

Newsletter of the

Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch

Founded April 1971

2015-2016, No.1

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

#### You are cordially invited to our September program . . .

#### Who we are ...

The Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch of AAUW supports the full range of the AAUW mission through its monthly program meetings, special interest study groups, and public outreach events, by engaging in political action, collaborating with local organizations and educational institutions regarding AAUW topics, and by supporting area young women and girls directly. We are one of six branches in the St. Louis, MO, area that comprise the AAUW Metro Saint Louis Interbranch Council (IBC).

#### Branch Officers, 2015-2016

Kay Meyer, President 314-962-7487 kicmeyer51@gmail.com

### Chris Nobbe

Vice President, Program 314-323-0053 nobbechristine@gmail.com

Nancy Hutchins Vice President, Membership 314-631-1882 bodaciouspsychobabe@yahoo.com

#### **Carol Davis McDonald**

Vice President, Finance 636-227-0511 davis-mcdonald@juno.com

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K-WG: http://kwg-mo.aauw.net

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

State: <u>www.aauwmo.org</u>

National: <u>www.aauw.org</u>

# Celebrating the Women of STEM and

# **Potluck Dinner**

# September 17, 6:30 – 9 pm Kirkwood Community Center Room 302 111 S. Geyer Road

Presenter for our program is Dr. Natalie LaFranzo, a chemist and coach of the Washington University cheerleading team. Dr. LaFranzo is currently a technical support scientist and can provide insight on being a woman in a traditionally male-dominated science career. This presentation connects to the AAUW research report, *Solving the Equation*. You can read the report (or just the executive summary) online at <u>http://www.aauw.org/research/solving-the-equation/</u> to prepare for the night's discussion. To learn more about Dr. LaFranzo visit her Washington University page: <a href="http://bearsports.wustl.edu/information/directory/bios/LaFranzo">http://bearsports.wustl.edu/information/directory/bios/LaFranzo</a> .

Please bring a dish to share

and

a donation of non-perishable food for Kirkcare, Kirkwood's food pantry

RSVP/questions to Kay Meyer 314-962-7487 or kicmeyer51@gmail.com

AAUW Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch has an interesting line up of speakers and presentations for the year. You will want to "save the dates" and attend our meetings! A printable summary of 2015 fall meetings is attached.

# **Election Results from National AAUW Convention**

Sue Barley, member of the St. Louis and Ballwin-Chesterfield branches, was elected as one of the ten directors on the national AAUW board, as announced at the national convention in San Diego in June. Congratulations, Sue!!

Also elected was Melissa Johnsen, a former Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch member who now lives in Colorado. Malinda Gaul of Texas, whom many of us know from past regional meetings, was re-elected.

The proposal to eliminate the requirement of a degree for membership in AAUW failed by about 15 percent.

## A Message from President Kay Meyer . . .

Welcome back to the Kirkwood-Webster Groves American Association of University Women 44th year celebrating women and girls. I am excited as I start my third term as your president about the programs Chris Nobbe and the other KWG board members have lined up starting with the September potluck. We will be meeting at the Kirkwood Community Center for the first meetings while the Oak Bend County Library is being renovated. We have also moved the branch meetings from the 2nd Thursday of the month to the 3rd Thursday because of the conflict with the Ballwin Chesterfield AAUW and Women's Voices who meet on the 2nd Thursday. Also note the KWG Book meetings are now at 4:00 pm on the 4th Monday of the month at the Panera's on Manchester road in Kirkwood.

Nancy Hutchins, Barb Johnson and I attended the May AAUW Missouri 2015 State Meeting in Columbia, Missouri. The Kirkwood-Webster Groves AAUW Branch received 9 out of 10 stars for the AAUW MO Star Awards. Missouri raised \$38,024.38 for AAUW Funds; KWG was 8th among AAUW Missouri Branches for total giving and 7th in per capita giving with \$37.74. Our branch gave two named gifts-- Gene Hutchins and Jean Shull--and had 6 Century Club and 2 Century Club Plus members. Thanks to all the members that help to make the Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch outstanding.

> Happy September Birthdays! 1-- Jane Robert 26 – Carol Davis McDonald

### **Member News!**

Maurita Stueck celebrated her **93rd** birthday August 18 with her family in Estes Park, Colorado. Congratulations, Maurita!

### Welcome New Members!

We are excited to welcome back to KWG former president Jeannie Webdell. Upon her recent retirement from her ministerial position, Jeannie returned to St. Louis and has rejoined our branch! So glad to have you back, Jeannie!

### **AAUW Dues**

If you haven't renewed yet, you can do so on line through <u>www.aauw.org</u> or mail to Carol Davis McDonald with your check made out to AAUW, 827 Bergquist Drive, Manchester, MO 63011-4215. Dues are \$71 (\$49 national, \$10 state, \$12 branch). If you would like to make a donation to AAUW Funds, you may do so on line when you pay your dues or send a separate check, payable to AAUW Funds, to Carol. If you aren't sure if you are current, please call (636-227-0511) or email Carol (davis-mcdonald@juno.com).

# **Kirk Care Support**

K-WG will once again collect donations of nonperishable food items at each of its monthly program meetings. Kirk Care is Kirkwood's local food pantry. The need is great! Please bring what you can!

### Get Ready For The Holidays! It's Pecan Time!

It's time to start getting into pecan mode. I will need to call in our order in mid-October in order to have them in time for (hopefully) Thanksgiving. Pecan sales have helped us send officers and members to leadership training, as well as fund our education fellowships over the years. Fundraising is a way for our branch to have money available for programs and other expenses since branch dues are so low. Schermer Pecans have been popular in our branch for several decades, believe it or not, so we will continue the project until members are no longer interested. If you have any questions, please call (636-227-0511) or email Carol (davismcdonald@juno.com).

## **KWG Late Afternoon Book Group**

This group meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 4 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:

Sept 28 Infidel by Ayaan Hirshi Ali

3Cpt 20	
Oct 26	The Touch by Colleen McCullough
Nov 23	Lady Almina and the Real Downton Abbey: The
	Lost Legacy of Highclere Castle by Fiona Carnavon
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

### **AAUW Branch Activities**

Ballwin Chesterfield is having an LAF Trivia Night Saturday October 24, 2015, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 14088 Clayton Road, Chesterfield, MO 63017. Cost is \$20 for a single ticket or \$160 for a table of eight. Contact Kay Meyer if you are interested in being part of a KWG table!

The St. Charles AAUW Branch is having a Jon Denver Tribute Concert Friday Sept. 11, 2015, 7:00 to 9:30 pm to raise funds to benefit St. Charles Outreach Coalition Against Human Trafficking. The concert will be held at St. Joseph Chapel, 204 North Main Street, O'Fallon, MO. For more information email ehogan@cpps-ofallon.org.

### St. Louis Metro AAUW Interbranch Council

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.

The first quarterly IBC meeting of the 2015-2016 year was held August 25. K-WG representatives are Kay Meyer, Chris Nobbe, Nancy Hutchins, Jeannie Webdell, and IBC secretary Lynne Roney. Among other IBC activities for the year will be:

- Sponsoring a student to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders
- Co-sponsoring the International Lecture Series
- Sponsoring the İAdelante! book group and Downtown Lunch
- Awarding the Barbara Lackritz Service Award
- Supporting the Ferguson-Florissant Branch in its robotics mentoring and Oasis tutoring in Ferguson and operating an information booth at the Ferguson Farmers' Market

The next IBC meeting is November 24 at 7 p.m. at Thornhill Branch library. All members are welcome to attend.

## **Downtown Lunch Group (DLG)**

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.



- Sep 15 Mary Ann's Tea Room 4732 McPherson Avenue St. Louis, 314-361-5303
- Oct 20 Mama Josephine's 4000 Shaw Boulevard St. Louis, 314-771-4001
- Nov 17 Old Standard Fried Chicken 1621 Tower Grove Avenue St. Louis, 314-932-7818
- Dec 15 The Restaurant at the Cheshire 7036 Clayton Avenue St. Louis, 314-932-7818

AAUW—Empowering Women Since 1881

# AAUW ¡Adelante! Book Group

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 Road
When:	1:30 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month
<b>.</b>	

**Contact:** Teri Brecht, tebrecht@yahoo.com. AAUW members from all St. Louis area branches are welcome

**Sep 24** Redefining Realness: My Path to Woman-hood, Identity, Love, and So Much More, by Janet Mock Future selections will be determined at this meeting.

### **Dedication of the Virginia Minor Bust**

Thanks to the hard work of Shirley Breeze of the Ferguson-Florissant Branch and chair of the Missouri Women's Network, and of Mary Mosley, member of AAUW Columbia Branch, MO NOW, and the MO Women's Network, \$10,000 was raised for a sculpture and bronze casting of Virginia Minor. The Speaker of the Missouri House traditionally chooses the individuals whose busts will be placed in the capitol, but last year Speaker Tim Jones allowed the public to nominate and vote for individuals to be included. Virginia Minor, along with three men, garnered enough votes to be honored.

In the past, the Speaker has sponsored a golf tournament to fund sculpting and placement of busts, but this year no golf tournament was planned. Since the busts are privately funded, the Network launched a grassroots appeal to mobilize 1,000 women to donate \$10 each to fund creation and placement of Virginia Minor's bust, which was created by Cynthia Hitschler of Eureka, Missouri. "We know that there

are thousands of women in Missouri who are thrilled to see another woman in the Hall of Famous Missourians," Shirley said. "We are confident that women from all areas of the state will come forward to donate and do their part to raise the funds for placement of this bust. All we are asking is \$10 from each of 1,000 women." An additional \$2,500 is needed to fund the base for the sculpture.



Virginia Louisa Minor and Sculptor Cynthia Hitschler (Photo by Gina Jerome

Virginia Minor is important because she fought to get women the right to vote. In 1872, she tried to register to vote and was turned away. She sued under the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution, which grants "privileges and immunities" and guarantees equal protection of the law to all citizens. Her lawsuit, *Minor v. Happersett*, went all the way to the Supreme Court, where she lost. Nearly 50 years later, with passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, women won the right to vote; but not until 1971, nearly 100 years later, did the Supreme Court finally acknowledge that women were covered by the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment. Virginia Minor subsequently studied law and kept working for women's suffrage until her death in 1894.

Virginia Minor joined eight other women and 35 men in the Hall of Famous Missourians in the third floor rotunda of the Missouri State Capitol in Jefferson City. The dedication and unveiling of the bust in the state capitol building in Jefferson City was held at 9 AM on September 10, 2014, in the House chamber.

Ballwin-Chesterfield member Pat Shores arranged for a bus to leave from Clayton Rd and Hwy 141 at 6:30 AM. Joining the group were Jan Scott, Yvette Goods, Gina Jerome, and Carol Davis McDonald. Rev. Rebecca Turner offered the prayer to Mother God at the beginning of the dedication, and MO NOW President Jamie Tomek led the pledge of allegiance. Shirley Breeze and Mary Mosley spoke, as did Speaker Jones. Speaking at the press conference following the dedication were AAUW MO President Diane Ludwig (past St. Louis Branch president), other presidents of state women's organizations, and Ms. Hitschler.

### **AAUW MO Quarterly Board Meeting**

The AAUW MO board met in July at President (and past St. Louis Branch president) Diane Ludwig's home in Fulton, MO, for food and strategic planning and at Diane's church on Saturday. Diane said that she will be communicating by president's letter with all the branches. "As state president, I want to help keep the connections between national and branches strong and interactive. Having served on a national committee for the past five years, I know, first-hand, how important branch work is to our efforts. National really does want to help." Diane recommends having state-led study topics for branches utilizing Programs in a Box on the annual Star Award. Upon installation, Diane stated that she has two goals: 1) Complete the F. Elaine Richardson R&P Endowment to allow it to start awarding monies to deserving young women [in case you wonder where to designate donations to AAUW Funds], and 2) to reach out to new retirees for AAUW membership (statistics show that 8,000-10,000 baby boomers are retiring every day!).

### **AAUW National Updates**

Here is a snapshot of AAUW nationally:

- 170,000 AAUW Members and Supporters
- 1,000 Local AAUW Branches
- 800 College/University Partners

 Last year, \$4.3 million was given in fellowships and grants to 278 women in professional and academic careers

#### In Washington

Senate Moves Forward on Paycheck Fairness Act. On Wednesday, September 10th, for the first time ever, the Senate voted (73-25) to move forward with a debate on the *Paycheck Fairness Act*. AAUW members have been leading the fight to pass the PFA, which would give employees the tools they need to uncover and challenge unlawful pay discrimination. Despite possible attempts to weaken the legislation with amendments, the Senate is expected to hold additional votes on the PFA early next week. - Tell your senators to support the Paycheck Fairness Act!

Senate Votes on Campaign Finance. This week, the Senate <u>considered</u> and ultimately rejected an AAUW-supported constitutional amendment that would regulate campaign finance. The Democracy for All Constitutional Amendment would restore the ability of Congress and state legislatures to regulate the raising and spending of money in elections. On Monday, the Senate voted in favor of cloture and debated the bill, yet it ultimately failed a procedural vote on Thursday afternoon.

- We need to keep up the drumbeat for campaign finance reform. <u>Tell your elected officials that every citizen is</u> supposed to have the same power at the ballot box: their vote, not their money.

**AAUW Cheer:** This week, Delaware Governor Jack Markell (D) signed the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, after it passed the state House and Senate unanimously. This legislation requires employers to make reasonable accommodations to help pregnant employees stay on the job.

**AAUW Jeer:** A new study by the Sunlight Foundation finds that women have made up less than one quarter of the 5,000 witnesses called to testify before committees of the U.S. House of Representatives in the current Congress. Much of the work done by Congress is completed in committees and subcommittees, making this inequality all the more significant.

**AAUW Cheer:** Clothing retailer Gap, Inc., says it has closed the gender pay gap between its male and female employees. On average, female employees at Gap are paid at a one-to-one ratio compared to their male counterparts, the company said in an announcement last week. In the same announcement, the company noted that it exceeds industry averages when it comes to women in leadership: Women make up nearly 70 percent of the company's store managers, 60 percent of directors, and 50 percent of vice presidents.

**AAUW Jeer:** A recent analysis by the Institute of Women's Policy Research graded states on women's employment and earnings, and 14 states received a D or F grade. More than half of those 14 states are in the South; the lowest scoring state was West Virginia, and the highest scoring "state" was Washington, D.C. The grades took into account four factors: women's participation in the labor force, median annual earnings for women, the earnings ratio between men and women, and the percent of women in managerial or professional occupations.

#### **Bits and Pieces**

• A new paper finds that on average, having children increased men's salaries by more than 6 percent while women's earnings decreased 4 percent for each child. The pay gap persisted even after the researcher controlled for factors such as experience, education, and hours worked.

• The Center for Disease Control and Prevention released results from a 2011 survey showing that nearly 1 in 5 women have been raped at some point in their life. An estimated 44 percent of women and 23 percent of men have also experienced another form of sexual violence.

• Despite accusations from opponents of the Common Core State Standards, the Congressional Research Service report found no evidence of the Education Department forcing states to adopt the new standards. The report affirmed what AAUW has long been saying: Common Core doesn't dictate curriculum but rather is a voluntary, state-led effort.

• The Department of Education has reached a Title IX agreement with The Ohio State University following accusations of sexual harassment within the university's marching band. As part of the agreement, OSU will establish a Title IX resources website, develop online bystander intervention training for students, and take other steps to centralize and improve its response to sexual violence complaints and investigations.

• AAUW announced its acquisition of the WAGE Project's signature programs, \$tart \$mart and Work \$mart. AAUW volunteers have already brought \$tart \$mart to many campuses, and we believe that Work \$mart, a salary negotiation workshop for women who are already in the workforce, has the same kind of potential. AAUW looks forward to expanding the delivery of these workshops as part of our work to close the wage gap.

• The Food and Drug Administration recently announced an action plan to expand the participation of women, minorities, and the elderly in research trials.

• Last week, a government immigration board determined that domestic violence survivors may be able to qualify for asylum in the United States. It's not clear how this recognition of domestic violence survivors as a potential class of persecuted people will impact pending asylum cases.

#### **AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund**

New LAF Case Challenges Gender Discrimination at the University of Tennessee. AAUW is proud to announce LAF support for a new case, *Moshak v. University of Tennessee*. The lawsuit was filed in 2012 by Jennifer Moshak, Heather Mason, and Collin Schlosser, former employees of the University of Tennessee's women's athletic department. The plaintiffs allege sex discrimination and unlawful retaliation under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and the Equal Pay Act of 1963. They claim that they were unlawfully discriminated against and eventually forced out of their positions during a university-led merger of the women's and men's athletic departments. Schlosser and Mason argue in part that they were fired by the university after making internal complaints alleging unequal pay between the women's and men's athletic departments. Moshak claims that she was demoted, marginalized in the department, and then forced to retire. The plaintiffs also say that during the merger the vast majority - 86 percent - of terminated employees were either women or were men in the women's athletic department.

Veterans Dismissed in Military Sexual Assault Case. Last month, the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled against a group of veterans that had sued the U.S. military for alleged acts of sexual assault while the veterans were on active duty. In the LAF-supported case, Klay v. Panetta, the plaintiffs said that U.S. military officials tolerated sexual predators in their ranks and antagonized service members who reported rape, sexual assault, and harassment. The plaintiffs argued that this culture of sexual assault violated their constitutional rights. In 2013, a U.S. District Court granted the defendants' motion to dismiss the case, saying that the plaintiffs' injuries were incident to their military service and that the court was prevented by legal precedent from ruling on a military matter. The plaintiffs appealed to the D.C. Circuit. Following court arguments held in February, the circuit court affirmed the district court's dismissal of the case.

AAUW is very disappointed in this latest ruling. The plaintiffs and their advocates are deciding how to proceed.

#### AAUW CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sep 15 DLG, Mary Ann's Tea Room, 11:45
- Sep 17 KWG Branch Program: Celebrating the Women of STEM and Potluck Dinner, 6:30
- Sep 22 National Voter Registration Day
- Sep 24 ¡Adelante! Book Group, 1:30
- Sep 28 Late Afternoon Book Group, 4:00 Deadline for Tech Savvy Applications
- Oct 15 KWG Branch Program: Fraud Fighting, 6:30 Deadline for LAF Case Support Travel Grant Applications
- Oct 20 DLG, Mama Josephine's, 11:45
- Oct 22 ¡Adelante! Book Group, 1:30
- Oct 24 United Nations 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Oct 26 Late Afternoon Book Group, 4:00
- Oct 31 MO State Board Meeting

- Nov 3 Election Day
- Nov 10 Deadline--Nominating Title IX Champion
- Nov 15 Deadline--American Fellowships Applications
- Nov 17 DLG, Old Standard Fried Chicken, 11:45
- Nov 19 KWG Branch Program: stEM in St. Louis, 6:30
- Nov 23 Late Afternoon Book Group, 4:00
- Nov 24 IBC Meeting, 7:00
- Dec 1 Deadline--International Fellowships Applications
- Dec 10 KWG Branch Program: Plowsharing Crafts and Holiday Dinner, 6:30
- Dec 15 DLG, The Restaurant at the Cheshire, 11:45 Deadline--Career Development Grants Applications Deadline--International Project Grants Applications

#### <u>2016</u>

- Mar 12 IBC Spring Fling
- Apr 12 Equal Pay Day/Equity Rally
- May 15 Deadline--Mandatory Bylaw Revision
- Jun 3-4 Mid-West Regional Conference, Kansas City
- Sep 3 Re-creation of the Long Yellow Line, St. Louis

Anything you want to share with our members? Please send articles and information for the newsletter to: Marsha Koch, 1742 Connemara Drive, Ballwin, MO 63021 or marshak@gmage.net

# Order Form for FRESH GEORGIA PECANS, a Fund-Raising Project of the AAUW Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch

#### Please Contact Your Friends, Neighbors, Co-Workers, and Relatives for Orders. Send Orders to Carol Davis McDonald (636-227-0511) by OCTOBER 18

**RESEARCH FINDS** that *pecans are healthy!* Adding just a handful of pecans to a low-fat diet can dramatically lower LDL cholesterol as well as triglyceride levels. Pecans have good fats, which lower bad cholesterol, and do not affect good cholesterol. Pecans are naturally cholesterol-free and sodium-free and are high in unsaturated fats that promote and maintain good health. So - add pecans to cereal, salads, entrees, and vegetables; sprinkle them over fat-free yogurt; or even eat them plain as a snack. Enjoy not only their delicious taste but also the added health benefits.

STORING PECANS under refrigeration is the best way to retain the fresh aroma, color, and flavor of pecans. The lower the temperature, the longer the pecans will keep, although there is no critical temperature below which pecans must be held. Pecans stored in a refrigerator (38 to 40 degrees F) will keep for more than nine months. In the freezer at 0 degrees F they will remain in good condition for two years or longer. Unused pecans may be refrozen again and again without adverse effect on the quality or texture of the pecans.

• Fancy Mammoth Halves (shelled) – fantastic flavor for healthy snacking and holiday baking	\$12.00 per lb
• Cinnamon Glazed Pecans - crunchy Schermer pecans with a cinnamon-glazed coating and a hint of vanilla	\$10.00 per bag
Chocolate Covered Pecans – smooth milk chocolate and crisp, roasted Schermer Pecans make this a perfect holiday treated	t, 12 oz <b>. \$10.00 per bag</b>
• Pecan Caramel Cluster - crisp pecan pieces, milk chocolate, and creamy caramel, individually wrapped, 16-18 pieces	\$10.00 per bag
Glazed Pecans – mammoth pecan halves coated with a scrumptious glaze	\$10.00 per bag
Dark Chocolate Covered Pecans – smooth dark chocolate makes this a healthy snack	\$10.00 per bag
Spiral cookbooks with more than 300 recipes are also available	\$13.00 each

The pecans should be delivered before the holiday baking season, depending on the growing season and weather. Please make checks payable to "AAUW K-WG Branch." Questions? Call Carol at 636-227-0511 or e-mail <u>davis-mcdonald@juno.com</u> (Continue on reverse side as needed)

Name	Phone/E-mail	Fancy Mammoth Halves	Cinnamon Glazed	Chocolate Covered	Pecan Caramel Clusters	Glazed Mammoth Halves	Dark Chocolate Covered	Spiral Cook- book	Total Cost

AAUW Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch has an interesting line up of speakers and presentations for the year. You will want to "save the dates" and attend our meetings! The 2015 meetings include:

**September 17, 2015: Potluck Dinner and Celebrating the Women of STEM.** The meeting will be held on the third Thursday at the Kirkwood Community Center Room 302 at 111 S. Geyer Rd from 6:30pm-9:00pm. Please bring a dish to share. The presenter is Dr. Natalie LaFranzo, a chemist and coach of the Washington University cheerleading team. Dr. LaFranzo is currently a technical support scientist and can provide insight on being a woman in a traditionally male-dominated science career. This presentation connects to the AAUW research report, *Solving the Equation*. You can read the report (or just the executive summary) online at <a href="http://www.aauw.org/research/solving-the-">http://www.aauw.org/research/solving-the-</a>

<u>equation/</u> to prepare for the night's discussion. To learn more about Dr. LaFranzo visit her Washington University page: <u>http://bearsports.wustl.edu/information/directory/bios/LaFranzo</u>.

**October 15, 2015:** *Fraud Fighting.* The meeting will be held on the third Thursday at the Kirkwood Community Center Room 302 at 111 S. Geyer Rd from 6:30pm-9:00pm. Scams, online, over the phone, or in person, are an ongoing problem, and senior citizens are a target audience. Attend this session to learn how you can protect yourself from fraud with this Wells Fargo sponsored presentation, *Pass it On: Fraud Fighters* presented by Mr. Ted Weiner.

**November 19, 2015: stEM in St. Louis.** The meeting will be held on the third Thursday at the Kirkwood Community Center **Room 200** at 111 S. Geyer Rd from 6:30pm-9:00pm. This meeting will focus on two engineering and math programs in St. Louis. Nicholas Kirschman and students from the Statesbots FIRST Robotics team will be on hand at 6:30pm to informally share robots. Come at 6:30 to interact with robots. At 7pm the students will provide a brief update on their project for the school year.

At 7:30, Cynthia Hoffman and Shelley Propst of Project MEGSSS, and Dr. Doug Hunt of IMACS will present information about two math programs in St. Louis: Project MEGSSS and IMACS. The MEGSSS website states, "Project MEGSSS is a nonprofit, mathematics resource for all parents, teachers, and schools. We offer high challenge programming for mathtalented students, grades 5 through 8, designed to broaden their mathematics exposure and inspire students to develop solid critical thinking skills." Likewise, IMACS, a for-profit company, provides programming designed to expand a child's mind through the development of critical thinking, logic, and reasoning skills. These programs developed in different ways, a production of the same government-funded educational laboratory in the 1970's, and since then, have provided access to unique programming for talented math students in the region. Be prepared to develop your critical thinking skills with a math activity. **P R O J E C T** 

Visit these sites for more info: <u>www.megsss.org</u> <u>http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/ftc</u> <u>http://hs.webster.k12.mo.us/pages/WGHS/Departments/Clubs\_and\_Activities/Robotics\_Team</u>

**December 10, 2015: Plowsharing Crafts and Holiday Dinner.** This meeting will be held on the **second** Thursday at Plowsharing Crafts (137 W. Jefferson) and Jefferson Grill in Kirkwood with shopping at 6pm and dinner at 7pm. AAUW



Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch will make 15% of all sales from 6pm to close AND during the day our Branch earns money if the purchaser mentions AAUW! What a wonderful opportunity! Buy gifts, help people across the globe with fair trade products, AND earn money for AAUW-KWG! Please invite all of your friends to come and shop! Also, invite friends for dinner! We do need an RSVP for dinner. Please contact Kay at 314-962-7487 or <u>kicmeyer51@gmail.com</u> if you can attend the holiday dinner. Visit <u>http://plowsharing.org/</u> to learn more about Plowsharing Crafts and

http://www.jeffersongrill.com/ to study the menu at Jefferson Grill.





WE PUT THE M IN STEM

