

*The American Association of University Women advances gender equity  
for women and girls through research, advocacy and education*



Wilzetta Bell and  
Pam Meyers  
Co-Presidents  
Volume 54

Shirley Breeze  
Program Vice President  
December 2018

Carolyn Herkstroeter and  
Carolynn Henning  
Membership Co-Vice Presidents  
Pat Kelemen, Editor

#### **BOARD MEETING**

The next branch board meeting will be held on January 7, 2019.

#### **HOLIDAY EVENT—Presidents' Letter by Pamela Meyers and Wizetta Bell**



It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas, The Christmas Song, White Christmas, Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas, and Happy Holidays by the famous singer Andy Williams are just a few of the beautiful songs we hear and sing this time of the year.

The Ferguson Florissant AAUW Branch Happy Holiday Party is December 16, 2018, from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. It will be held at the Ferguson First Presbyterian Church, on 401 Darst Street, Ferguson, MO. It is open to members and their guests. There will be refreshments, (hopefully sugar cookies), beautiful music by Ann Geiler's String Trio, and a Sing-A-Long accompanied by the String Trio. If you have a favorite Christmas Carol that you would like to hear or sing-a-long, please send them to me before the party.

Happy Holiday! [wpmeyers@gmail.com](mailto:wpmeyers@gmail.com)

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)

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**BARNES & NOBLE HOLIDAY GIFT WRAPPING**

The branch will be gift wrapping on December 21, 22, 23 and 24. There will be three shifts each day and two persons on each shift.

Several members have signed up already. Listed below are the dates, times, and names of those who have signed up.

December 21 Friday

10 am to 2 pm—Virginia Jost, Lillian Boly

2 pm-5 pm—Joyce Bluett, Dorothy Stade

5 pm- 8 pm—Pat Kelemen, Myra Talkington

December 22 Saturday

10 am-2 pm--Carolyn Herkstroeter, Tommie Turner

2 pm-5 pm—Joyce Bluett, Wilzetta Bell

5pm-8 pm-- \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

December 23 Sunday

10 am-2 pm—Pam Meyers, Carolynn Henning

2 pm-5 pm--Virginia Jost, Joyce Bluett

5 pm-8 pm—Myra Talkington, Shirley Breeze

December 24 Monday

9 am-12 pm-- \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

12 pm-3 pm—Lillian Boly, Carolyn Herkstroeter

3 pm-6 pm-- \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

At this time we have six time slot to be filled. If you can work any one of these, please let Lovene Hartman know at 314-921-5062 or email [lovenehartman@att.net](mailto:lovenehartman@att.net).



Joyce Wolf, Pam Meyers and Shirley Breeze gift wrapping at Barnes & Noble November 23, 2018

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).  
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**PLAN TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL GAME DAY ON JANUARY 28.**



**Photo from Game Day 2018**

**PUBLIC POLICY—FAMILY LEAVE by Shirley Breeze**

In the United States today, with its increasing number of financially struggling families, most families are required to have two breadwinners. Given this situation, family leave becomes not a luxury but a necessity.

Yet, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, only 15 percent of the private sector workforce has employer-provided paid family leave. Lack of family leave affects women very severely. More than 22 million working women do not have paid sick days. This means that women (who are primary family caregivers) must miss work and often go without pay to take care of a sick family member.

In a recent study by the National Partnership for Women and Families (October 2018) most voters (70%) believe that all parties should support a national paid family and medical leave policy.

There are several suggested ways to implement a paid leave plan. One of these is the Parental Leave Savings Account, which would operate in a similar manner as an ordinary bank savings account. A second method would be a Personal and Family Security Fund; this concept would be funded by both employers and employees. A third method would be a Social Security Parental Leave Program. This would be available only for a new child in the family, either a new baby or an adopted one. The last suggestion is the Universal Paid Leave Benefit; this would be available to all employees and be funded by general tax revenues.

Family Leave (particularly paid) is good for families, society, and the corporate sector. It promotes gender equity, demonstrates respect for employees, improves employee health, increases retention and enhances the company's brand and reputation.

Paid Family Leave policies are not just good for families but good for business.

Sources:

American Association of University Women, Washington DC 20005

National Partnership for Women and Families, Washington DC 20009

**TUESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP**

Tuesday Afternoon Book Group will meet on Tuesday, December 11 at 11:30 at the home of Lillian Boly. Everyone is asked to bring a poem, story or something about Christmas. Bring a sandwich. Please notify Lillian if you will attend, 314-921-9143 or [lboly@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lboly@sbcglobal.net).

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**CORRECTIONS TO NEW DIRECTORY**

Please make these corrections to the 2018-2019 Directory:

Lisa Taylor, MEd in Higher Education Administration/Adult Education from UMSL, BA in Business Administration from Columbia College, Columbia, MO.

Debra Deiermann—the street address should be 3638 Juniata.

On page 2, the ZIP code for national officers Gloria Brown and Kim Churches is **20005**.

**MEET AND EAT**

Meet and Eat will gather at 180 Grill and Bar, 12490 St. Charles Rock Rd. Bridgeton, 63044, on December 18 at 11:45. RSVP to Kay Meyer at 314-962-7487 or [kicmeyer51@gmail.com](mailto:kicmeyer51@gmail.com).

**THANK YOU TO JOYCE WOLF**

Many thanks to Joyce Wolf for producing our annual directory. It is a painstaking process that is essential for efficient communications within the branch.

**CALENDAR**

**December 11—Tuesday Afternoon Book Group**

**December 16—Holiday Event**

December 18—Meet and Eat

**December 21-24—Gift Wrap at Barnes & Noble**

**January 7, 2019—Branch Board Meeting**

**January 28, 2019—Game Day**

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