

BUFFALO BRANCH NEWSLETTER

American Association of University Women



December 1993

ANNUAL HOLIDAY TEA

Sunday, December 5, 1993
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Erie Community College, North
Campus

The theme this year is POLISH and the Eugenia Smith Dancers will entertain us with traditional dances and authentic costumes. Taste Polish goodies and learn about their holiday customs. Join us for some fun! As in the past, members are admitted free, but there is a \$2.00 charge for guests. **Reservations must be made by December 1, 1993.**

In the giving spirit of the holiday, please bring a small, wrapped, present for a child labelled with the sex and age range of the child and/or women's toiletries such as deodorant, hairbrushes, tooth paste/brushes, etc. These will be donated to Haven House, the battered women's shelter.

Chairs: Bunny Blackstone and Diane Silvestro

Reservations will be taken by Diane Silvestro. A registration form is on page 15.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hooray, hooray! Buffalo Branch will have a book sale in 1994. Three coordinators--Diane Silvestro, Elisabeth Helman, and Lynn McClive--have begun planning and organizing. Carolyn Day and I have contracted a space at the Thruway Mall in the former Kleinhans store.

The October 16 District I meeting was great with 49 in attendance. Group participation led to tremendous sharing and networking. We learned about interesting programs, plans, wishes of other branches, and maybe a little more about ourselves. With attendance of non-board members, we have met half of one of the criteria toward Five-Star status.

This month, I will highlight the Legal Advocacy Fund whose funding meets one of the Five-Star criteria. The LAF assists women who have been denied tenure in universities and colleges in this state and across the United States. AAUW's LAF is one of a very few resources available to these women as they fight for the status to which they feel entitled. Carolyn Day is leading the Buffalo Branch LAF campaign. Please read her thoughtful article in this issue, and then send your tax deductible donation, designating Buffalo Branch membership, to her.

For the fun of it, check Marlene Dick's article for the cultural events being organized by her committee of Judy Summer and Rae Reines.

Lynn McClive has already been book "shopping." Onalee Agans, a former Buffalo Branch member, has moved to the St. Luke's Nursing Home on Delaware Avenue. Ms. Agans left some books with her former landlords for us to look through for the 1994 book sale. Lynn selected four books for the collectible section. Jill Brown, Corresponding Secretary, will send a special thank you to Onalee Agans.

According to an article in the *Great Decisions* book for 1993, buying American may not be easy. The article notes that some "true-blue American" brand names may actually be made in whole or in part outside the United States. For example, in 1991 Chevrolet Lumina was made in Canada, and the Pontiac LeMans was made in South Korea; Komatsu earth movers were made in the United States, but John Deere's were made in Japan. For people who have a strong feeling that we should buy American made, reading the regular and fine print is necessary. For AAUW members who have a strong feeling that we should work together to fulfill the American Association of University Women branch goals, reading and research are the start of involvement with an active, fun, dedicated, no-brand confusion membership. For us, whether born, reared, educated in the United States is not an issue. We are here now and want to do the most we can to help others while helping ourselves; so, we will be together on November 13, on December 5, and at many other times as well. For WE are AAUW Buffalo Branch! Read this newsletter and join in.

Sue Grossman, R.D.

BUFFALO BRANCH NEWSLETTER American Association of University Women

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AAUW promotes equity for women, education and self-development over the life span, and positive societal change.

Deadline for January issue is December 1.



BRANCH NOTES

Book Collecting Update

The Book Collecting interest group continues researching resource materials. For meeting information call Jill Brown at 832-8601.

Membership Committee meeting changed

The Membership Committee meeting scheduled for December 6 has been cancelled. The committee will meet on Saturday, December 11 at 9:30 a.m. at the Family Tree restaurant on Bailey Avenue.

Sharon Rich

Cultural Committee planning events

The Cultural Committee is planning two events for the spring season. We will sponsor an evening of dinner and a performance of "The Will Rogers Follies" at the Shea's Buffalo sometime between March 1 and 6. We will also arrange for a tour of the new Fine Arts Center at the State University at Buffalo during April. Specific information about the March evening will be available in next month's newsletter. For further information, or to offer suggestions for events, please contact Marlene Dick (837-3458).

Volunteers needed to deliver materials

Joan Ward is looking for members who live near libraries and would be willing to take promotional materials there monthly or on a semi-regular schedule. If you are willing to help, please call Joan at 689-6568.

YWCA Residence Transitional Housing needs supplies

Supplies for women and children are needed for the YWCA Residence Transitional Housing program. See the November newsletter for a list of what is needed.

Plans are underway for branch fund raiser

Plans are already underway for our annual fund raiser, the book sale. This is a BRANCH project, and we need cooperation from every member to make this as successful as it has been in the past. All members can help in a variety of ways. Everyone can contribute time, supplies, labor, and/or a donation to our effort to raise funds for the Educational Foundation (EF). There are many small and large tasks to do, and any help you can give will be appreciated.

The first step is to collect books for us to sell. Carolyn Day (634-6340) has graciously accepted the task of coordinating our collection effort. To help her, we need places to store books (depots) and people to pick up books. She would appreciate a call from anyone who can provide a depot or pick up books. This would save a lot of calling and make her task easier.

High on our "wish list" is an accessible, cheap place to use as central storage for the entire year. Although we have used the YWCA in the past and were satisfied with their facilities, the cost reduces profit and, therefore, our donation to the EF. Perhaps someone knows of an unused storage room we can use. This would be a big help.

Another critical need is a supply of books to sell. Please ask anyone who is moving to consider donating (tax-deductible) books to our sale. This is another area where member input is important--WE NEED BOOKS. Keep your eyes open for a source of donations. But there is a caveat. With disposal costs escalating, we cannot accept general magazines, *National Geographic*, or *Reader's Digest* condensed books (except large print) because they don't sell.

Regular updates will appear in the newsletter and announcements will be made at meetings. Remember, this is the project we have chosen to fulfill our pledge to the Educational Foundation, and the funds are used to benefit other women. But the benefit to us is working together on the fund raiser which provides a great opportunity to interact with other members of our branch. We look forward to working with each and everyone of you.

Co-Chairs: Elisabeth Helman, Lynn McClive,
Diane Silvestro

Buffalo Branch endeavors to reach LAF goal

At the October branch meeting a basket was passed for donations to the Legal Advocacy Fund. We collected one-fifth of the total amount needed for our goal. Another way is for you to write a check payable to AAUW-NYS LAF and identify yourself on the check as a Buffalo Branch member. Mail the checks to Carolyn Day at 127 Meadowview Lane, Williamsville, NY 14221, and she will forward them to Kay Kraatz. Remember that whatever you send by the end of this year (1993) will be tax deductible.

Reaching the Legal Advocacy Fund goal is one of the "Stars" that our Buffalo Branch is striving to fulfill in the association challenge. There are seven choices, and we need to complete only five to win recognition.

Carolyn W. Day
Buffalo Branch LAF Chair

Members develop plans for educational equity outreach

A second planning meeting will be held on Saturday, December 4, at 10:00 a.m. at Barbara Carier's home, 295 Lakewood Parkway, Snyder to review and refine branch plans for continuing the educational equity initiative launched by the Association with the 1992 research *The AAUW Report: How Schools Shortchange Girls* and this year's report *Hostile Hallways: The AAUW Survey on Sexual Harassment in America's Schools*.

In a very productive meeting on November 6 members learned that there have been several

Four out of five students have experienced some form of sexual harassment in school. Does adult sexual harassment have roots in school-based behavior?

requests received by Judy Weidemann and Barbara Carier for presentations focusing on gender equity or sexual harassment. There will be a listing of these in the next newsletter. The other immediate tasks this group will tackle are as follows: develop guidelines for parents and teachers to use in situations involving sexual harassment, identify contacts in the schools and related professional organizations for outreach, design a training workshop for interested members, and compile media resources for future endeavors. Branch members who would like to take an active role in this endeavor are welcome to attend on December 4. Please call Barbara Carier (839-0933) or Ann Hicks (741-3964) if you can join us.

Nominations needed for Achievement Award

The Buffalo Branch, Inc. Achievement Award was first presented in 1940. There have been 52 women honored with this prestigious award. Their names appear in the branch roster. In keeping with the current goals of this organization and the increased number of diversified, qualified candidates in the community, the Achievement Award policy and procedure have been clarified and updated.

This is an exciting time, as the award committee is requesting that branch members become more active in the selection process. Branch members are requested to write to me for nomination forms by December 25, 1993. All completed nomination forms must be returned to me by January 31, 1994. The criteria for selection will be as follows:

Achievements reflective of the goals of AAUW by promoting equity for women, education and self-development over the life span, and positive societal change.

Suzanne Grossman, RD
