

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



Pam Meyers
President

Shirley Breeze
Program Vice President

Carolyn Herkstroeter
Membership Vice President

Volume 59

December 2021

Pat Kelemen, Editor

Board Meeting

Next Board meeting is January 3rd at 11:30 at Pasta House, 11202 W Florissant Avenue

President's Letter by Pam Meyers, Ferguson Florissant AAUW President

Season's Greetings!

It is hard to believe that 2021 is quickly coming to an end and the new year 2022 will soon be here. This past year our branch was able to have Zoom and in-person meetings, and hopefully we can continue. There will be many events, projects as well as setting goals for our branch in the year 2022.

I recommend that everyone go to the AAUW website (www.aauw.org) and see what National's agendas are. These are a few of the programs: Public Policy, DEI—Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Leadership, Education, Title IX, Family Leave Act, Voting Rights, Equal Pay Focus and the elimination of salary history in the hiring process, STEM, and Incentive Grants and Fundraising Programs for scholarships.

Please check the Calendar section and add these dates to your calendar for all the wonderful upcoming events.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and Public Policy by Lisa Taylor

December 8, 2021

On Wednesday, November 17, 2021 the DEI and Public Policy Committee met (via Zoom) for our first meeting in the year 2021. All of the members were present and we had a very good meeting.

We shared why we chose to serve on the committee, established future meeting dates, topics we would like to present in our newsletter and presentation at our meetings. We used some of the information from the diversity tool kit to support AAUW's interpretation of commonly used terminology related to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

I wanted to share this information with our branch to let you know we are active in our efforts to uphold AAUW's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. And we are finding ways to heighten awareness in public policy topics. Please join us for our meetings in 2022 to hear presentations on elections (Shirley Breeze), issues related to women-pay equity (Pam Meyers) and judges (Judy Holmes).

Happy Holidays to You and Yours!

Lisa L. Taylor

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Branch Holiday Celebration

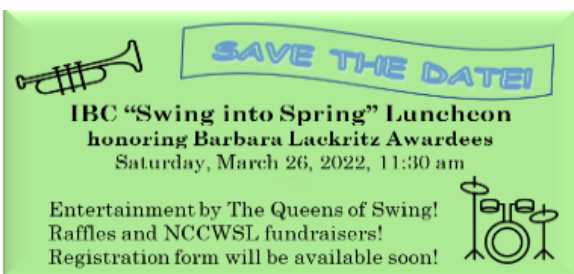
Ferguson-Florissant AAUW Holiday Festivities, **this Sunday**, December 12, 2021, 2 to 4 pm. First Presbyterian Church Lounge, 401 Darst, Ferguson.

Holiday Music with Brian Casserly, Trombone, and Tom Maloney, Guitar. All are welcome!

Thank you to Lovene Hartman and Shirley Breeze for organizing this event and to Joyce Bluett, Pam Meyers and Patty Murray for providing refreshments. See you there!

Spring Fling Event

Saturday, March 26, 2022 at *Catering To You*, an in-person event, at 11:30 am.



The Queens of Swing are a jazz group that performs music from WWII. Women took over jazz music during those years because men were at war.

Don't miss this exciting event!

Tuesday Book Group — November 2021

The group read *Lady Clementine* by Marie Benedict in November. Myra Talkington hosted and shared excerpts from a biography of Clementine Churchill (pronounced "ClemenTEEN") written by her daughter. Mrs. Churchill was an avid and trusted advisor to her husband, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

The following article about Mrs. Churchill appeared in *Letters of Note* on May 14, 2012.

Ought women not to be abolished altogether?

On March 28th of 1912, an eminent bacteriologist named Almroth Wright wrote a lengthy, pompous letter to *The Times* in which he argued that women should not be allowed to vote, and in fact should be kept away from politics altogether, due to their supposed psychological and physiological deficiencies. Unsurprisingly his opinion generated many responses, the best of which was the following witty letter from "One of the Doomed," printed in the paper two days later. Unbeknownst to all, its sender, "C.S.C.," was 26-year-old Clementine Churchill.

March 30th, 1912

To the Editor of The Times.

Sir,

After reading Sir Almroth Wright's able and weighty exposition of women as he knows them the question seems no longer to be "Should women have votes?" but "Ought women not to be abolished altogether?"

I have been so much impressed by Sir Almroth Wright's disquisition, backed as it is by so much scientific and personal experience, that I have come to the conclusion that women should be put a stop to.

Contact the Ferguson-Florissant AAUW Branch

Pam Meyers 314-921-7109 wpemeyers@gmail.com or Shirley Breeze 314-831-5359 sbreeze@mindspring.com

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(Clementine Churchill, continued)

We learn from him that in their youth they are unbalanced, that from time to time they suffer from unreasonableness and hypersensitiveness, and that their presence is distracting and irritating to men in their daily lives and pursuits. If they take up a profession, the indelicacy of their minds makes them undesirable partners for their male colleagues. Later on in life they are subject to grave and long-continued mental disorders, and, if not quite insane, many of them have to be shut up.

Now this being so, how much happier and better would the world not be if only it could be purged of women? It is here that we look to the great scientists. Is the case really hopeless? Women no doubt have had their uses in the past, else how could this detestable tribe have been tolerated till now? But is it quite certain that they will be indispensable in the future? Cannot science give us some assurance, or at least some ground of hope, that we are on the eve of the greatest discovery of all—i.e., how to maintain a race of males by purely scientific means?

And may we not look to Sir Almroth Wright to crown his many achievements by delivering mankind from the parasitic, demented, and immoral species which has infested the world for so long?

Yours obediently,

C.S.C.

("One of the Doomed")

<https://lettersofnote.com/2012/05/14/ought-women-not-to-be-abolished-altogether/>

AAUW Celebrating 140 Years Program

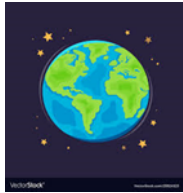
The recording is now available to view on YouTube if you were unable to watch the original broadcast. The easiest way to find the video is to visit www.youtube.com and type "AAUW 140th Anniversary Celebration Event" in the search box at the top of the page.



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International Relations Lecture Series



2022 International Relations Lecture Series

Ethical Society of St. Louis
9001 Clayton Road
St. Louis, MO 63117

Each meeting will begin promptly at 10:45 the 2nd Tuesday of the month, January through 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.

January 11, 2022

**Feeding the Dragon: US Choices and Habits that Contribute
to the Growth of Chinese Power**

Speaker: Professor Julie Blase



Julie Blase, PhD, is a Professor of Political Science at Principia College, where she is responsible for International Relations courses and focuses on US foreign policy, globalization, and contemporary security. Please join us to hear some provocative ideas about the future of US-China relations from Professor Julie Blasé. The growth of Chinese power and influence has been assisted by the unintended outcomes of US choices. Do Americans want to limit Chinese power enough to change our own approach to economics, leadership, and security?

Coordinator: Susie Teachers

Assistant Coordinator: Kay Meyer

February 8, 2022

Climate Change

Speaker: Carl Bender PhD

Professor of Physics, Washington University, St. Louis



Carl M. Bender is the Konneker Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Physics at Washington University in St. Louis. Find out the science behind the Climate Change from Professor Bender. By far, the most serious problem that the earth's population faces is that of climate change. Scientists have been well aware of this problem for more than a century but in recent years there have been major advances in measurement and prediction. The latest comprehensive studies are contained in the Sixth Assessment Report of the U. N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that was published recently in August 2021. This talk will summarize some of the recent findings and predictions.

Coordinator: Joan Walker

Assistant Coordinator: Pamela Meyers

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International Relations Lecture Series continued

March 8, 2022

**Welcoming Refugees to St. Louis and a Glimpse at the
World Refugee Situation**

Speaker: Ariel Burgess, MSW; V.P. of Client Services at the
International Institute of St. Louis



Ms. Burgess brings over 20 years of experience and practical knowledge to the field of refugee resettlement, having first started in the field when Bosnians were coming to the U.S. and St. Louis. To date, Ms. Burgess and the Institute have been instrumental in bringing Afghans who were evacuated in 2021 to St. Louis. She will give us a glimpse of the worldwide refugee situation and then focus on refugees already in St. Louis, expected refugee arrivals, and how the community can support refugee resettlement.

Coordinator: Sue Williams

Assistant Coordinator: Nancy Hutchins

April 12, 2022

**The Waxing and Waning of Democracy Around the
World**

Speaker: Olga Bezhanova, Associate Professor at Southern Illinois
University, Edwardsville



Olga Bezhanova is an Associate Professor of Spanish Literature and Chair of the Dept. of Foreign Languages and Literature at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville. Her book *Growing Up in an Inhospitable World: Female Bildungsroman in Spain* was awarded the Victoria Urbano Prize for the Best Critical Monograph.

After the fall of the USSR in 1991 and the subsequent efforts of countries in Eastern Europe and the Global South to establish democratic regimes, there was a widespread feeling that humanity had achieved what Francis Fukuyama termed “the end of history” and accepted the primacy of representative democracy over other types of political systems. Since then, however, we have seen the initial enthusiasm for democracy weaken in Latin America and countries of Central and Eastern Europe. At the same time, well-established democracies of the West have experienced a series of crises that cast doubt over their capacity to preserve fully democratic systems of government. What is the future of democracy? Will it renew itself in the coming years or are we to prepare for continued weakening of democratic institutions everywhere?

Coordinator: Sharon Poe

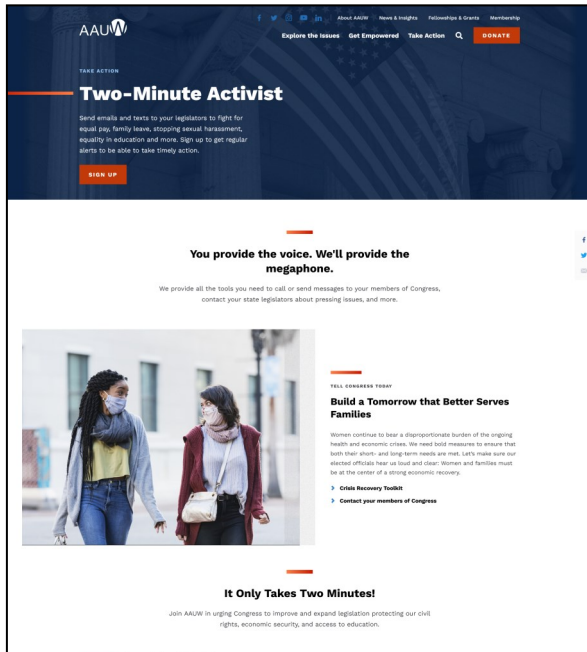
Further Information: Hot water and coffee will be provided but no snacks. MASKS REQUIRED.

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Two-Minute Activist



Visit

<https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>

"You provide the voice.

We'll provide the megaphone.

We provide all the tools you need to call or send messages to your members of Congress, contact your state legislators about pressing issues, and more. "

**Workplace & Economic Equity
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Civil Rights**

"You're Their Boss ...

As a voter, you hold an incredible amount of power over your elected officials. You're their boss and they have to take your opinions into account. When a whole bunch of constituents focus their voices collectively on an issue, we can really shape the conversation. That's the power of AAUW's Two-Minute Activist Network — we'll notify you when your voice is needed the most and help you harness your power to make change."

*Kate Nielson, AAUW Senior Director of Public Policy,
Legal Advocacy & Research*

Calendar

December 12	Branch Holiday Festivities, 2-4 pm, First Presbyterian Church, Ferguson
December 31	Deadline for 2021 Donations to AAUW Fund
January 3, 2022	Branch Board Meeting, 11:30, Pasta House in Florissant
January 22	AAUW MO State Board Meeting
March	Women's History Month
March 26	SPRING FLING at Catering To You
April-May	AAUW National Elections
April 30	AAUW MO State Board Meeting
May	AAUW MO State Meeting
May 14	Ferguson-Florissant Luncheon at Catering To You

12/8/2021 plm

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