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National Web Site:

www.aauw.org

**Empowering Women
Since 1881**

THREE BRANCHES COMING TOGETHER RECEPTION and INFORMATION SESSION About AAUW

Hosted by the Ferguson-Florissant Branch*

Sunday, September 22, 2013, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

***Carolyn Herkstroeter, President; Shirley Breeze, Hostess**

Car Pooling Available – Contact Jan or Carol

EVERYONE WELCOME

Bring a Guest--Refreshments Will be Served**

The St. Louis Branch and the Creve Coeur Branch will be joining the Ferguson-Florissant Branch at their annual September reception to be held at the beautiful home of Shirley Breeze, past MO state president, past SW Central regional director, and current AAUW lobby corps member. State president Linda Berube, Kansas City Branch, is planning to join us. Come and get an update on the American Association of University Women. Since Shirley lives far north, up near the Missouri River, we will be carpooling. We'll try to find a place to meet, possibly off I-170 where there is a good place to park cars. Suggestions welcome.

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

RECENT AAUW INITIATIVES

Women in Community Colleges: Access to Success Research Report
Crossing the Line Research on Sexual Harassment in Schools
Pay Equity/Title IX Programs/Get-Out-the-Vote Project
Legislative Agenda Voter Guides/Voting Record
STEM Programs (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)
Support of Educational Opportunities for all Women and Girls
Research on Gender Equity in Education/Leadership Development
Fellowships and Grants Programs (\$4.3 million for 2012-2013)
Women's History Activities/Financial Workshops

Call 314-867-4755 or 314-521-5761 or E-Mail herkcmw@att.net. For directions to the event, call 314-831-5359. *Please give Jan a call or send a message if you plan to go.*

**Shirley said that they will be serving finger foods, tea, coffee, and soda. I asked if we can bring anything, and she said that would be fine; so if anyone going has a favorite recipe and has time, your contribution will be appreciated. Carol

AAUW – A COMMUNITY OF PEOPLE WORKING TOGETHER TO
BREAK THROUGH BARRIERS FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS.

Did you know . . . that in 1884 branch structure was established?

Branches were admitted as local groups with the provision that they carry on the work of the larger association in addition to their independent work. Washington, D.C. was home to the first branch. New York, Pacific/San Francisco, Philadelphia, and Boston branches are formed in 1886.

Future Meetings

On September 28th we will have a follow-up to our meeting at Jan's on August 24th that followed the Equality Day brunch focused on mentoring programs for women in area organizations and universities. This will begin at 10:00 AM at Jan's with coffee and tea. At the August 24th meeting we welcomed **Sheila Bassoppo-Moyo** who is planning to transfer her membership to the St. Louis Branch from her branch in North Carolina. Malaika Horne, director of UMSL's Leadership Institute in the Department of Professional/Continuing Education, director of Lifelong Learning @ UMSL, and past branch member, also joined us in our brainstorming session. Members in attendance were Jan Scott, Amy Weisser, Sally McGowan, Fran Irwin, Ellen Irons, Sue Barley, Melissa Leavy, and Carol Davis McDonald.

Our November 2nd meeting at 10:00 AM will be a review and discussion of AAUW's latest research publication, *Women in Community Colleges: Access to Success*. If you haven't already received a copy, it can be downloaded at:

<http://www.aauw.org/research/women-in-community-colleges/>

Note from Shirley Breeze (see first page): Many of you remember the terrible time last year when Rush L was given a statue in the Capitol. This year Speaker Jones is opening the nominations to all. We would like to recommend that women nominate Virginia Minor. The deadline is September 13. You can do so by going to the following website www.house.mo.gov/Famous-MissouriansSuggestions.aspx. (A link is on the home page of www.house.mo.gov in case this link doesn't work.)

AAUW IL-MO JOINT STATE CONVENTION

ILluminating and MOTivating Together!

If you missed the joint state convention, you missed a wonderful opportunity to learn and network. The evaluations all gave positive comments. Hopefully, it won't be another 12 years before we meet with Illinois again. Next spring we'll have a leadership conference in mid Missouri. If at all possible, please join us in representing the St. Louis Branch!

*"For most of history, Anonymous was a woman."
— Virginia Woolf*

MEMBER NEWS:

Please welcome our newest branch member **Ellen Irons** – Ellen is employed by St. Louis Community College and has worked there for the past 20 years as an instructional designer and training developer. Prior to that she was at Lindenwood College (1984-1987) as associate dean of adult admissions. She has a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Washington University. She volunteers with the International Society for Performance Improvement (ISPI) St Louis as president. Please add her contact information to your directory: 314-727-9918 (H), ironnew@msnmcom, birthday 7-27.

News from **Samantha Williams**, recent UMSL graduate and recipient of a Give-a-Grad-a-Gift membership, reports that she has a job (paid internship) in Springfield, IL, where she is working as a legislative intern. She will be there for 10 months to a year, after which she will return to St. Louis or find a job in DC. Go, Samantha!

Congratulations to **Amy Weisser**, who graduated May 17th with her MSW from the University of Kansas! Good luck, Amy, with your job search. Hope you find one in St. Louis.

Happy September Birthdays!

26 – Ella M. Bettinger

26 – Carol Davis McDonald

Happy October Birthdays!

8 – Patricia M. Giles

14 – Susan Barley

Happy November Birthdays!

29 – Sally McGowan

Happy December Birthdays!

23 – Diana Collins

Give-a-Grad-A-Gift

An AAUW membership makes a wonderful graduation gift for someone finishing a college degree. AAUW members can give a recent college graduate a FREE one-year national AAUW membership within two years of graduation at no cost (this applies to graduates receiving an undergraduate, graduate, or post graduate degree). Just go to AAUW's web site and click on the membership page. Then fill out the on-line Give-a-Grad-a-Gift form. If your graduate joins a branch in Missouri, state membership is free for a year. St. Louis Branch dues will also be free.



Support the ERA!

The only right guaranteed to women in the US Constitution is the right to vote.

All other rights depend on laws, which can be ignored, weakened, or repealed.

Creating Classrooms of Justice: Teaching Gender Studies in Schools

On **Saturday, October 26, 2013**, AAUW is hosting the first national gathering of educators who teach women's and gender studies in middle and high school, the AAUW Gender Studies Symposium, **Creating Classrooms of Justice: Teaching Gender Studies in School**. Featuring high school teacher and esteemed activist Ileana Jiménez (feminist teacher) and an exciting array of panel discussions, this one-day event at the **University of Missouri, St. Louis**, is open to attendees from across the country.

The AAUW symposium is an outstanding opportunity for those currently teaching women's and gender studies, both in college and at secondary schools, to connect in person and to form a supportive, nationwide network. Sessions will focus on providing educators who want to introduce women's and gender studies into their schools' curricula with guidance on how to do so. In addition, the event will offer a platform for school administrators, academics, and activists to connect with teachers to generate ways to collaborate.

We are very pleased to invite you to join the conversation, learn, and share your vision for bringing women's and gender studies to today's classrooms. Each panel session will have time set aside for participants to engage in exciting dialogue with women's studies teachers and professors as well as activists. There will also be a networking lunch and an afternoon session on creating collaborative partnerships.

Please forward this invitation to educators, professors, activists, and other people you think would be interested in joining the conversation. Register to attend by October 5, 2013. For more information, see our agenda (<http://www.aauw.org/gender-studies>). The list of speakers is being finalized and will be added to the website in the next week or so.

Cost - The \$25 registration fee includes a full day of sessions, breakfast, and a networking lunch.

We look forward to your joining us for this historic day! Sincerely, Linda D. Hallman, CAE, AAUW Executive Director.

LIFELONG LEARNING @ UMSL

Human Trafficking – A Challenge to Action

Malaika Horne, PhD

“Knowledge builds confidence and empowers,” so the saying goes. This is why we're delighted to announce our foray into a new program at the University of Missouri-St. Louis called **Lifelong Learning @ UMSL**. The aim is to create learning communities for older adults (50 and older) who seek to be more active and engaged.

The first will be a symposium **November 8, 2013**, 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM at the UMSL JC Penney Conference Center. A light breakfast will be served. The topic is: **Human Trafficking – A Challenge to Action**. Dr. Ruth Lyob, UMSL professor and noted author in the field, will deliver the keynote address along with three panelists who are practitioners. Two have been confirmed: Rebecca Feldmann, attorney, Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, and Amanda Colegrove, director, Rescue and Restore, a coalition of groups under the auspices of Catholic Charities. These agencies assist victims in addition to fighting various aspects of this horrendous crime.

Lifelong Learning @ UMSL is designed to enrich the group by empowering individuals as they grow and learn together. By attending these sessions, participants will deepen and broaden their understandings and have extraordinary discussions, inspiring reflections and actions. We're also happy to announce a budding partnership with AAUW, as addressing human trafficking is a big concern for this important organization. With the addition of highly educated and active older adults such as members of AAUW, we're confident that we'll have a successful symposium. The registration fee is \$20 per participant. Early registration is September 16 to October 25.

For more information, contact Malaika Horne, 314-516-4749 or hornem@umsl.edu.

Did you know . . . that in on November 28, 1881, our founders first met? Marion Talbot and Ellen Richards meet in Boston with 15 alumnae representing eight colleges to discuss the needs of college-educated women. In addition to broadening opportunities and assisting other women in higher education, they discuss the formation of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae.

Downtown Lunch Group

Here are the places to be on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 11:45 AM in 2012. Please join us – we have lots of good conversation:

- Sept. 17 Boathouse (in Forest Park)
6101 Government Drive
- Oct. 15 Russell's
5400 Murdoch Ave.
- Nov. 19 Nico
6525 Delmar Loop
- Dec. 17 Lemp Mansion Restaurant
3322 DeMenil Pl.

For reservations contact Jean Shull at 314-822-7821 or jshull2@mindspring.com.

- Jan 20 *The Big Roads: The Untold Story of the Engineers, Visionaries, and Trailblazers Who Created the American Superhighways*, by Earl Swift
- Feb 17 *The Absolutist*, by John Boyne
- Mar 17 *Why Women Should Rule the World*, by Dee Dee Myers
- Apr 21 *Enemy Women*, by Paulette Jiles
- May 19 Planning meeting
- June 16 *The Girls of Atomic City: The Untold Story of the Women Who Helped Win World War II*, by Denise Kiernan

AAUW ¡Adelante! Book Group

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. AAUW members from all St. Louis area branches are welcome.

Upcoming books:

September 26 – *This Child Will Be Great: Memoir of a Remarkable Life by Africa's First Woman President*, by Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

Evening Book Group

In past years the St. Louis Branch and the Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch had combined daytime and evening book groups. Recently the K-WG Branch began a new evening book group. If you are interested in joining, the group meets the 3rd Monday of each month at 7 PM at the St. Louis Bread Company in the Greentree Shopping Center in Kirkwood located at the corner of Woodlawn and Manchester Road (unless otherwise indicated). You are welcome to come at 6:30 PM for dinner before the discussion. 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 2012-2013:

- Sept 16 *The Book Thief*, by Markus Zusak
- Oct 21 *The Alchemist*, by Paulo Coelho
- Nov 18 *Every Day Is a Good Day: Reflections by Contemporary Indigenous Women*, by Wilma Mankiller
- Dec 15 No meeting – happy holidays!

Women's Financial Series beginning in October

If you'd like to gain confidence in your ability to make financial decisions and learn how to manage your money more effectively, then a class this fall co-sponsored by University of Missouri Extension and the Older Women's League (OWL) can help.

The Women's Financial Education Series is designed to help individuals, especially women, increase their current level of financial knowledge, develop confidence in their decision-making ability, and gain control of their lives through informed money management.

This five-session series will be held 6-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, October, 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 at the University of Missouri Extension Center, 10650 Gateway Blvd. in Creve Coeur. Instructors include University of Missouri faculty and local experts. The fee is \$49, which covers five sessions, a financial workbook, and other financial management resources. Session topics include financial management, credit, insurance, planning for investing, retirement, and estate planning. Registration is required. The deadline is September 24. Partial scholarships are available. A brochure/registration form is available at extension.missouri.edu/wfes/.

For more information, call Suzanne Gellman, 636-970-3000, or Barb McQuitty, 314-725-5862. Or email gellmans@missouri.edu. Source: Suzanne Gellman, Consumer Economics Specialist, 636-970-3000

Attention Members: We are migrating the branch web site to Site-Wise, the company that handles the national web site, as well as state and many branch web sites. This should happen sometime in mid to late September.

Important Federal Legislation – 2013

To express your opinion to your legislator, go to the national web site, www.aauw.org, and click on “Take Action” on the right side, midway down. There you will be able to find your members of Congress and topics to select. Messages are already written as suggestions, but you can always add to it or write your own thoughts.

National Women’s History Museum (HR863) (S398):

- No cost to government; privately funded
- Would create a federal commission to determine possibility of building a National Women’s History Museum in DC
- Reps Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) and Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) are lead sponsors
- Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) and Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) are lead sponsors

Paycheck Fairness Act (S84/HR377):

- Expand the Equal Pay Act
- Allow individuals to sue for fair wages
- Clarify acceptable reasons for differences in pay and close loopholes (employers would have to prove wage gaps between men and women are caused by something other than sex)
- Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Senator Barbara Mikulski are lead sponsors

Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women:

- New push to ratify international treaty
- 187 countries have ratified; those who have not are US, Sudan, South Sudan, Iran, Somalia, Palau, and Tonga
- Secretary of State John Kerry strongly supports ratification

ERA (SJR15/HJR43):

- Eliminates the deadline for passage of the ERA
- Both House and Senate bills were filed
- Lead sponsors in Senate: Benjamin Cardin (D-MD), Mark Kirk (R-IL), Tom Harkin (D-IA)
- Senators Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) have signed on as co-sponsors
- House Sponsors include: Tsongas, Speir, Ellison, Wasserman, Moore, and Clay

Government Pension Offset/Windfall Elimination Provision (HR1795) (S896):

- Social Security Fairness Act
- Repeals Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provisions

- HR1795 – Reps Rodney Davis (R-IL) and Adam Schiff (D-CA) are lead sponsors. Senate sponsors are Begich (D-AL) and Collins (R-ME)

League of Women Voters of St. Louis

We are invited to the League’s Fall Kick-off Dinner and Panel Discussion on Genetically Modified Organisms on Wednesday, September 11, 2013, at The Center of Clayton, 50 Gay Ave, Clayton:

5:45 Social Time

6:15 Dinner

7:00 Panel Discussion

Panel Members:

- Dr. Joseph Jez, Associate Professor Washington University Department of Biology: the Academic perspective on use of GMOs in agriculture.
- Dr. Natalie DiNicola, Vice President, Sustainable Agriculture Partnerships Monsanto: the Corporate perspective regarding use of GMOs in agriculture
- Cindy Faulker, a southern Missouri farmer: the Farmer's perspective

Following presentations, a moderator will field audience questions to the speakers. If you want to go, send your name, e-mail address, and phone number, along with a check for \$20, to: LWVSTL, 8706 Manchester Rd, Suite 104, STL, MO 63144, by Friday, September 6th. For Information call the LWVSTL office at 314-961-6869.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sept 11 LWVSTL Panel Discussion, 5:45 PM
 Sept 17 Downtown Lunch Group, 11:45 AM
 Sept 22 Three-Branch Reception, 2 PM
 Sept 26 Adelante book group, 1:30 PM
 Sept 28 Branch meeting at Jan’s, 10:00 AM

Oct 15 Downtown Lunch Group, 11:45 AM
 Oct 24 Adelante book group, 1:30 PM
 Oct 26 AAUW symposium at UMSL, 9:00 AM

Nov 2 St. Louis Branch meeting, SLCoP, 10:00 AM
 Nov 8 Lifelong Learning @ UMSL, 8:00 AM
 Nov 19 Downtown Lunch Group, 11:45 AM
 Nov. 24 Adelante book group, 1:30 PM

Dec 7 Holiday potluck brunch, 11:00 AM
 Dec 17 Downtown Lunch Group, 11:45 AM
 Dec 27 Adelante book group, 1:30 PM

