level. In recent years she lived at Hidden Lake.

--Information for this reflection from Lillian Boly, Carolyn Herkstroeter and Shirley Breeze

CONDOLENCES

Our sympathy goes out to Mary Ellen Starr. Her husband Bill died at the beginning of January after being seriously ill for months. Prior to that, he was active in sports like tennis and fencing and an avid musician.

DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS AND UPDATES

Contact us by e-mailing Gwen Westbrooks at gwestbrooks@hotmail.com
Visit our website at fergusonflorissant-mo.aauw.net.

Two corrections need to be made to the Directory entry for Robyn Stranquist: the correct e-mail address is rstranquist@gmail.com and the correct degree is Juris Doctorate, St. Louis University.

Myra Talkington has recently moved. Her new address is 519 Greenway Chase Ct., Florissant 63031. Her telephone numbers stay the same as before.

HAZELWOOD STEM EXTRAVAGANZA

Branch members including Carolyn Herkstroeter, Virginia, Lovene and Martha participated in the annual Hazelwood STEM Extravaganza at Hazelwood Central High School on January 21. They offered AAUW information and published studies to attendees and collected names of women interested in receiving more information about AAUW. Toni Burrow, also a branch member, supervised a group of the Robotics students she leads as they demonstrated their work.



Toni Burrow at Robotics exhibit table



Martha and Virginia at AAUW information table

ST. LOUIS WOMEN'S MARCH

Thousands of women and their supporters marched in St. Louis on January 21 in solidarity with the much larger march in Washington, D.C. The local march included individuals and members of several women's organization. It was a march followed by an Action Fair. This included information tables for many organizations. Karen Francis stated that the AAUW table was next to the NCJW's table.

Ferguson Florissant members who attended were Shirley Breeze, Karen Francis, and Kathy McKemy. Several members of other St. Louis branches also attended.



MAY LUNCHEON SAVE THE DATE

Contact us by e-mailing Gwen Westbrooks at gwestbrooks@hotmail.com
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The annual branch May Luncheon will be May 20, 2017. Mark your calendar now!

SPRING FLING

The annual IBC (Interbranch Council) fund raiser luncheon and silent auction will be Saturday, March 25, 2017 at Glen Echo Country Club. The program speaker is Jessica Woolbright, Children's Program Coordinator at St. Martha's Hall and Chair of St. Louis ending Violence Against Women Network.

Registration to the event will begin at 11:00 am, followed by lunch, the program, and silent auction/raffle results.

Details about the menu choices, directions to the venue, and more are included with the attached flyer. The cost is \$28 and guests are welcome. The registration deadline is March 11, and the form for registering and indicating lunch selection is at the bottom of the flyer.

DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

The Diversity Committee will meet at the home of Judy Holmes, 1736 Catherine Ct., on Friday, Feb. 10 at 10:00 am. Each committee member chose a book to read from a list as part of our study of the intersection of racism and sexism. We will discuss the books we are reading as time allows. We will also bring any information and ideas to further our study.

Any AAUW member who would like to join us should call or email Judy Holmes--314-355-1125; mickey.holmes@att.net. All are welcome.

AFTERNOON AT THE MOVIES

Afternoon at the Movies will resume on Thursday, February 16 at 3:00. We will meet at the Hidden Lake Retirement Community Theater Room. Movie is still to be determined. All are welcome. Contact Judy Holmes at mickey.holmes@att.net or 314-355-1125 for more information.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Tuesday Afternoon Book Group will meet at the home of Joyce Wolf at 11:30 on February 14. Joyce will review *Heart and Soul* by Maeve Binchy. Notify Joyce if you will attend and bring a sandwich.

ADELANTE BOOK GROUP

Adelante Book Group will meet on Thursday, February 23, at Barnes & Noble on Clarkson at 1:30. Janice Rumpfelt will review *Re Jane* by Patricia Park.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS LECTURE SERIES

This series is co-sponsored by The Tuesday Women's Association of the Ethical Society and The American Association of University Women. The programs are presented at the Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Road, St. Louis MO 63117.

Each meeting will begin promptly at 10:45 the 2nd Tuesday of the month, January to 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.

The program for February 14 is *Russia Today*, presented by Dr. Ellen Carnahan, Professor and Chair of Political Science at St. Louis University. She teaches and conducts research in Russian politics, the politics of post-communism and political change in many aspects, including democratization and social movements.

CALENDAR

February 10--Diversity Committee

February 13--Board Meeting

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February 14--Tuesday Afternoon Book Group

February 14--International Relations Lecture

February 16--Afternoon At the Movies**February 20--Branch Meeting at 10:00 am.**

February 23--Adelante Book Group

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