

American Association  
of University Women



**AAUW**  
1861 1990

Buffalo Branch  
Editor: Valarie Bozarth

## MARCH 1992 NEWSLETTER

### ***EQUITY IN EDUCATION***

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1992

SHERATON INN - BUFFALO AIRPORT

2040 WALDEN AVENUE

(NEXT TO LA GALLERIA)

#### **BREAKFAST BRUNCH AT 10:00 A.M.**

Selection of chilled juices,  
scrambled eggs with mushrooms and cheddar cheese,  
bacon and sausage, potatoes, assorted pastries and muffins,  
coffee and tea

DR. ANDREWS WILL SPEAK AT 11:00 A.M.

COST \$10.00

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED BY FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1992.

#### **Speaker: Dr. Margaret Andrews**

Director of Cooperative Education and Career Development at Daemen College

In an effort to get girls into America's educational agenda, the American Association of University Women has launched the AAUW Initiative for Educational Equity. This program will discuss that initiative and Dr. Andrews will describe her work in promoting educational equity for women.

COORDINATOR: JUDY WEIDEMANN

HOSTESSES: MUSIC STUDY GROUP AND BOOK REVIEW GROUP

American Association of University Women promotes equity for women,  
education and self-development over the life span, and positive societal change.

Dear Members,

Are you planning to attend? Come with us to Binghamton to the AAUW State Convention, April 24, 25, and 26. Let's make the Buffalo group the biggest delegation. Every member is invited. This year our leader on loan for the convention will be our own Association Executive Director, Anne Bryant. She will be with us for the entire week-end. What a chance to meet and talk with her about our local concerns as well as hearing about the national picture for AAUW. If you decide to attend, and I hope you do, give me a call so that we can car pool.

What a great turnout for the January meeting at the Holiday Inn East. Dr. Ansuini was incredible. I think everyone will agree it was a great meeting. As this goes into the mails, the February meeting promises to be both tasty and timely. Keep March 14th and April 4th open or you'll miss two more outstanding programs.

Although May seems far away, as President I need to be thinking about who will be awarded the Woman of the Year Award. Given by the Buffalo Branch, this award honors the achievements of a special Buffalo area woman who reflects the outstanding features necessary to distinguish herself within the entire community. If you know of a person in the area who deserves this recognition, please give me a call. Without your input a truly deserving woman might be overlooked. Please help.

See you at the branch meeting.

—Barbara Olandt  
President

The *MARCH 1992 NEWSLETTER* was mailed at the William Street post office on Tuesday, February 18th. If you receive your newsletter later than February 28th, please leave a message of your street and city address with the date of the newsletter delivery at 633-2130. The general deadline for submitting items for the *APRIL 1992 NEWSLETTER* is Wednesday, March 4th.

## LEADERS FOR A NEW CENTURY 1991 ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

At the Portland Convention, New York State was honored several times for major accomplishments during the past year. The first accolade was accepted by Vicki Marshall, NYS Director of Communications, for the *FOCUS*. Vicki is a member of the Niagara Area Branch and attended our holiday tea at Park School. *FOCUS* was judged to be the best state newsletter among the large states. The second award was accepted by Bobbe Fortunato, NYS Educational Foundation Chair, for New York's ranking sixth nationally in Educational Foundation contributions. The 1990-91 total donated was \$82,794.68, truly an impressive sum! New York's other recent contribution to the Association, former president Sandy Bernard, was victorious in her quest for the position of Executive Vice President. In the Convention's only contested election, Sandy defeated her opponent by a vote of 1,577 to 925 and began her work on July 1 "in such matters as may be delegated by the president. . . ." She is to assume the office of the president in the event of a vacancy and will be very busy with tasks assigned to her by the president, Sharon Schuster, who was re-elected to a second two-year term. Dian Belanger of Maryland was also re-elected to another two-year term as the Director of our Middle Atlantic Region.

The New York delegation of twenty-seven members stood tall and proud, watching its members parade across the stage of the convention hall to receive the applause of the convention body.

—Barbara Carier

The Nominating Committee is currently preparing a slate of officers for next year. Committee members are Judy Clare, Lois Dabney, Pat Seaver, and Karen Stephenson. They need ten or twelve people dedicated to the causes of AAUW who would like to serve the branch as an elected officer. Could you be that person? Call me at 832-2928 if more information about a possible board position is required.

—Amelia Sherrets  
Nominating Committee Chair

## CONDOLENCES TO RUTH FONTAINE

For many years George Fontaine assisted his wife Ruth with her AAUW service. He did not idly stand beside her but dedicated himself to many of our causes with the same vigor as Ruth. As news of his December 13th death became known to branch members, many reminisced about the times shared with him preparing for the annual book sale. To Ruth and the Fontaine family, the branch shares in your loss and extends our deepest sympathy.

## HEALTH CARE PROXIES

Have you thought about signing a health care proxy? Would you like to know more about the current status of living wills and health care proxies? Would you like information about care options available to you?

Marci Stoll—a registered nurse, a doctoral student in educational administration, and a member of the Buffalo Branch—has agreed to facilitate a discussion on health care proxies at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 2, at my home, 125 Chatham Avenue, Buffalo. Please call me at 877-8569 if you plan to attend.

—Carol Jamieson  
Women's Issues Chair

## ISSUE ORIENTED BOOK GROUP

Several members have indicated an interest in periodic discussions of significant books about women's issues. Examples of books that might be discussed are *Women's Ways of Knowing* by Belenky and others, *The Hero Within* by Carol Pearson (who was the keynote speaker at the leadership conference AAUW presented two years ago), *You Just Don't Understand* by Deborah Tannen.

If you are interested in participating in such discussions, call me at 877-8569 with your preferences for days, times, and readings.

—Carol Jamieson  
Women's Issues Chair

## EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

3

Just think! Our annual book sale is just around the corner. Working on the book sale is a great opportunity for visiting with friends, meeting new people, and looking at all those wonderful books.

There are jobs for everyone: organizing, sorting, pricing, cashiering, hostessing, publicizing, bagging. . . Your abilities fit right in! Give our Book Sale Chair, Valarie Bozarth, a call at 633-2130. Don't wait for another member to call you. Take the initiative! Step out of the crowd!

Last year the Buffalo Branch because of the dedication it has shown to this annual fundraiser contributed \$5,400 to our named endowment, the Buffalo Branch Centennial American Fellowship. It would be fabulous if we could increase that amount to \$6,000 or more. I realize that the economy is in sad straits, but when I read that women graduate students are living on \$7,000 a year (which is below the poverty level) I know that we must do all we can to provide financial support. That AAUW Fellowship or Grant can make the difference. Recognizing the significance of the branch's work, we are redoubling our efforts this year to keep costs down and profits high.

If you have any questions about grants or fellowships or on how you can make a difference, please call me at 634-0927.

—Carolyn Iadovito  
Educational Foundation Chair

## ISABEL H. KIDENEY DIES

The oldest honorary life member of the Buffalo Branch, Isabel H. Kidney, died on December 26, 1991. She became an honorary life member in 1976 upon the 50th anniversary of her AAUW membership. Many long-standing branch members will remember her friendship and service to the branch, but her efforts extended to the community and the state. Mrs. Kidney was a past president of the New York State Division. The branch recognized her achievements by naming her the recipient of the 1962 AAUW Achievement Award. The branch extends its sincerest sympathy to her family and many friends.

## \$17,200 AWARDED

Jane Vogel Fischman, chair of the Chamberlin Loan Fund and the Funds for Education, reported at the February board meeting on a very active and rewarding period for the branch's financial awards to students. Eighteen applicants actually completed the necessary paperwork to be considered by the interview committee on December 27th and 28th. Sixteen of the applicants were funded. The students were interviewed by Maryalice Seagrave, Carol Paskuly, Carol Jamieson, and Jane Fischman.

Assisted by guidelines established last year, the committee awarded \$11,000 of the \$11,566.98 available in the Chamberlin Fund and \$6,200 of the \$6,979.60 available in Funds for Education. Interest free loans account for \$15,500 of the funds and grants account for the remaining \$1,700.

The committee was very impressed with the applicants and the interviewing sessions. Three applicants are being funded for semesters overseas. Several of the students, made aware of the program by member Dr. Joyce Swartney at Buffalo State, were nearly finished with studies in math and science fields. Other applicants were studying elementary education; some were in the last semester of their undergraduate years requiring funding to complete their student teaching. Nontraditional students were also included; some were seeking to update their credentials while others were re-directing their careers.

The Ruth Sichertman Award was given to Wendy Walsh, daughter of member Maxine Walsh. Wendy is completing her Ph.D. in community clinical psychology in California. Her record, both academic and professional, was outstanding; the committee considered it an honor to recognize her achievements as the second annual recipient of the award. Other funding went to Julianne Hoffman, Jennifer Montesano, Tammy Lanphere, Lisa Weaver, Wendy Walsh, Dorothy Gaines, Kelly Scanlon, B.J. Jamieson, Kate Cerulli, Michelle Layer, Kathleen Pudlock, Marjorie Patricola, Susan Fiorella, Jennifer LaClair, Charlene Stanford, and Laura Colavecchia. The committee was especially pleased that Susan Fiorella, a student at Cornell, provided an opportunity to recognize the request of Sara Drake Chamberlin,

whose will established the Chamberlin Fund upon her death in 1936. Mrs. Chamberlin, whose husband John was a Cornell graduate, asked that special consideration be given to assist any applicant from Cornell. In addition, the committee recommended one applicant be denied on the basis of the guidelines and one applicant be deferred and advised to seek academic guidance and reapply.

Maryalice Seagrave, who has served many times as an interviewer, reported to the board that the all day Friday session and the Saturday morning session were very rewarding. She noted that the applicants "stood for so many things we stand for" as members of AAUW, especially the many math and science applicants and the varied lifestyles represented of the nontraditional applicants.

The branch greatly appreciates the efforts of all members who have worked with the educational funds; branch members participating in this area find it a very rewarding activity. While working to review files and interview applicants, the committee enjoyed a picnic lunch of turkey sandwiches on Friday and a fruitcake snack on Saturday supplied by Jane Fischman. Thanks, Jane, to you and the other interviewers for a job very well done.

## ON THE FRONT PAGE

On Wednesday, February 12th, *The Buffalo News* carried an article on its front page "Research finds bias against girls in U.S. education." The Knight-Ridder release by Mary Ann Roser was datelined Washington. The article was based on the AAUW report *Shortchanging Girls, Shortchanging America*. The article cites Alice McKee, president of the AAUW Educational Foundation: "The glass ceiling does not just appear in the corporate executive suite. It really begins to be built in kindergarten." Although Diane Ravitch, as assistant U.S. secretary of education, thought the report "overstates the issues," Keith Geiger, president of the National Education Association, the largest U.S. teachers union, supported recommendations that prospective teachers take courses in gender issues and be evaluated on how well they promote equity.

On February 5th the board began its monthly meeting with supper at The Four Seasons Restaurant, Amherst. The board members enjoyed this opportunity to socialize and discuss informally the board's activities. Unfortunately, the restaurant had mistakenly booked the one meeting room for two groups; the board decided to reconvene at the board member's home closest to the location, Valarie Bozarth's home. By 7:30 p.m. the quorum had moved and began the evening with committee reports.

As program chair, Bunny Blackstone reported that next year's monthly branch programs will hopefully be set by May. As centennial chair Bunny reported that money continues to come in from the sale of gala souvenir items. The board voted that any additional funds from this source be directed to the Funds for Education.

Lynn McClive distributed and discussed a telephone survey that the board had asked to be undertaken. A draft of the survey questions was reviewed. The purpose of the survey is to contact each member and to solicit a response about the branch's activities. The information will be used by the program committee, the retention committee, the nominating committee, the study group chair and the board to more specifically respond to the needs of the membership. The final draft of the survey will be ready by March 15 and a telephone tree will be established.

Judy Weidemann reported on the plans for the March branch meeting. The President Barbara Olandt noted that the same topic of equity in education is being addressed by the New York State Roundtable at almost the same time. The Roundtable, not open to the public, is to be held at the Avon Corporate Headquarters; national publicity should follow. The Roundtable will introduce new research supported by AAUW. The New York State *FOCUS* will keep members informed about this important meeting.

Carol Jamieson, Women's Issues chair, announced plans for a health care proxy meeting and the formation of a new study group to discuss books connected with women's issues. Articles appear elsewhere about these meetings.

Jane Fischman updated the board on the December interviews for Chamberlin Loan Fund

and Funds for Education. See the article on "\$17,200 Awarded" for the content of her report.

Publicity chair, Nancy Ryther, continues to publicize branch meetings in local newspapers; her current focus is publicity for the educational awards and donations for the book sale.

Carolyn Iadovito, Educational Foundation Chair, requested suggestions for branch members to be honored with the EFP contributions to the Association. If the book sale profits allow a donation of \$6,000 this year (increased from \$5,400 last year), even more members could be recognized in the national publication honoring branch contributions to the Educational Foundation Program. Carolyn still has raffle tickets available for purchase at branch meetings for the New York State Division quilt. The winner of the quilt will be announced at the April State Convention.

Sue Grossman reported on the membership committee which is writing congratulatory letters to professionals receiving promotions as reported in the business section of *The Buffalo News*. The committee is continuing to prepare a public agenda for the discussion of AAUW issues.

The board voted to donate \$300 to a foundation established by a group from the Erie County Commission on the Status of Women to fund workshops and educational opportunities for women.

The State Convention on April 23, 24, and 25 will feature Geraldine Ferraro. Two open meetings are planned with her so members will have an opportunity to converse with her informally.

The meeting was adjourned by 9:30 p.m.

### AND ON THE AIRWAVES

The AAUW study on equity in education continues to get air time. CNN's lead story on the February 12th and 13th newsbreaks was the *Shortchanging* . . . study. Interest in the findings continues to grow. Remember every member has a part in this important work. The dollars sent to the Association make it all possible. Without you, the money would not have been available to do this important work.

## SALE PLANS UNDERWAY

The Annual Used Book Sale will be held Thursday/July 23, Friday/July 24, and Saturday/July 25 at Medaille College. Sorting will begin Monday/July 6 and some pricing will begin Wednesday/July 15.

As many who work the sale well know, it is becoming harder and harder to keep profits increasing. After much study and many ideas suggested to me by the former chair Diane Silvestro, I would be unrealistic to expect increased sales in these recessionary times. That leaves only one alternative; costs must be held in check. Many of the expense items are dictated and cannot be reduced. But some items, with a few more volunteer hours, might increase our profits by 5 or 10%. This is the goal.

The first expenditures are already committed. Medaille College's recreation hall has been secured for the full month of July at the same cost, after some effort, as last year—\$1,200. In another cost cutting attempt, hired pick-ups and deliveries (i.e., large donations from college libraries and estates) will be restricted and volunteers will now do this work. If you have large donations to be taken directly to the YWCA storage room, please call me (633-2130) or Margit Spector (834-6731) to make arrangements.

And most of all, thanks to everyone who has called to volunteer. Many of you who price the same section every year or who are in your third decade of book sorting have made my job easy by reassuring me you are available again. If you have not "worked the sale," I invite you to participate in the branch's major fundraiser.

—Valarie Bozarth  
Book Sale Chair

## GREAT DEAL FOR NEW MEMBERS

Do you have a friend considering AAUW membership? Remember the fifteen months membership for new members. If a new member pays dues by April 1, the \$44.50 will last through June 30th of the next year, a fifteen-month good deal.

## BEATING DUKE WASN'T ENOUGH

The incumbent governor of Louisiana Edwin W. Edwards may have won the November election, but he lost some conventioners. Society for Neuroscience, a professional organization for scientists studying brain function, draws between twelve and fourteen thousand brain and behavior specialists to their annual convention. Few cities can handle such a large convention, but clearly New Orleans can. This fall the conventioners enjoyed the southern hospitality, the Cajun restaurants, and the Bourbon Street blues. But it was not enough. Neuroscientists were keenly aware that Edwards has severely curtailed the rights of women concerning reproductive choice. And they voted overwhelmingly not to return again until Louisiana changes its stance on the reproductive rights of women. In the circus atmosphere of the Duke scare, some refuse to accept just any alternative. And to New Orleans, a great convention city, neuroscientists sent a strong financial message—neither candidate is acceptable.

## FINANCIAL REALITY SPURS EQUALITY

In a Point of View in the November 11, 1991, issue of *New York Teacher*, Rose Coser states "Where wives are gainfully employed, their husbands lose power and gain status. That is, for giving up some prerogatives . . . they increase . . . their family's standard of living." Citing a 1990 report by the National Bureau of Economic Research, Coser laments that women carry the brunt of household work and child care. Women, working more outside the home, decreased the amount of time spent on housework by about ten hours per week from 1965 to 1981. But men during that time decreased their employment time by about eight hours and increased their share in housework by only two hours weekly. However, cultural notions may be changing. "American men today are, in general, willing to make the exchange of loss of power in the family for a gain in status. Economic realities provide decisive steps in the breakdown of cultural lags."

## BRANCH CALENDAR

7

2/25—Tues.

**Investment Club** will meet at 7 p.m. sharp at the Williamsville Branch of the Amherst Public Libraries, 5571 Main Street, Williamsville. Please note that the location was incorrect in the *February 1992 Newsletter*. Contact Kelly McCurdy (439-8739) if you plan to attend. Guests are always welcome.

3/2—Mon.

**Music Study Group** should phone Mary Weppner (634-6636) for place and program.

3/2—Mon.

**British Study Group** will meet at 6:30 p.m. at 159 Fairways Boulevard, Williamsville. Reserve with V. Bozarth (633-2130). The discussion will focus on William Wordsworth's later years, his poetry, and the English Lakes.

3/3—Tues.

**Duplicate Bridge** players should call Mary O'Connor (631-9227) for location. Bridge time is 7:45 p.m.

3/4—Weds.

**Board of Directors** will meet at 7 p.m. at Benjamin Franklin Middle School, 500 Parkhurst, Kenmore. All board members are expected to attend the meeting; if you cannot, please call Barbara Olandt (683-6822) before the meeting.

3/9—Mon.

**Great Decisions** will meet at 5:30 p.m. at the home of Sybil Pressprich, 301 Highgate, Buffalo. The topic is "Refuge Crisis." Suzanne Grossman will be the facilitator. Call the hostess at 834-1329 if you plan to attend.

3/10—Tues.

**German Study Group** members should contact Renny Ferber (836-3277) for time and place.

3/14—Sat.

The **March Branch Meeting** will feature the AAUW Initiative for Educational Equity. See cover.

3/17—Tues.

**Book Review Group** will be hosted by Dorothy Payne in her home at 93 Crosby Avenue, Kenmore. Carol Brasure will review *The World Is My Home*, the autobiography of James Michener. Phone Dorothy Payne (876-6855) if you plan to attend.

----- Cut along dotted line. -----

### RESERVATION FOR MARCH 14TH BRANCH MEETING

Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount (\$10.00 for each meal which includes tax and gratuity): \_\_\_\_\_

If attending the program only, reserve at \$2.00 per person for coffee or tea.

Make checks payable to AAUW, Buffalo Branch.

Mail to Judy Weidemann, 50 Boxwood Circle, Hamburg, NY 14075-4212.

Deadline is Friday, March 6th.

3/19—Thurs.

**Thursday Night Bridge Group** will meet at 7:45 p.m. Contact Lorraine Schank (634-4648) for the location of the meeting.

3/20—Fri.

**Literature: Friday Afternoon** will meet at 1:00 p.m. in the home of Margaret Haas, 230 Hamilton Drive, Snyder. Margaret will review *The Last Fine Time*, an account of Buffalo's early east side growth. Please call Margaret (839-3701) if you plan to attend.

3/21—Sat.

**International Study Through Foods** will feature Denis and Lynn Riley from Dublin House of Fine Irish Imports in Williamsville as speakers for "An Irish Fling." The meeting will take place at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Suzanne Grossman, 310 Pryor Avenue, Tonawanda. Cost is \$2.00 per person for Irish or "plain" coffee and desserts. Call Suzanne (837-8769) for reservations.

3/23—Mon.

**Evening Literature Study Group** will discuss *Caroline's Daughters* by Alice Adams. Evelyn Wolf will facilitate the discussion. Valarie Bozarth will host in her home at 159 Fairways Boulevard, Williamsville, assisted by Ruth Samuels.

4/4—Sat.

**The April Branch Meeting** will be very early in the month of April. Mark your calendar now for an informative program on local environmental issues. Sharon Rich will chair the meeting at Fanny's Restaurant, 3500 Sheridan Drive, Amherst. German Study Group and Evening Literature Study Group will be hostesses. Reservations will have a very short turn around time for this meeting; watch for the *APRIL 1992 NEWSLETTER* with its reservation form and be sure you are included on April 4th.

4/24-26—Friday, Saturday, Sunday

**New York State Division Convention** is in Binghamton, N.Y. All members are invited to participate. If you would like more information, contact Barbara Olandt, president, at 683-6822. The Buffalo Branch would like the largest contingent ever to share in this delightful experience with other dynamic and concerned women from across the state. Plans are forming so treat yourself to a great spring week-end and join with other branch members for an educational as well as entertaining retreat.

—Jan Vine, Coordinator  
Study and Interest Groups

This newsletter was delivered to the William Street Post Office, Buffalo, N.Y. on Tuesday, February 18, 1992.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

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Snyder, New York 14226



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