

*"AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research"*

**Who we are...**

The Saint Louis Branch of AAUW supports the broad goals and actions of AAUW by holding public outreach events, engaging in political action, collaborating with local organizations and educational institutions regarding AAUW topics, and by supporting area young women and girls directly. We promote a "You Can Do It" approach. We are one of six branches in the Saint Louis, MO, area that comprise the AAUW Metro Saint Louis Interbranch Council (IBC).

**Branch Officers, 2015-2016**

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**Sally McGowan**  
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**Fran Irwin**  
 Director at Large, IBC

**Web Sites:**

**Branch Web Site:**  
<http://stlouis-mo.aauw.net>

**IBC Web Site:**  
<http://stlouis-ibc.aauw.net>

**State Web Site:**  
[www.aauwmo.org](http://www.aauwmo.org)

**National Web Site:**  
[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

**ST LOUIS BRANCH UPDATES:**

As reported in the last newsletter, Sue Barley offered her lovely condo for our holiday get together. This was held on December 5th. Sue had many delicious dishes: egg-vegetable breakfast bake, sausage-egg bake, cheesy sausage grits, apricot bars, bagels and cream cheese, another dessert bar, grapes, all accompanied by orange juice, coffee and iced tea. We started out at the table where we ate and introduced ourselves and our backgrounds. We were so comfortable that we stayed put and never left the coziness of the dining room. New members, **Lynn Voss** and **Laura Rand Orthwein, Jr.**, told us about themselves, their projects, and their interests. We talked so much that we didn't cover some announcements about upcoming events – so these are presented in this newsletter. Please read on. We do want you to be included in AAUW-related events.



Also, as reported in the last newsletter, in lieu of a branch activity before December, we encouraged members to attend the AAUW St. Louis Metro Interbranch Council (IBC) and AAUW of Missouri's Fall Focus on October 31<sup>st</sup> at the Whitmoor Country Club in Weldon Spring, just across the Missouri River. This was a successful educational program, preceded by the state board meeting and lunch for those who chose to join us. We were impressed by Mark Hopkins, chief strategy officer for AAUW, who told us a great story around the upcoming relocation of the national office, where our money goes when we donate to the AAUW Fund, and two new programs, AAUW Start Smart and AAUW Work Smart. Please refer to your state newsletter, *Missouri in Motion*, emailed (or mailed) to you on or about November 13, 2015. Since I am the new state newsletter editor, I encourage you to read it. 😊

**BE PREPARED** for our next event. We have set Saturday, February 27, 2016, 10 AM till noon, for a **focus on legislative actions** at Grace United Methodist Church at the corner of Waterman and Skinker (about 2 blocks north of the Washington University campus; entry from Waterman). We are planning a three-person panel, including State Sen. **Joe Keaveny**, MO District 4, and City of St. Louis Alderwoman **Lyda Krewson**, Ward 28. US Sen. **Claire McCaskill** has been invited. The topics to be discussed are sexual assault (national legislation), right to work (state legislation), and minimum wage (City of St. Louis). Additional information or changes will be sent out prior to the event, but please note this on your calendar. Church parking lot on Skinker one block north of the church.



WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT AAUW - "From its formation in 1881 as the Association of Collegiate Alumnae to this moment, the AAUW has been a major force in the American women's movement. As the world has changed, so has it."  
 -Anne Firor Scott, author of *Natural Allies: Women's Associations in American History*

**Happy November Birthday!**  
29 – Sally McGowan

**Happy February Birthday!**  
11 – Jan Scott  
26 – Mary Bruemmer

**Happy March Birthday!**  
1 – Sheila Bassoppo-Moyo

If I missed your birthday, either it wasn't on your membership application or I didn't receive an application. Sorry, happy belated birthday.

**New member Lennisha Pinckney**, wasn't with us very long before she was able to move back home to Atlanta, GA. She is planning to transfer her membership to a branch in her area. Good luck, Lennisha, with your new situation!

Get-well wishes to **Mary Bruemmer** who took a fall and hasn't been feeling very well of late. Be good to yourself, Mary, and rest as much as you can. You do have a busy life!

As a delegate, **Jan Scott** (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) attended the Vision2020: Equality in Sight 2015 congress in Nashville, TN, in October. Vision2020®, is a national coalition of organizations and individuals working together to achieve economic, political, and social equality for women by the year 2020, the centennial of women winning the vote.



Our newest member, **Lynn Voss**, MA, CPP, is one of two appointed representatives for AAUW's college-university partner, the University of Missouri-St. Louis. She is the assistant director of UMSL's Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life. As an undergraduate and shortly thereafter, Lynn worked in private industry but also with the US Department of State, Office of Intergovernmental and Legislative Affairs as a staff assistant where she developed a passion for foreign policy issues and a belief in candidates who focus on practical solutions to problems.

During her 19 years at UMSL, Lynn has been administrator for UMSL's Anthropology Department and manager of Coordination Services within UMSL's School of Professional and Continuing Studies. Lynn also helped facilitate workshops and conferences for UMSL's Center for Ethics in Public Life and the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life, along with a number of other on-campus units and external government organizations. Lynn received her B.S. at

Missouri State University in Springfield, MO, and her M.A. at the University of Cincinnati where she received a full scholarship and taught economic geography as a graduate research assistant. She also earned a Certification in Program Planning (CPP) in 2006 and furthered her language education in French at Alliance Française de Saint Louis.

Lynn wanted us to know that the SSI is sponsoring a workshop to equip candidates and their supporters for success on January 26 & 28: Pipeline to Local Office. It will be held in Woods Hall, Room 101, UMSL, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The cost is \$70 (\$85 after Jan 16). For more information or to register, call 314-516-4727 or visit them on line at [www.umsl.edu/SueShear](http://www.umsl.edu/SueShear). If you or anyone you know might be interested in developing leadership skills, plan to attend.

If something memorable happened in your life, or if you just want to say hi, send me a message to put in the next newsletter ([davis-mcdonald@juno.com](mailto:davis-mcdonald@juno.com)) or call me at 636-227-0511.

### INTERBRANCH COUNCIL UPDATES

**Next meeting:** The next AAUW Metro St Louis IBC meeting will be on Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, at 7 PM in the small meeting room at the Thornhill Branch Library off Fee Fee Road in Creve Coeur. Members of IBC are the president, program vice president, membership vice president, and a member at large from each branch. All members are welcome to attend.

**Bookmarks:** The very classy AAUW bookmarks that were printed last spring for IBC were handed out to the branches to distribute in public locations, mainly libraries. Another 3,000 were printed recently; so if you know of a good place to put them (with permission), please speak up. We can give you a supply to display or hand out.

### SPRING FLING

Every year the branches in the metropolitan St. Louis area hold an event for all members. Mark your calendar now for the 2016 Spring Fling, to be held March 12 at The Highlands in Forest Park! This lovely annual luncheon is an opportunity for AAUW members from all area branches to get together and enjoy a special program. It's the only fund-raising activity for IBC. Branches donate raffle baskets to be auctioned at the luncheon. (Baskets should have a value of at least \$35. Suggestions: entertainment items of books, movies, games, music, wine, candy, a kids or pets basket, gift cards.)



The flyer is attached with more information, including meal choices and cost. Please fill it out, send it to me, and join us for a good time.

## DOWNTOWN LUNCH GROUP

Here are the places to be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 11:45 AM. Please join us – we have lots of good conversation. For reservations contact Kay Meyer at 314- 962-7487 or [kicmeyer@yahoo.com](mailto:kicmeyer@yahoo.com).



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|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dec 15 | The Restaurant at the Cheshire, 7036 Clayton Ave., St. Louis, 314-932-7818 |
| Jan 19 | TBD                                                                        |

## AAUW ¡ADELANTE! BOOK GROUP

Book clubs are a fun, social way to open a dialogue on women, diversity, and change. Many AAUW members share a love of reading; and that love, partnered with a desire to seek out books written from diverse perspectives, launched a component of AAUW's diversity outreach program in 1996 — AAUW's ¡Adelante! Book-of-the-Month Club. The St. Louis IBC book group meets September through May.



Where: Barnes & Noble, Chesterfield Oaks Shopping Center, 1600 Clarkson Rd.

When: 1:30 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month.

Contact: Teri Brecht, [tebrecht@yahoo.com](mailto:tebrecht@yahoo.com). AAUW members from all St. Louis area branches are welcome.

Upcoming books:

- Jan 27 - *Disgruntled: A Novel*, by Asali Solomon, 2001–02  
AAUW American Fellow. Reviewer: Deb McWard
- Feb 25 - *Never Home*, by Laird Hunt. Reviewer: Julie Triplett
- Mar 24 - *The Invention of Wings*, by Sue Monk Kidd.  
Reviewer: Karen Francis
- Apr 28 - *Go Set a Watchman*, by Harper Lee. Reviewer:  
Linda Roberson
- May 26 - *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail*, by Cheryl Strayed. Reviewer: Janice Rumpfelt
- Sept 22 - *Charity and Sylvia: A Same-Sex Marriage in Early America*, by Rachel Hope Cleve, OR *A Tale for the Time Being*, by Ruth Ozeki. Reviewer: Betty Takahashi

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS LECTURE SERIES

AAUW joins with the Ethical Society's Tuesday Women's Association to present four stimulating lectures featuring topics concerning international relations. The lectures are presented at the Ethical Society, 9001 Clayton Road, 63117, on the 2nd Tuesday of January, February, March, and April from 10:45-11:45 AM in the upper auditorium. There is no fee, but contributions are greatly appreciated. Those who wish may bring a brown-bag lunch and eat with the speaker and others in attendance after the lecture. Park in the back

and enter from either door (lower level) and take the elevator. In case of inclement weather, you may call 314-991-0955, ext. 224. The topics for 2016 are as follows:

Jan 12 – **Politics and Problems of the World's Water Resources** – *Speaker: Dr. Robert Criss, MS, PhD, Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Washington University of St. Louis.* Dr. Criss worked as a geologist



with the US Geological Survey. He is the author of *Principles of Stable Isotope Distribution* (Oxford University Press, 1999). His published papers and editorial commentary encompass many disciplines and have appeared in more than 40 different scientific journals, several government series, numerous books, and four newspapers. Touching on his experience, Dr. Criss will discuss the water crisis in Mexico, China, and the US. Coordinator: Susan Teicher. Assistant coordinator: Kay Meyer

Feb 9 – **The Climate Crisis – Status post-Paris** – *Speaker: Ken Denson, climate change activist, St. Louis.* Ken Denson is a



life-long environmentalist, with a heavy focus in recent years on understanding the causes and solutions to the climate crisis; he has resided in the St. Louis area since 1980. Following his retirement in 2014 from a technical career, initially in academic, scientific, research support and then in information technology, Ken has increased his volunteer efforts with several organizations with local to international reach that are pressing for action to address the climate crisis. His educational background is in chemistry and analytical chemistry. This presentation will provide an overview of the climate crisis and examine where we are in following the UN Climate Conference held in Paris December 2015. Coordinator: Julie Triplett Assistant coordinator: Barbara Jeffries

Mar 8 - **Microeconomics: How Incentives Drive Our Behavior** – *Speaker: John Horn, senior lecturer in economics, Olin Business School, Washington University of St. Louis.* Microeconomics is the study of how



individuals – consumers, companies, government agencies, workers, managers – make decisions. Collectively, these millions of decisions lead to the outcomes we observe in the economy. By understanding why individuals behave the way they do, economics can help us think about what would change if we changed the laws or policies or norms that govern how we interact. This session will give an overview of microeconomic principles and allow for the opportunity to discuss how this can be used to explain specific outcomes in the economy. Coordinator: Connie Gray Assistant coordinator: Charleen Walsh

Apr 12 – **A Global Perspective on Addressing Gun Violence** – *Speaker: Ryan D. Kulik, BA, MA, Political Science, BFA Theater Arts, managing partner RD Kulik and Associates,*





head editor for SeedSing.com. Ryan D. Kulik has spent over 20 years working as a lobbyist, public relations consultant, and policy advisor in regards to gun violence prevention. He specializes in taking controversial issues and creating new partnerships with the goal of implementing positive social change. Through SeedSing.com, Mr. Kulik has created a community of independent journalists who, without influence or bias, spotlight the politics and popular culture of the day. The United States has recently seen a spate of high profile shootings. With an eye toward this violence, Mr. Kulik is going to delve into the issue of how gun laws affect the overall well-being of our global society. Do other industrialized nations have the same public health crisis that the United States is experiencing? How have developing nations dealt with the culture of gun ownership, and what role does this play in their society's rates of violence and injury? The multi-media presentation will try to shed light on the question "Do guns make more, or less, Safe?" Coordinator: Usha Sathe Assistant coordinator: Nancy Hutchins

**AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP**

This is a joint group with the Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch. The group meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 4:00 PM at St. Louis Bread Company on Manchester in Kirkwood (or a place to be announced). Friends, family, and guests are always welcome to join the discussion. Contacts: Barbara Johnson, 314-962-3501, or Kay Meyer, 314-962-7487 or kicmeyer@yahoo.com. Here is the reading list for the next few months:



- Dec NO MEETING – Happy holidays!
- Jan 25 *The Passion of Artemisia*, by Susan Vreeland
- Feb 22 *The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest at the 1936 Berlin Olympics*, by Daniel James Brown
- Mar 28 *At the Water's Edge*, by Sara Gruen
- Apr 25 *When Men Betray*, by Webb Hubbell
- May 23 Planning Meeting
- June 27 *Go Set the Watchman*, by Harper Lee

**Missouri Women's Network**

**LEGISLATIVE RETREAT**

JANUARY 16, 2016

State Representative **Stephen Webber** will be the keynote speaker for the Annual Legislative Retreat on January 20, 2016. Rep. Webber, who is a candidate for the state senate, was the lead sponsor of the most viable pay equity bill in the last session of the Missouri Legislature.



Other presentations at the Retreat will include the issues of minimum wage, right-to-work, ethics, Medicaid expansion and others. Legislative priorities will be set, and procedures for lobbying for women's issues will be discussed also.

The location of the Retreat will be the second floor conference room at the Hy Vee Grocery, 405 E Nifong Blvd, in Columbia. It begins at 8:30 am and will be completed by 2:30 pm. A complimentary continental breakfast will be available upon arrival at 8:30 am; lunch on Saturday will be purchased at the Hy Vee Deli by each participant.

**Registration is required. To register, call 314-831-5359 or 573-449-8062, or e-mail [sbreeze@mindspring.com](mailto:sbreeze@mindspring.com) or [gbutler111@aol.com](mailto:gbutler111@aol.com). The Retreat is open to the public. Bring your progressive women friends.**

**Let's Get Ready! Equity Action Day!**

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

State Capitol Building, Jefferson City, Missouri

8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Legislative briefing, citizen lobbying, equity action day rally on the steps. Supporting organizations: AAUW of Missouri, Coalition of Labor Union Women, League of Women Voters, Missouri National Organization for Women (NOW), Missouri Women's Network, NARAL, National Council of Jewish Women, Planned Parenthood, Vision2020 Missouri, and The Missouri Women's Leadership Coalition. Please call 636-938-3958 or 314-223-4235 for more information.

**REGIONAL NEWS**

**JOIN THE EXCITEMENT!**

**MIDWEST TEN-STATE  
AAUW BIENNIAL  
CONFERENCE**



June 3-4, 2016 (noon Friday to Saturday late afternoon) at Great Wolf Lodge, Kansas City, Kansas. Nationally-known speakers, inspiring workshops, ongoing networking, AAUW Funds money-making opportunities, award-winning film, open forum, public policy events, Eleanor Roosevelt run/walk/sleep-in, recreation, shopping adventures, FUN, and



more!  
Room reservations being accepted: call 1-866-944-9653. Use block code 1606AAUW. Suite rooms

\$176.86 plus taxes and fees. Sleeps 6 people. For conference information call 314-831-5359 or 636-938-3958.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### BENEFITS:

#### Help AAUW and Save on Office Supplies at the Same Time

Did you know that AAUW members can now save up to 80 percent at Office Depot and Office Max, online or in stores? You also get free next-day delivery if you spend more than \$50. *Exclusive low printing costs.* (Print free card at <http://www.officediscounts.org/aauw.html>)



### CHARTING-THE-COURSE CAMPAIGN

All women deserve the chance to reach for their dreams. Since 1881, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) has made it our mission to remove the obstacles that stand in their way.



**“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”** –Eleanor Roosevelt

The story of women’s progress toward equality is a remarkable one, and AAUW has played an important role in every chapter. Together, we have worked tirelessly so that women and girls could gain more choices and opportunities, and we have made significant advances. But we’re not done yet.

Today, women make up the majority of college students and nearly half of the students in professional schools—but are still paid, on average, just 78 cents for every dollar men are paid. The 114th Congress has reached a new milestone with 104 elected women on Capitol Hill, and yet that record-breaking number is still less than 20 percent of the members of Congress. Nearly 8 million U.S. businesses are owned by women, but just 5 percent of Fortune 500 CEOs are women.

Although we have come so far, many daily injustices still threaten women’s success, safety, and accomplishment. We have much more work to do. And no other organization is better positioned than AAUW to chart the course to the next level of women’s achievement.

**In that spirit, AAUW is launching the Charting-the-Course campaign. This two-year effort will raise \$1 million to strengthen our infrastructure and make sure we are well prepared to meet the issues facing us today and into the future.**

**Because funds raised through the Charting-the-Course campaign are unrestricted, AAUW will be able to use them wherever the need is greatest—in particular, to bolster existing programs that empower women in our communities, schools, workplaces, and positions of leadership.**

**These funds will also give us the dexterity to act quickly and responsibly in the wake of any new challenges facing women and girls—and to create the research, programs, and advocacy initiatives needed to meet those challenges.**

**With members and branches throughout the country, a powerful advocacy presence in Washington, D.C., and in statehouses nationwide, and an outstanding research capability, AAUW is the voice for women’s empowerment in America today.**

And yet we know that the journey toward women’s equality is far from over. We invite you to join our Charting-the-Course campaign as we sail toward a brighter future for all women and girls.

If you are interested in helping this campaign succeed, contact [jepsenl@aauw.org](mailto:jepsenl@aauw.org) or 202-785-7705 for a pledge form. Sue Barley and I both have copies as well. Contributions can be made by check made payable to AAUW, credit card, or stocks and mutual funds. The gift can be made in one payment or in installments, to be completed by December 31, 2016.

### AAUW LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND – CASE UPDATE

*Kurz et al. v. Trustees of Indiana University et al.* Adopted 2015. Several former members of the Indiana University East (IUE) volleyball team filed suit against the school under Title IX, alleging that IUE hired a volleyball coach who the players say sexually harassed them. The players claim that IUE hired the coach despite knowing that he had a history of sexually harassing female athletes. The players also allege that they notified the school of the coach’s behavior and IUE refused to protect them. Further, the players claim that when the coach learned about the players’ complaint to IUE, he dismissed several of them from the team. The dismissed athletes not only lost the opportunity to play, they also lost their school scholarships.

### WASHINGTON UPDATE

#### AAUW Elects New National Student Advisory Council

The 2015-2016 National Student Advisory Council leaders were [announced](#) this week. Every year, ten outstanding collegiate leaders are elected from all over the country to serve on this board. In their dedication to social change and women’s equality, they not only organize advocacy projects on campus, but they also serve as peer leaders and are active in the planning of the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL).

#### AAUW Action Fund Capitol Hill Lobby Corps

In October Elizabeth Holden, Grassroots Advocacy manager, had the opportunity to meet new and veteran members of the AAUW Action Fund Capitol Hill Lobby Corps at their annual Open House. Each Thursday that Congress is in session, this dedicated group of volunteer advocates takes to Capitol Hill, helping to making AAUW a familiar and respected name among members of Congress and their staffs on both sides of the aisle.

Since its formation in 1975, Lobby Corps members have visited tens of thousands of congressional offices – and with the help of our Action Network, their impact is magnified because representatives are able to hear the voices of constituents from their own home states as well. Most recently, Lobby Corps members discussed the DC private school vouchers program with congressional staffers, while Action Network members sent thousands of messages to their representatives opposing the bill. Check out our “One Thing You Must Do” section to tell your member of Congress how you feel about their vote!

### New York Passes Set of Women’s Equality Bills

Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D-NY) signed eight bills into law that are part of the Women’s Equality Agenda. The package of bills was first introduced in 2013 and addresses a wide range of issues, including: human trafficking; equal pay for equal work; sexual harassment in the workplace; gender discrimination in employment, housing and credit decisions; work accommodations for pregnant women; and protections for victims of domestic violence. AAUW-NY, and other members of the New York Women’s Equality Coalition, worked tirelessly for two years to advance the agenda. More than 850 businesses and organizations across the state signed on to help with the push.

### Cheers and Jeers

*AAUW Cheer:* The U.S. Census released a report stating that, for the first time in 75 years, women are now more likely to attain a Bachelor’s Degree than men. In 1940 it would have taken a 45% increase in women’s enrollment to match men.

*AAUW Jeer:* The Women in the Workplace 2015 report found that about half of female executives claim that they have had fewer career opportunities based on their gender. This statistic increases among women in senior management.

*AAUW Cheer:* High School graduation rates have risen in 36 states. Class of 2013 saw an eighty-one percent graduation rate, which is the highest rate since 2010. Additionally, in 2014 the graduation gap between black and white students narrowed in 28 states; the gap between Hispanic and white students narrowed in 32 states.

*AAUW Jeer:* Texas ended its Medicaid contract with Planned Parenthood. The clinic criticized the move, calling out Texas officials who were using fraudulent videos to prevent women from receiving preventive health care, HIV tests, birth control, and cancer screenings.

*AAUW Cheer:* Two companies announced that they are expanding pay or benefits for their employees. Amazon announced that it will now offer new mothers up to 20 weeks of paid maternity leave and six weeks to other parents, including fathers. Under the program, new mothers are allotted four weeks of paid medical leave before their delivery, as well as ten weeks of paid maternity leave. Salesforce announced that it made \$3 million in wage adjustments to ensure that men and women are paid equally. These proactive equal pay audits are a great way for

companies to examine internal practices and make adjustments as necessary. The company is also taking steps to fulfill its goal of having women hold at least one-third of its executive tier positions.

*AAUW Jeer:* Audubon Park Elementary School in Orlando, Florida, is hosting a boys-only ‘night of fun’ at the Orlando Science Center. Banning girls from the STEM event prompted a petition that gathered over 750 signatures by Tuesday night. School officials claimed that their intent was not to exclude girls, but to plan an event for mothers and sons after the successful father and daughter ‘sweetheart dance’ last year. Yeah, that rationale made us scratch our heads, too.

*AAUW Cheer:* Alpha Phi sorority became the first national sorority to publically say they do not support the controversial campus sexual assault bill. The sorority broke ranks with the National Panhellenic Conference stating that they did not endorse the Safe Campus Act because it would not provide their sisters who were survivors of sexual assault a choice on how and to whom they report the assault.

*AAUW Jeer:* A study released by the Diversity & Flexibility Alliance showed in the past year, only a third of lawyers promoted to partner by the United States’ largest firms were female. The study found that 33.4 percent of new promotions were female at the 188 major legal firms. Diversity & Flexibility Alliance CEO Manar Morales claimed that many firms need to do more to combat their unconscious bias and help reduce the partner gender gap.

### Bits and Pieces

- The Department of Labor finished its investigation with Hospira Inc., finding that the company was indeed using discriminatory hiring practices against women.
- A new study released by the Economic Policy Institute has found that high quality child care is out of reach for many working families. In some states, the cost of child care even exceeds the cost of college tuition. Their findings show that child care fees exceed the cost of rent in 80 percent of U.S. communities. Additionally, the cost of child care is more than 30 percent of a minimum wage worker’s annual earnings.
- The office of Social Security has determined that with consumer prices down this year, there will be no cost-of-living adjustment made for 2016 and therefore no increase in Social Security and SSI benefits.
- A new study has found that women are not donating to political campaigns as much as men. However, both Presidential candidates Hillary Clinton and Carly Fiorina have attracted a high percentage of women as donors signaling a possible shift in this trend for at least these two women candidates.
- The White House chief technology officer, Megan Smith, announced a search for the “Declaration of Sentiments,” which was signed in 1848 at the Women’s Rights Convention but has been lost since it was printed. The document was written primarily by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and it called for rights such as access to education, suffrage, and equal pay.
- The Labor Department reported that the gender pay gap is widening, with men’s earnings growing at twice the rate of



women's. To combat this gap, California, with help from AAUW-California, passed the strongest equal pay law in the nation

- A U.S. District Judge rejected Governor Bobby Jindal's lawsuit against the Common Core standards. Jindal claimed that the Department of Education was illegally coercing states to use the standards.
- AAUW signed on to a letter to Congress opposing the delay of the Education Department's gainful employment regulation which protects students from debt.
- The National Assessment of Educational Progress reported that student performance on national tests dropped for the first time since 1990. The tests also showed achievement gaps between white and minority students, in addition to gaps between wealthy and poor students.
- The National Bureau of Economic Research found that age discrimination in hiring is worse for women. The research showed that women who are between ages 49 and 51 receive 29 percent fewer callbacks for jobs than applicants between the ages 29 and 31.
- Hundreds of U.S. Law Enforcement Officers have lost their licenses due to sexual misconduct. The crimes committed, both alleged and verified, reveal horrifying abuses of power by these officers, especially toward poor women and women of color.
- Recently the White House endorsed a bill to amend the 1964 Civil Rights Act to include banning discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. Though the bill is unlikely to pass, the support of President Obama on the issue is highly significant.
- The new select committee on Planned Parenthood is making history. Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) is serving as chairwoman and Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) will serve as the ranking member. The last committee to have women serving as both chair and ranking member was in 1977 for the House Select Committee on the Beauty Shop.

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## RELATED ITEMS

Rescue and Restore, Coalition Against Trafficking & Exploitation, and Central Reform Congregation present:

### Panel on Human Trafficking

When: Thursday January 7, 2016 at 6:30 pm

Where: Central Reform Congregation, 5020 Waterman Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63108

#### EXPERTS:

- Amanda Mohl, St. Louis Rescue and Restore Coalition
- The Covering House

Concerned about human trafficking in your hometown? Come find out how you can help!

- Jan 6-28 AAUW Art Contest submission dates
- Jan 7 Panel on human trafficking (p7)
- Jan 12 IBC-TWA International Relations lecture (p3)
- Jan 13 Kick Off AAUW's *It's My Vote 2016* activities
- Jan 15 Fellowship application deadline
- Jan 16 MoWN Legislative Retreat in Columbia, MO (p4)
- Jan 25 Afternoon Book Group at SL Bread Co (p4)
- Jan 26&28 Sue Shear Institute's Pipeline to Local Office (p2)
- Jan 27 Adelante Book Group at Barnes and Noble (p3)
- Jan 30 MO State Board conference call
- Feb 9 IBC-TWA International Relations lecture (p3)
- Feb 16 St Louis Metro IBC meeting (p2)
- Feb 22 Afternoon Book Group at SL Bread Co (p4)
- Feb 25 Adelante Book Group at Barnes and Noble (p3)
- Feb 27 St. Louis Branch Legislative Actions Forum (p1)
- Mar 8 IBC-TWA International Relations lecture (p3)
- Mar 12 IBC Spring Fling (p2)
- Mar 24 Adelante Book Group at Barnes and Noble (p3)
- Mar 28 Afternoon Book Group at SL Bread Co (p4)
- Mar 30 Release of new AAUW research report, *Women in Leadership*
- Apr 1 Deadline for MO Star Award and Galaxy Award applications
- Apr 12 Equal Pay Day/Equity Rally, Jefferson City (p4)
- Apr 12 IBC-TWA International Relations lecture (p3)
- Apr 25 Afternoon Book Group at SL Bread Co (p4)
- Apr 28 Adelante Book Group at Barnes and Noble (p3)
- Apr 29 State board meeting, Jefferson City
- Apr 30 State members meeting and conference in Jefferson City
- May 15 Mandatory bylaws revision deadline
- May 23 Afternoon Book Group at SL Bread Co (p4)
- May 26 Adelante Book Group at Barnes and Noble (p3)
- Jun 2-4 NCCWSL
- Jun 3-4 Midwest Regional Conference, Kansas City, KS (4)
- Jun 27 Afternoon Book Group at SL Bread Co (p4)
- Jun 30 2016-2017 officer reports due to national
- Jun 30 AAUW national occupying new offices
- Sep 3 Re-creation of the 1916 Golden Lane, St. Louis
- Sep 22 Adelante Book Group at Barnes and Noble (p3)

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Anything you want to share with our members? Please send articles and information for the newsletter to Carol Davis McDonald, 827 Bergquist Drive, Manchester, MO 63011-4215, or [davis-mcdonald@juno.com](mailto:davis-mcdonald@juno.com).



**AAUW St. Louis Metro Interbranch Council**  
**2016 Spring Fling**

Saturday, March 12, 2016

11 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Keagan's Restaurant, Highlands Golf & Tennis Center, 5163 Clayton Ave, St. Louis 63110

Near the Planetarium in Forest Park

**Program: Gateway Spotlight Chorus**

Sweet Adelines International is a worldwide organization of women singers committed to advancing the musical art form of barbershop, four-part harmony through education, competition, and performance. Members extend over five continents and belong to more than 500 choruses and 1200 quartets. St. Charles Chapter *Gateway Spotlight Chorus* will entertain with a variety of *a capella* patriotic songs, show tunes, popular songs of yesteryear, and more.

Schedule:

- 11 a.m. Registration, ticket raffle\* for baskets, cash bar
  - 12 noon Welcome, luncheon, awards presentation, and program
- (\*Raffle baskets from the branches support IBC and its projects)

Menu – entrée choices of:

1. Chicken Piccata
2. Cheese Manicotti
3. Cobb Salad paired with fresh fruit cup and flatbreads

- 1 and 2 include Mayfair salad, seasonal vegetable, whipped red potatoes, rolls and flatbreads.
- All meals include dessert bars and cookies, coffee, and tea.

Cost: \$28. Guests are welcome

Directions:

- From I-64/40: Kingshighway north, left on Hospital Drive, slight right onto Clayton Ave, first driveway on right past the Planetarium
- From I-64/40 and Hampton: North on Hampton, right onto Wells Drive, enter roundabout and take 1<sup>st</sup> exit to Wilken Place, left onto Clayton Ave

Registration Deadline: March 3, 2016. Mail form and check (payable to *AAUW Metro St. Louis IBC*) to: Carol Davis McDonald, 827 Bergquist Drive, Manchester, MO 63011-4215.

-----Please cut here and send the form below with your check. Keep the top half as a reminder. -----

Print name \_\_\_\_\_ Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Street address/zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one entrée choice:    1-Chicken Piccata    2-Cheese Manicotti    3-Cobb Salad

Number of people at \$28\*\* \_\_\_\_\_    Check total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*If paying for guests, please print their name(s), branch (or guest), and entrée choice(s) on the back of this form.

Please list any dietary restrictions \_\_\_\_\_