

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



## Ferguson-Florissant (MO) Branch

Wilzetta Bell and  
Pam Meyers  
Co-Presidents  
Volume 54

Shirley Breeze  
Program Vice President  
April 2019

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

### BOARD MEETING

The branch board will meet on April 1 at 11:30 at McAlisters in Florissant. The finance/budget committee will meet after the board meeting adjourns. Those women should plan to stay.

### MARCH BRANCH MEETING

March meeting was held on March 18. It was the annual business meeting and included approving the minutes from last year's business meeting and a summary of the year's financial activity by Finance Officer Joyce Wolf.

Shirley Breeze reported on the nominating committee. The officers to be elected are the Co-Membership Vice Presidents and the Finance Officer. The proposed slate is Carolyn Herkstroeter and Carolynn Henning for membership and Joyce Wolf for finance. The slate was approved by those in attendance and those women were duly elected. Installation will be at the May luncheon.

Co-President Pam Meyers announced that the Honorable Rita Days has agreed to be the speaker at the May Luncheon.

### APRIL BRANCH MEETING

#### Trouble at Home

Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to control another. It can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological and can happen to anyone regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, religion, or other.

The topic of domestic violence will be addressed at the **April 22** branch meeting. The presentation will be given by branch member Dr. Gloria Johnson, who has worked in the area for decades and has knowledge of its ramifications and how it affects individuals.

The branch meeting will be Monday, April 22, 2019, at 7:00 pm in the Educational Building of Immanuel UCC, 211 Church Street in Ferguson.

### PRESIDENTS' LETTER by Pamela Meyers

Hello Everyone.

The tulips, crocuses are spreading their colors, and the songbirds are chirping in the morning. This month we need to focus on the Fair Pay Act and the advancing of the fair pay laws. This is central

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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to AAUWs pay equity campaign, along with working with employers to improve practices and help train 10 million women in salary negotiations through our Work Smart initiative.

April will be a busy month for our Branch and the following event are:

- 04/04/2019 Board meeting at McCalisters, Florissant, MO 11:30 am
- 04/09/2019 International Relations Series, The Ethical Society and AAUW will present the speaker Dr. Harvey R. Fields, Jr. who is the Assistant Dean of Student Success at Washington University. The topic is: The Intersection of Religion and Politics in International Setting.
- 04/11/2019 The Rally for the E.R.A., Jefferson City  
Keynote Speaker: Kamala Lopez, Executive Director of the film: EQUAL MEANS EQUAL. 9:30 am, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor of the Rotunda
- 04/16/2019 Equity Action/Rally Day, Jefferson City, MO 9:30-3:30
- 04/22/2019 Branch Meeting: Speaker is Dr. Gloria Johnson. Topic is I Got Flowers Today.

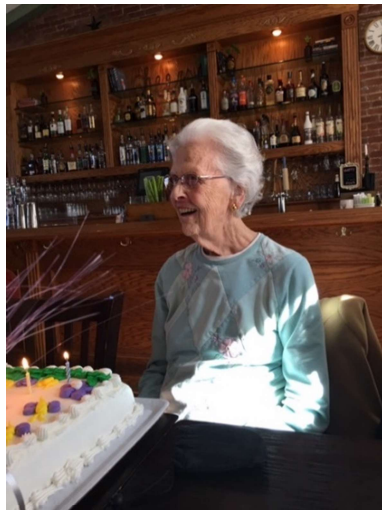
Birthday Wishes

Cathie Lehr April 23, 2019

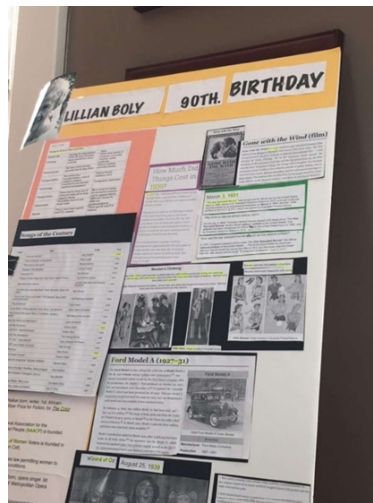
**A SPECIAL CELEBRATION**

A party was held on February 26 at Hendels to celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of Lillian Boly. A large number of members met in the Wine Room for lunch, cake, and a program honoring Lillian's long and very active life. The program was developed and presented by Pam Meyers and Wilzetta Bell. First, a detailed account of Lillian's life and career was presented, followed by examples of prices of basic goods at various times during her life.

Thanks are due to Pam, Wilzetta, and Joyce Bluett for planning the party, and Joyce Bluett for the photographs.



Lillian at her party



Poster celebrating her life



Virginia and Carolyn with Lillian

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**MAY LUNCHEON**

The May Luncheon will be held at Catering to You at 12 Noon on Saturday, May 18. The Honorable Rita Days, former State Legislator and former St. Louis County Director of Elections, will be the guest speaker. The cost is \$22.00 and reservations are required. (Deadline for reservations is May 15.) Mark your calendar now.

**PUBIC POLICY by Karen Francis**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a comprehensive civil rights law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. It covers all students and staff in any educational institution in education or program that receives federal funding including local school districts, colleges and universities, for-profit schools, career and technical educational agencies, libraries and museums. Title IX isn't just about sports—its about discrimination in salaries as well as sexual harassment and sexual violence. Right now Title IX is under attack at the federal and state levels.

In *AAUWs 2017-2019 Public Policy Priorities*, Biennial Action Priorities, it is stated “to support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity, AAUW advocates for vigorous enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights pertaining to education.”

At the federal level, the Department of Education, under the leadership of Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos, is working to systematically Title IX protections, and the plan is to make sweeping changes to Title IX's regulations, which would have significant implications for student civil rights and for federal enforcement of the law. AAUW is opposed to these changes.

At the state level, AAUW MO is opposed to Missouri Senate Bill 259 and House Bill 573 that would drastically tilt the scales in favor of the respondents—the alleged perpetrator-- and hurt the victim even more. AAUW advocates for protecting and strengthening Title IX.

**LAF SUPPORTED CASE AT THE SUPREME COURT**

AAUW through the Legal Advocacy Fund has supported the equal pay case of Aline Rizo who sued the Fresno Board of Education because of gender discrimination in pay that she experienced. The case has been in various courts for years. She had won in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, but the Superintendent of Schools petitioned the U.S. Supreme Court. On Feb. 25, 2019, The Supreme Court vacated the verdict and remanded the case to the Ninth Circuit. The reason was that the prior decision included the vote of a judge who voted his opinion but died before the decision was issued by the court.

For a more detailed account of this, go to AAUW.org and find the report under LAF Express (Special Rizo Edition—March 2019).

**TIME TO RENEW MEMBERSHIP**

Membership renewal time is here. The deadline for renewing is June 30, 2019. Those who are established members can send their dues check to Joyce Wolf. Dues are \$79--\$59 national dues, \$10 state and \$10 branch.

**BRANCH COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Mary Ellen Starr announced that the next Community Service activity will be attending the program at the Ferguson Library on May 25, probably in the afternoon. More details to follow.

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**WORK SMART BOOKMARKS**

Bookmarks with information about how to take the Work Smart survey have been printed and are available from Carolynn Henning or Shirley Breeze. You can distribute them to friends, family, and others to promote this important program.

**SPRING FLING**

The annual IBC Spring Fling was held March 23 at the Highlands in Forest Park. Besides the luncheon, the event included a raffle of Treasure Chests donated by the branches. Organizers were pleased that 18 Treasure Chests were given, rather than the expected 12-13.

Several NCCWSTL students attended and shared their experiences at the conference. Debra McWard took the opportunity to explain the young women's impressive resumes.

This year's Barbara Lackritz Award was presented by Nancy Hutchens, Chris Nobbe, and Lynne Roney. The Honoree was Marsha Koch of Kirkwood-Webster Groves and Ballwin-Chesterfield.

The Treasure Chests this branch contributed to Spring Fling were created thanks to Carolynn Henning, who purchased and assembled the chests, Joyce Bluett who filled them, Joyce Wolf who bought the gift cards, and several members who gave other items for the chests. Members who donated items included Carolynn Henning, Lovene Hartman, Lillian Boly, Joyce Bluett, Wilzetta Bell, Shirley Breeze, and Pat Kelemen. Thank you to everyone.



Barbara Lackritz recipient Marsha Koch



Joyce Bluett, Lisa Taylor, and Wilzetta Bell



Pam Meyers, Wilzetta Bell, Pat Kelemen, Shirley Breeze, Tommie Turner, Lillian Boly, Joyce Bluett, Lisa Taylor (clockwise from lower left) --photos from Pam Meyers

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**TEA TIME TRIVIA**

The St. Charles Branch will hold its Tea Time Trivia fund raiser on Saturday, April 27, 2019. This event will fund scholarship(s) awarded to St. Charles County High School Senior Women. The attached flyer provides details and includes a sign-up form.

**STATE MEETING MAY 4**

The annual state conference, Work Smart, Closing the Gender Pay Gap One Click at a Time, will be May 3-4, 2019 at the Holiday Inn Executive Center in Columbia, MO. The featured speakers will be Kim Churches, CEO AAUW and Wendy Doyle, CEO Women's Foundation Kansas City. The topic will be the AAUW KS/MO Work Smart Initiative.

A flyer detailing the event and providing registration form and information about deadlines is included with this newsletter. **Deadlines for Early Bird registration and hotel reservations are both April 15.**

**TUESDAY AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP**

The Tuesday Afternoon Book Group will meet April 9 at **12 noon** at the home of Mary Ellen Starr. Mary Ellen will review *Off the Sidelines* by Kristan Gillibrand.

All branch members are welcome to attend. We would love to have new members, regular or occasional. If you are coming, notify Mary Ellen and bring a sandwich.

**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.

The topic of the April 9, 2019 program is The Intersection of Religion and Politics in an International Setting. The lecture will be presented by Dr. Harvey R. Fields, Jr. He is the Assistant Dean of Student Success at Washington University.

**MEET AND EAT LUNCH GROUP**

The Meet and Eat Lunch Group will meet on April 16 at Mango Peruvian Cuisine, 1001 Washington Ave., St. Louis, 63101, 314-621-9993. RSVP to Kay Meyer at 314-962-7487 or [kicmeyer51@gmail.com](mailto:kicmeyer51@gmail.com).

**ADELANTE BOOK GROUP**

The Adelante Book Group will meet at Barnes & Noble on Clarkson Road in Chesterfield at 1:30 on April 25. Julie Triplett will discuss *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate.

**CALENDAR**

**April 1—Branch board meeting**

**April 9—Tuesday Afternoon Book Group**

April 9—International Relations Lecture Series

April 16—Meet and Eat Lunch Group

**April 22—Branch Meeting**

April 25—Adelante Book Group

April 27—Tea Time Trivia

May 4—State meeting

**May 18—May Luncheon**

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