

*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 56

Shirley Breeze
Program Vice President
May 2021

Carolyn Herkstroeter and
Mable Davis Membership
Co- Vice Presidents
Pat Kelemen, Editor

BOARD MEETING

The board will meet on May 3 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

APRIL BRANCH MEETING

The April meeting via Zoom featured two speakers. Pam Kulp, member of the St. Charles and Ballwin-Chesterfield branches, serves on the state board's Grants and Incentives board. She spoke at length about funds that are available for branch activities through the Peg Witt fund and AAUW MO reserve fund. Ferguson-Florissant member spoke about the plans for the Diversity/Inclusion committee for the next year or so. She pointed out that any member is welcome to join by contacting her.

Member Mable Davis was elected to serve as Membership Co-Vice President along side Carolyn Herkstroeter.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER by Pam Meyers

I hope everyone will be able to attend our spring luncheon in person this year. The Board discussed this event with the Catering to You Banquet Hall managers and they explained that the meal will be served by the staff and only four people can sit at a table. Hopefully now everyone should have received their vaccine for COVID. If possible I will see if this event can be sent by zoom if some of our members are still not comfortable being out in a social environment.

The speaker this year will be Dr. Gena Gunn McClendon who is the director of the Voter Access and Engagement, and the Financial Capability and Asset Building initiatives. Her policy work focuses on issues related to voter suppression and civic participation of low-and moderate-income households and marginalized populations. She is from The Brown School Center for Social Development at Washington University in St. Louis.

Being a guest.

MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE MAY LUNCHEON

The May Luncheon will be held on Saturday, May 15 from 12 noon until 3:00 pm at Catering to You, 12775 Florissant Road in Florissant.

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The cost is \$25 per person. Checks can be mailed to Joyce Wolf or Pam Meyers before May 12. Payments at the door can be either cash or check; no credit cards can be accepted. Make checks payable to Ferguson-Florissant AAUW.

The Ferguson Florissant AAUW Spring Luncheon Menu

Saturday, May 15, 2021

The Catering To You Cooks and the Ferguson Florissant AAUW Planning Committee created this delicious lunch time meal for this year and hope everyone will agree it sounds delicious. The meal will only cost \$25.00 and it comes with:

Coffee or Ice Tea
Classic Toss Salad w/ The House Dressing
Fettuccine Alfredo
Sliced Virginia Ham
Herb Baked Chicken Breast
Sweet Potato
Green Beans
Dinner Roll
Dessert - Joyce Bluett will surprise us.

Remember to send your check payment to:
Joyce Wolf or Pamela Meyers before 5/12/2021.
Thank you and hope you will be able to attend.

DIVERSITY/PUBLIC POLICY

Support the Healthy Families Act

When I read an article from AAUW, I was very surprised to read that one third of the workforce do not have access to paid sick days. We have a tendency to think this is an automatic benefit, not true.

AAUW is a strong advocate for policies that promote work-life balance and economic security, which include sick days. When you read or hear about supporting the Healthy Families Act, please consider supporting the Act. The Healthy Families Act provide full-time employees the right to earn up to seven job protected paid sick days a year. Employees could use these sick days for their own medical needs, to provide care for a sick family member, or to recover from assistance related to an incident of domestic violence.

The United States does not guarantee paid annual leave. Without the work balance policies, the responsibilities of work and family can be difficult or employees (especially women), negatively impact productivity, making recovery from major illnesses or injuries difficult and inhibit the healthy development of children. Without paid sick days, a decision to stay home to care for a sick child or family member could seriously jeopardize their job and family income.

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Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Taylor
DEI/PP Chair

TIME TO RENEW YOUR DUES

The dues for the coming year are \$82. \$62 goes to National, \$10 goes to State, and \$10 goes to our branch. This is an increase of \$3 to National from last year. I will be e-mailing invoices to all of the members in May. You may pay online directly to National through the invoice. National will then send us \$10 and State \$10. You may also pay by mailing me a check made out to Ferguson Florissant AAUW. My address is listed in the Directory. I will then pay National and they will pay State. You may also pay me with a check made out to Ferguson Florissant AAUW at the Spring Luncheon. The new year starts July 1, 2021 and ends June 30, 2022.

--Joyce Wolf
Treasurer

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- Refinement and added specificity regarding AAUW's commitment to addressing systemic racism
- Refinement of our commitment to equitable access to higher education for all
- Emphasis on the importance of high quality data collection

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AAUW LEGACY CIRCLE—Sue Barley, Liaison

Sue Shineman will be welcomed into the Legacy Circle at the state meeting. She will wear her pin for the first time. There have been no additional Legacy Circle members from Missouri so far in 2020-2021.

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April 22	Webinar on Diversity and Inclusion
April 22	Earth Day
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