

*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
January 2019

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

BOARD MEETING

The board will meet on January 7, 2019 at McAlisters in Florissant at 11:30 am.

GAME DAY

Game Day will be held January 28 from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm at the Lutheran Church of the Living Christ on New Halls Ferry at Concord. Baskets and other items for the raffle might have a theme and other items should be high quality. For the silent auction, care should be taken to offer items people might want to bid on. Lunch will be a combination of an entrée chosen by the food committee and donated salads, veggies, and desserts.

BARNES & NOBLE GIFT WRAPPING

The Branch's gift wrapping at Barnes & Noble December 21-24 was extremely successful. Branch members volunteered to wrap books and other items, with some filling multiple time slots. The customers were generous with their donations as well. Thanks to the following wrappers and anyone the editor unfortunately omitted. The wrappers were Virginia Jost, Lillian Boly, Joyce Bluett, Dorothy Stade, Pat Kelemen, Myra Talkington, Carolyn Herkstroeter, Tommie Turner, Wizetta Bell, Pam Meyers Carolynn Henning and Shirley Breeze. The photo by Pam Meyer shows Virginia Jost and Joyce Bluett.



Contact us by e-mailing Membership Co-Vice Presidents Carolyn Herkstroeter at herkcmw@att.net or Carolynn Henning at carhenning@att.net.
Visit our website at fergusonflorissant-mo-aauw.net

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HOLIDAY EVENT

The annual Holiday Event on December 16 was held at Ferguson First Presbyterian Church. Members and guests were treated to excellent food, beautiful music and great conversation. Toni Burrow arranged the food and punch that people enjoyed. Pam Meyers found the musicians, Ann Geiler's String Trio. They alternated between performance of Christmas music and leading sing-alongs of familiar carols, drafting Pam to join them on the piano. In open house fashion, guests arrived at various times; about 25 attended. Thanks to Pam and Toni, as well as those who helped them.

All photos thanks to Pam Meyers



Toni Burrow at the buffet



Ann Geiler's Trio performs for guests



Guests enjoy the music

PRESIDENT'S LETTER by Co-President Wilzetta Bell

As the new year is upon us, we stop to count our blessings and think of those who are less fortunate. We hope that all will regain the strength that they need in order to better their lives in the future. We, at AAUW, realize that we need to work harder in our quest to help women and girls achieve their goals in life. One of the ways we help others is through our "Game Day" activities. We collect toiletries and other needed items to disperse to those in need. Our "Game Day" is Jan. 28, 2019, at 10:00 am at the Lutheran Church of the Living Christ located at 2725 Concord at New Halls Ferry. We invite everyone to come and bring as many toiletries as you can.

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PUBLIC POLICY by Judy Holmes, Public Policy Chair, Ferguson Florissant Branch

AAUW is a leader in the fight to end wage discrimination and open doors for women in the workplace. Despite some advancements, workplace discrimination still exists. Typically, women who work full time take home 80 cents for every dollar a full time male worker earns. Over a 47 year career, women's total estimated earnings loss compared with men is \$700,000 for a high school graduate, 1.2 million for a college graduate and 2 million for a professional school graduate.

Olivia Guerrieri, Advocacy Assistant at National AAUW, recently shared advocacy plans that list all equal pay day dates for 2019.

Tuesday, April 2: **all women's Equal Pay Day** (Women overall v. Men overall, \$0.80)

Tuesday, March 5: **Asian American Women's Equal Pay Day** (Asian women v. White, non-Hispanic Men, \$0.85)

Friday, April 19: **white women's equal pay day** (White, non-Hispanic women v. White, non-Hispanic men, \$0.77)

Thursday, August 22: **Black women's equal pay day** (Black women v. White, non-Hispanic men, \$0.61)

Monday, September 23: **Native Women's Equal Pay Day** (Native women v. White, non-Hispanic men, \$0.58)

Wednesday, November 20: **Latinas' Equal Pay Day** (Latinas v. White, non-Hispanic men, \$0.53)

Mom's Equal Pay Day will be determined at a later date.

AAUW's national website will be updated to reflect these dates soon, but in the meantime you are welcome to share this information with anyone who's interested.

For further information on the gender pay gap, the AAUW publication "The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap" is an excellent resource.

Information for this article is from an email from Olivia Guerrieri, Advocacy Assistant at National AAUW and from the National AAUW website at www.aauw.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Ferguson Florissant Branch has been asked to collaborate with the Ferguson Library on a Community Program beginning in March. Mary Ellen Starr is our contact person. Look for more detailed information soon.

LEGISLATIVE RETREAT JANUARY 12

The annual Missouri Women's Network Legislative Retreat will be on Saturday, January 12, 2019, in Columbia, MO at the HyVee conference center.

In the morning we will share presentations about our areas of concern for this year's legislative session and set our legislative priorities.

In the afternoon we will be trained in FastDemocracy by Dr. Anatolij Gelimson. FastDemocracy is a federal, state and local analytics platform that aims to empower political professionals and newcomers alike to be more informed and effective while advocating for policy change. FastDemocracy can help individuals and advocacy groups remain engaged after the elections by making it easy to participate in the legislative process and hold elected officials accountable.

This event is free but participants must register in advance. To do that, email Pat Shores at apatriciashores@att.net. or call her at 636-938-3958.

Please share this information with your networks and make your plans not to be a part of this important gathering of Missouri women advocates who care about what is happening in our state.

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SPRING FLING

It's not too soon to mark your calendar and plan to attend Spring Fling on March 23, 2019. It will be held at The Highlands in Forest Park. The fund raiser this year will be a raffle of Treasure Chests donated by members of each branch. Details about menus and cost will follow soon.

WHAT IS NCCWSL?

We often hear about NCCWSL (pronounced Nick-Whistle for convenience), which is a national leadership conference for college women that is held in Washington, D.C. Through St. Louis area IBC, the five local branches send one or two students from local colleges and universities to this important event. You will find an explanation of NCCWSL included with this newsletter.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Tuesday Afternoon Book Group will meet at the home of Pat Kelemen on January 8 at 11:30 am. We will view the documentary "The Notorious RBG." Please let Pat know if you will attend and get directions if you need them. Call 314-831-6884 or email pkelemen@hotmail.com. Bring a sandwich.

AFTERNOON AT THE MOVIES

Afternoon at the Movies will meet on Monday, January 21 at 2:00 pm at the Hidden Lake Theater Room. The movie will be "The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society." Please let Judy Holmes know if you are coming at mickey.holmes@att.net or 314-355-1125.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS LECTURE SERIES

This series is presented by the Tuesday Women's Association of Ethical Society and AAUW in the upper auditorium of the Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Rd., St. Louis 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 stay to discuss the topic. In case of inclement weather, you may call 314-991-0955, ext. 224.

January 8, 2019: A Specter Haunting Europe: Relative Deprivatoin and the Resurgence of Far-Right Extremism in Western Democracies, Speaker Dr. Joyce Marie Mushaben

Joyce Marie Mushaben is a Curators' Professor of Comparative Politics at UMSL. She is the author of many books and is the recipient of many awards. She will explore the causes of the resurgent ethno-nationalism across EU states. She will also discuss forces driving "white nationalist" groups in the US, underscoring several curious gender twists.

ADELANTE BOOK GROUP

The Adelante Book Group will meet at 1:30 pm at Barnes & Noble on Clarkson in Chesterfield on January 24. Grace Poertner will review *Mankiller—A Chief and Her People* (autobiography) by Wilma Mankiller and Michael Wallace.

CALENDAR

January 7—Branch Board Meeting

January 8—Tuesday Afternoon Book Group

January 12—Legislative Retreat

January 21—Afternoon at the Movies

January 28—Game Day

March 23—Spring Fling

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