



Kansas City, Missouri Branch

FEB. 2013

TAKING ACTION



YOU'RE INVITED! KCMO/SMKS JOINT MEMBERSHIP MEETING

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

with retired FBI Agent **JEFF LANZA**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16 | 1:00-3:00 PM | PLAZA III RESTAURANT

DESSERT, COFFEE & TEA SERVED / 4749 Pennsylvania, Kansas City, MO



AGENT LANZA will discuss the many facets of human trafficking in the United States and demonstrate the acute nature of the problem by profiling the facts and circumstances surrounding recent FBI investigations and the subsequent prosecutions in the areas of prostitution, domestic servitude, farm labor and retail services. He will go beyond to discuss the root causes of human trafficking and the challenges facing law enforcement and social service agencies in mitigating the problem. Moreover, Agent Lanza discusses what can be done by citizens to assist in overcoming these challenges and defeat the horrible injustice and inhumanity of Human Trafficking.

\$10 PER GUEST / RSVP to Pam Burke at pamelaburke2729@gmail.com or (816) 361-2098 by Feb. 13.

PRESENTED BY THE AAUW KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI AND SHAWNEE MISSION, KANSAS BRANCHES

Future Funding for Special Projects—We Need Your Vote!

The AAUW-KC Board, at the recommendation of the Finance Committee, is requesting membership approval to transfer \$5,000 from the Cumulative Reserve to a Special Projects Contingency Fund. This fund will be set up under the oversight of the Finance Committee currently composed of **Ellen Johnson**, Finance Chair, **Stefanie Hatfield**, Finance Officer, **Mary Emily Kitterman**, President, **Janet Kannard**, **Rosie Grinstead** and **Ann Kindred**. Final approval for all expenditures from the fund will be made by the Board.

These funds will be used to support the continuation of the Thorpe Menn Literary Excellence Award event, 100 High School Girls Scholarship event, and other branch special projects established to enhance branch programs and increase membership as approved by the Board. The budgets for these events will be set by the Finance Committee, working with the chairs of the events. The Committee will review and present final budgets and expenses to the Board for final approval.

Since our bylaws require that any use of Cumulative Reserve funds be approved by a vote of branch membership, we are asking for current AAUW-KC members to vote. Voting will take place following the Feb. 16 Membership Meeting.





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

During National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, we stand with all those who are held in compelled service; we recognize the people, organizations, and government entities that are working to combat human trafficking, and we recommit to bringing an end to this inexcusable human rights abuse.

—Barack Obama, Presidential Proclamation, 2013

Our February Membership Meeting brings us the opportunity to meet with the Shawnee Mission branch in our annual joint program and to study another serious social issue: human trafficking. While January was designated as Human Trafficking Prevention Month and Jan. 11 was observed as “Human Trafficking Awareness Day,” we will be voicing our concern for this critical issue and hopefully taking some action to combat human trafficking on **Feb. 16**. The afternoon event will feature a presentation by retired FBI agent **Jeff Lanza** on this important topic and its prevalence in the Kansas City area. We hope you will join us to learn more about this pressing social concern in our community. (See cover for more details.)

If you were able to see the film *Lincoln* recently or remember your American history (or both), you know that the Emancipation Proclamation became effective on Jan. 1, 1862, and the 13th Amendment to abolish slavery was signed by President Lincoln and submitted to the States for ratification on Feb. 1, 1865. And yet slavery still exists in our nation and in our own backyard. In Dec. 2009, *The Kansas City Star* ran a week-long expose on the topic, and as recently as Dec. 6, 2012 ran a story about a human slavery case in Lebanon, Mo. However, by and large this topic seems to remain under our radar even though Kansas City has been named the fourth largest hub for human trafficking in the nation. Reported by the National Association of Attorneys General to be the fastest growing and second largest criminal activity in the world, human trafficking seems to be a topic well deserving our attention and action.

Our DOLLARS for SCHOLARS fundraising project has produced some excellent opportunities for participation in new programs, including a trip to the National Archives in Jan. We appreciate the additional work by the Finance Committee to assure additional support for the 100 High School Girls and Reentry Woman of the Year scholarship funds, and we ap-

preciate those of you who have joined in these efforts. Please circle **March 10** on your calendar to attend our celebration of Women’s History Month featuring a Concert of Music By and About Women presented by KC branch member **Riva Capellari**, soprano and her accompanist, **Claudette Schiratti**, piano. Proceeds from this wonderful concert will benefit DOLLARS for SCHOLARS.

Wishing you a Happy Valentines’ Day and hoping to see you at our programs in the near future.

Moving Forward...Fighting the Backlash!

Mary Emily Kitterman

Mary Emily Kitterman
President, AAUW-KCMO

(SOURCES: *The Kansas City Star*, the Presidential Proclamation on Human Trafficking Prevention Month, the Polaris Project which operates the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline, the National Association of Attorneys General and the FBI website.)

Reminder to Board Members: AAUW-KC Board Meeting, 4:30-6:00 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013, Waldo Library

**JOIN
OR RENEW**

We are making inroads on education equity, reproductive choice, health care, work place equality, civil rights and more. Join us and continue to make our voices heard!

Annual dues 2012-2013: \$79.00

For more information, please contact **Janelle Ramsburg** at ramsburg@kc.rr.com or (913) 831-9763.



AAUW-KCMO MONTHLY EVENTS

• FEB. 8 & 22 – FRIDAY FORUM

WALDO LIBRARY, 75TH & GRAND, KCMO, 10:00 A.M.

This is an informal discussion group on current affairs, with participants bringing articles of interest or summaries of radio/TV shows to stimulate conversation. Interested? Call **Joanie Shores, (660) 200-5809**.

• FEB. 21 – CUISINE CLUB

11:30 AM, GRAND STREET CAFE, 4740 GRAND ST., KCMO

Join us for lunch and a Valentine White Elephant Gift exchange! (Rescheduled annual Dec. event, because of the inclement weather.)

RSVP to **Ellen Johnson** at ellen.johnson@gmail.com or **(816) 931-5288** by Feb. 18.



• 4TH TUESDAY BOOK CLUB

6:00 PM, WALDO LIBRARY, 201 E. 75TH ST., KCMO



Feb. 26: *The Age of Miracles* by Karen Thompson Walker explores a California teen's struggles with parents and friends that are exaggerated when the earth's rotation slows causing days and nights to grow longer, gravity changes and environmental upheaval. The title is a recommended read in the Kansas City, Mo. Public Library Winter Adult Reading Program. Discussion Leader: **Jane Hatch**

March 26: *Canada* by Richard Ford

April 23: *Nothing Daunted: The Unexpected Education of Two Society Girls in the West* by Dorothy Wickenden

Copies of featured books are available on reserve at the Waldo circulation desk, 30 days in advance to its club date. For more details, please contact **Wilma Major** at **(816) 942-5044** or **Jane Hatch, (816) 838-7626** or janehatch@yahoo.com.

• FEB. 22 – BRIDGE GROUP

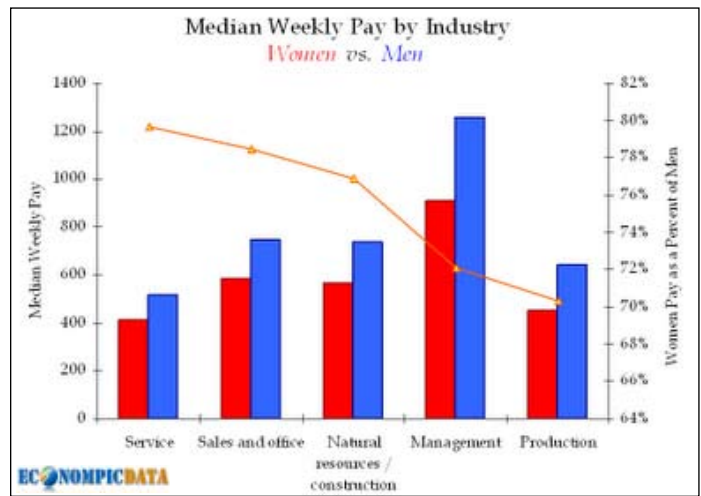
10:30 A.M. THROUGH LUNCH

Help raise money for our mission-driven activities of the branch by paying a little to play. Interested? Please call **Fran Weeks** for location and more information, **(913) 649-7048**.

Please visit www.aauwkc.org for more information.

Members Attend Legislative Retreat

Joanie Shores and **Stefanie Hatfield** attended the Women's Legislative Advocacy Retreat on Jan. 11-12 in Jefferson City. The group, from several branches of AAUW, Missouri Women's Network, NOW and others brainstormed, setting legislative priorities for tackling women's issues including pay gender inequality, women's health and reproductive rights, domestic violence, the ERA, etc. Keynote speakers were **Courtney Cole**, political analyst and campaign consultant, and **Margot McMillen**, author of *The Golden Lane: How Missouri Women Gained the Vote and Changed History*.



Did you know that Missouri women are paid only three-quarters as much as their male counterparts? We got the vote but we still don't have equal pay! We must not allow this unjust gender pay gap to continue! YOU are needed to come to the Equal Pay Day Rally on April 17 at the Capitol rotunda in Jefferson City and advocate for women! (See details below.)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: AAUW-MISSOURI & NATIONAL EVENTS



AAUW-KC members at 2012 Equal Pay Day Rally.

APRIL 17, 2013 | EQUAL PAY DAY RALLY

We've reserved the capitol rotunda to let our legislators know we women must be paid equally to men. A large turnout is key to our success.

We need YOU, your family, friends and neighbors!

Elevators are available for easy access to the rotunda. Car pooling is available. For more information, please contact **Joanie Shores** at joanashores101@aol.com, phone (660) 200-5809 or **Jane Crigler** at jcrigler@kc.rr.com, phone (816) 523-7781.

MAY 3-5, 2013 | ILLINOIS-MISSOURI CONVENTION | ST. LOUIS

Keynote Speaker: AAUW Executive Director **Linda Hallman**

JUNE 9-12, 2013 | AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION | NEW ORLEANS

—**Linda Berube**, AAUW-Missouri President



DOLLARS for SCHOLARS

We hope you will plan to support our latest fundraising effort, DOLLARS for SCHOLARS, by attending a series of new winter and spring activities. Proceeds from each event will be directed to scholarship funds for AAUW-KC's 100 High School Girls and Reentry Woman of the Year programs.

Our next event is in celebration of Women's History Month:

Concert of Music By and About Women

Presented by Riva Capellari, Soprano and
Claudette Schiratti, Piano

MARCH 10 / 2:00 PM

VILLAGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6641 Mission Road / Prairie Village, Kansas

Reception to follow / \$10 per ticket

A Call to Authors Published in 2012

Thorpe Menn Literary Excellence Award nominations are being accepted until June 1, 2013. The award is presented annually to a local author in recognition for their excellence in writing. The event will take place on **Oct. 5, 2013** at the Central Public Library. The award includes \$500 and a certificate of achievement.

Nominees may be published writers of fiction, non-fiction, children's books or poetry. (Text books, guide books and how-to manuals are not eligible.) Authors must reside in the greater Kansas City area – Jackson, Cass, Clay, Lafayette and Platte counties in Missouri and Johnson, Leavenworth and Wyandotte counties in Kansas. Previous winners are not eligible.

If you would like to nominate an author or you're an author who was published in 2012, please send two copies of the book by June 1 to: **Thorpe Menn Nominations, Attn: Pamela Chaudoin, P.O. Box 849, Liberty, MO 64069.** Please include a contact name, mailing address, email and telephone number.

For more information, please call Pamela at (816) 728-1304 or email pamelachaudoin@sbcglobal.net.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT...

By Janelle Ramsburg, Membership VP

RIVA CAPELLARI joined AAUW at our Fall Fling last September. A vocal teacher for 35 years, Riva's interest in teaching women to project their voices and speak with confidence meshes with AAUW's message of empowerment. She currently lives with her 13 year-old dog Freckles, a sheltie mix adopted from a shelter six or seven years ago. A chapter in Riva's life focused on caring for her mother closed in 2011. She is grateful for the opportunity this gave her family to grow closer together during the past year. She feels a new chapter has opened allowing her to try new things.

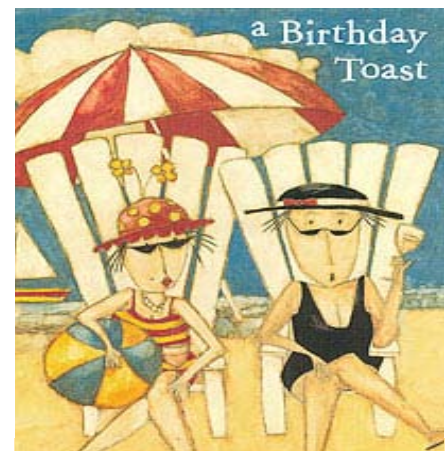
Concern for her mother's welfare led Riva to retire from teaching stints at JCCC and UMKC allowing her to focus on her own business reVoice. Riva helps students rediscover both their singing and speaking voices. After 35 years Riva says she stays excited about her work by finding new ways to teach and figuring out what will work for each student.

In keeping with her desire to try new things Riva is learning Italian and hopes to visit Italy next year. In her free time she likes to read, visit art museums and spend time with friends. The last book she read was *Bringing Up the Bodies* by Hilary Mantel. You may run into her at the Nelson and/or Kemper Museum of Modern Art. An active person Riva exercises with Yoga, weight lifting, gardening and walking Freckles, her dog.

In March 2013, along with her accompanist, Riva will be performing a concert to raise money for our branch's DOLLARS for SCHOLARS program. Stay tuned for more information about this wonderful event.

As an active, interesting and generous woman, we are honored to welcome Riva, a first-time member.

Do you have a Member Spotlight story to share? Please email **Linda Berube**, lberube283@aol.com or **Sara Pedram**, spedram45@kc.rr.com.



May your age spots be small, and
your wrinkles be few, may you
wear a bikini 'til you're 102!

STEPHANIE HATFIELD	2/11
KATHLEEN DUNN	2/12
GLORIA BANDSTRA	2/14
ARDY PEARSON	2/18
DEBBY POWELL	2/21
RACHEL REEDER	2/19
ROSE BELL	2/24
ELIZABETH (BETTY) SHOUSE	2/27