



## Ferguson-Florissant (MO) Branch

Shirley Breeze and  
Pat Kelemen  
Co- Presidents

Wilzetta Bell  
Program Vice President

Carolyn Herkstroeter and  
Carolynn Henning  
Membership Co-Vice-Presidents

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Pat Kelemen, Editor

### BOARD MEETING

The board will meet on January 8, 2018, at the Corner Coffee House in Ferguson. Our starting time for the meeting room will be **11:45**. Please plan accordingly.

### JANUARY MEETING--GAME DAY

This year, Game Day will be **Monday, January 22, one week after Dr. Martin Luther King Day**. It will be held at the Lutheran Church of the Living Christ on New Halls Ferry at Concord from 10:00 until 2:00. Festivities will include games (bring favorite card games, board games, etc.), a raffle of baskets and other top-notch offerings, books and lunch. The price of admission is the donation of toiletries, non-perishable food, items like paper towels and toilet paper for the poor or homeless.

Snacks, coffee and tea will be served until lunch. Lunch will include chicken salad croissants along with salads, veggies or fruit, and desserts. Cash donations for lunch will be gratefully accepted.

Plan now to invite guests to join us for the fun and gather items or make a basket for the raffle.

### HOLIDAY EVENT RECAP

The Holiday Event on December 17 was an excellent time for members and guests to relax and share a wonderful party together. The entertainment was a special treat--a performance by a bag piper and drummer. They played a mix of Christmas music and traditional Scots and Irish pieces. They also answered a number of questions from the audience.

The food was catered by member Mable Davis, who provided a variety of treats for all tastes and diet preferences. It was all delicious. Fran Johnson brought her beautiful silver punchbowl and made the punch.

The event was organized by Fran, Carolyn Herkstroeter, and Toni Burrow. Thanks to all of you. We had 2 guests express interest in joining AAUW.



Contact us by e-mailing Membership Co-Vice Presidents Carolyn Herkstroeter at [herkcmw@att.net](mailto:herkcmw@att.net) or Carolynn Henning at [carhenning@att.net](mailto:carhenning@att.net)  
Visit our website at [fergusonflorissant-mo.aauw.net](http://fergusonflorissant-mo.aauw.net).



Wilzetta, Mary Ellen and Lillian



Carol, Mable and Fran Johnson



Mary Ellen, Pat, Lillian, Virginia and Wanda



Myra, Joyce, Virginia, and Wilzetta

#### **PRESIDENTS' LETTER by Pat Kelemen**

The start of a new calendar year is often a time for evaluating one's life, hence New Year's Resolutions. Organizations sometimes find that it's wise to do something similar. This branch has made a few adjustments in programs, venues, and the like recently; possibly we should consider some of our "givens" regarding programs, activities, etc. as we move forward. This does not mean wholesale, thoughtless change. Instead, thoughtful consideration might serve us well.

The challenges facing women in particular in our country in 2018 are critical. AAUW Public Policy in Missouri is organizing a program which focuses on the Gender Pay Gap. This Gap remains a critical issue for women. Soon you will be hearing about how to contact legislators about this vital issue and also ways AAUW branches can draw attention to this issue in their communities.

We have a decades-long tradition of service and activism in this branch. Tradition and progress can be excellent partners.

#### **PUBLIC POLICY by Mable Davis--You Have To Be Kidding Me!**

Do you think we live in a world where people are forced into prostitution and unpaid labor? Did you know that there is currently an estimated number of 20.9 million slaves worldwide? If you answered "No" to either of these questions then you have never heard of human trafficking. If you answered "Yes" to either of these questions then you know that human trafficking is not just an "International Issue" and that it is happening everywhere in the world including the United States. Everyone is affected by it and victims consist of American girls, boys and women. Human trafficking has been identified as the second largest transnational crime with drug trafficking being first. According to the International Labor Organization, out of the 20.9 million slaves, 68% are trapped in forced labor, 26% are children, 55% women and girls.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA) defines Human Trafficking as: *Sex Trafficking*--the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the

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purpose of a commercial sex act, in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which a person is forced to perform sex acts under the age of 18.

*Labor Trafficking*--the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor services, using force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, or debt bondage.

Therefore, the two main forms of human trafficking are sex trafficking and labor trafficking and in each case force, fraud and coercion should be recognized unless it is a minor under the age of 18.

How can you help combat human trafficking? The answer is simple. Please become a champion for the victims of human trafficking by selecting one or more of the options below.

**Educate yourself:**

- Go to <https://polarisproject.org> to get the facts/get informed
- Watch documentaries--"Dreams Die Hard"/"Tricked"
- Read books--"Sex Trafficking in the Unites States" by Dr. Andrea J. Nichols (Washington University Lecturer in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies)

**Shop Fair Trade: What is Fair Trade?**

Fair Trade is a social movement whose stated goal is to help producers in developing countries achieve better living and trading conditions. Thus, trade in which fair prices are paid to producers in developing countries which in turn creates sustainable living and minimizes the chances of families becoming victims of human trafficking.

Fair Trade Stores in St. Louis

- PlowShare Crafts
- Zee Bee Market
- Made for Freedom (St. Louis native owner/online store)
- Route--Ethically Made for Fair Trade (Brand Manager and Online Director studies at Washington University/online store)

**Get involved: donate or volunteer at organizations:**

- St. Charles Coalition Against Trafficking--SCCAT
- The Covering House
- Eden's Glory

**ADDRESS CORRECTION FOR DIRECTORY**

The information for new member Joyce Bluett in the Directory contains errors. Please correct them in your copy. Joyce's email address is [joyce\\_bluett@yahoo.com](mailto:joyce_bluett@yahoo.com). Note the underscore rather than hyphen between her first and last name. The correct phone number is 314-800-8979.

**BARNES & NOBLE GIFT WRAPPING**

Many thanks to those who wrapped books at Barnes & Noble in December: Joyce Wolf, Lovene Hartman, Lillian Boly (2 times), Shirley Breeze, Virginia Jost, Pam Meyers (2), Wilzetta Bell, Myra Talkington (2), Fran Carney, Carolyn Herkstroeter, Pat Kelemen, Joyce Bluett, Fran Johnson, and Tommie Turner.

This proved to be a very successful fundraiser for the branch.



Tommie, Carolyn and Pat wrap gifts



A B&N customer chooses wrapping paper

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### **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 January 9, 2018 is "The Art of Political Cartooning."** The speaker will be Dan Martin, who has been an illustrator, cartoonist and designer for the St. Louis Post Dispatch for over 37 years. He has drawn the paper's front page mascot since 1986, in addition to his Saturday political cartoon, Postcard from Mound City. Mr. Martin will explore the art of political cartooning, from its international origins to the present American art form.

### **HAZELWOOD STEM EXTRAVAGANZA**

We will once again participate in the STEM Extravaganza, this year on January 27, 2018, at Hazelwood Central High School. We will have a table (hopefully next to Toni Burrows' FIRST Robotics exhibit) where we can offer various AAUW materials and meet prospective new members. In the past, interested women have joined AAUW and the Ferguson-Florissant Branch.

We will need a few members to staff the table from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm or part of that time. If you can volunteer, contact Carolyn Herkstroeter at 314-867-4755 or [herkcmw@att.net](mailto:herkcmw@att.net).

Please see the attached flyer.

### **AFTERNOON AT THE MOVIES**

Afternoon at the Movies will meet will view "How to Make an American Quilt" on January 29, 2018. The movie will be shown at 2:00 pm at the Hidden Lake Theater Room. Please call or email Judy Holmes at 314-355-1125 or [mickey.holmes@att.net](mailto:mickey.holmes@att.net) if you plan to attend.

### **TUESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP**

Tuesday Afternoon Book Group will next meet on **February 13**.

### **ADELANTE BOOK GROUP**

The Adelante Book Group will meet at Barnes & Noble on Clarkson at 1:30 on January 25, 2018. Julie Triplett will discuss *Behold the Dreamers: A Novel* by Imbolo Mbue.

### **MEET AND EAT GROUP**

The Meet and Eat group will meet January 16, 2018 at 11:30 am. The restaurant is still being chosen at this time. If you are interested, please contact Kay Meyer at [kicmeyer51@gmail.com](mailto:kicmeyer51@gmail.com) or 314-962-7487.

### **CALENDAR**

#### **January 8--Board Meeting**

January 9--International Relations Lecture

January 16--Meet and Eat Group

#### **January 22--Game Day**

January 25--Adelante Book Group

January 27--Hazelwood STEM Extravaganza

**January 29--Afternoon at the Movies**

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