

BUFFALO BRANCH NEWSLETTER

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NYS District I

January 1995

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN WOMEN AND MEN



Saturday, January 21, 1995

11:30 a.m.

**Little White House Restaurant
5877 Main Street
Williamsville**

The speaker is Alice Sullivan, who has a bachelor's degree in nursing from Daemen College and a master's degree from Buffalo State College. She is the director of the Human Sexuality Center at Buffalo State College.

There will also be a Readers' Theatre Presentation on the Legal Advocacy Fund.

See page 13 for more information and a reservation form.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear AAUW Branch Members,

My pride in AAUW and the Buffalo Branch continues. Vicky Marshall, our state president, has focused our attention on the need for diversity in our organization. The outstanding program at Temple Beth Am on December 4, 1994, gave many of us the opportunity to learn of and enjoy the traditions associated with the Jewish celebration of Chanukah. It gave other members of the Jewish faith the opportunity to graciously share their traditions. It as a memorable branch meeting.

The plan for the March 25 equity conference is now in place. The committee, under the leadership of Suzanne Grossman and Suzanne Oliver, has worked very hard. We will have a conference day which we will be proud to offer to the community.

The journey to the second year of 5-star membership continues. Please see the requirements listed on the next page. I am confident we will reach 5-star membership again.

The listing of women who have received the AAUW Buffalo Branch Achievement Award is impressive. Please consider nominating a woman you know for the honor.

My best wishes for all of you in 1995.

Yours truly,
Judy Weidemann



Cantor Barbara Horowitz leads Temple Beth Am Youth Choir.

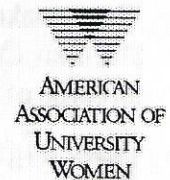
BUFFALO BRANCH NEWSLETTER

is published monthly as a bulletin of events for members and as an update on AAUW issues and programs.

Julia Weidemann, president
Betty Loucks, editor
Send address changes to Marion Fay
347 Brantwood Road
Snyder, NY 14226-4307
836-5660

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

January 1995
Vol. CIV No. 5
Circulation - 325



Deadline for the February issue is January 4.

PUBLIC POLICY

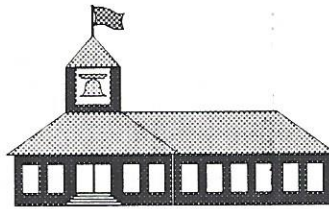
Public Schools Are in Danger

Those of us who have been members for a few years will remember an issue we focussed on entitled *Public Support for Public*

Education. Various aspects of the topic were discussed during the

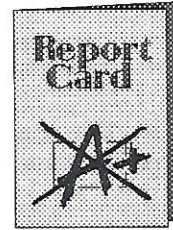
two years this issue was one of our official topics to study. They included our opposition to the voucher system, alternatives to property tax-based support, etc.,

etc. Now we must become alert to the growing efforts of private, profit-based companies to take over from local school districts the complete management of the "public" schools, thereby threatening the very basics of the concept of public schools.



The city of Hartford, Connecticut, has signed a five-year contract with Education Alternatives, Inc. (EAI) to privatize its entire school system of thirty-two schools with a budget of about \$200 million. In 1993, the Minneapolis School Board contracted with School Strategies Group Inc., a St. Paul consulting firm, for its president to serve as the school district's superintendent. In 1992, Baltimore, Maryland, contracted with EAI to manage nine of its inner-city schools for the sum of \$26.7 million for five years. An independent study by the Maryland State Teachers Association shows that some of the EAI-run schools are falling far short of EAI's grandiose and misleading claims and goals for their schools. In Minneapolis, two reporters from the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* wrote a front-page investigative story stating that EAI has oversold

its record and made a number of false claims. Among some facts reported were that attendance went down for most of the EAI schools in their first year, and that overall student scores have actually declined twice since EAI has been involved.



EAI was founded by John Golle, a former Xerox copier salesman who became a multi-millionaire for his efforts. However, *EAI* and *School Strategies* aren't the only private firms attempting to profit (\$2 million the first year in Baltimore for the stockholders) from the privatization of schools. For example, *The Edison Project* is attempting to move into school districts with more than \$5500 per pupil expenditures. *Alternative Public Schools Inc.* was rejected by the Nashville School District but is trying to gain a toehold in Wilksburg, PA, with a proposal that would contract out all support services (cafeteria, maintenance, clerical and classroom aides, etc.) and replace the teachers with APS-selected teachers. *Marriott Corporation*, better known for hotels and food service; *Johnson Controls World Services*, originally a manager for custodial services; and *ARA Group*, formerly a vending company, are a few of the privatizers who are currently attempting to profit from the tax-supported public schools. Golle of EAI has agreed to honor all existing labor contracts, but he has the authority to renegotiate the union agreements when the current contracts expire.

Both of the country's major teachers' unions – the National Education Association

See **Schools** on page 10.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION NEWS



AAUW
EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION

Members Urged to Support Education for Women

A AUW Educational Foundation activities after the AAUW Buffalo Branch Used Book Sale included getting the materials ready for audit and finalizing book sale receipts and expenses. Since Thruway Mall has been sold to Benderson Development Company, Inc., materials to be used for next year's sale are being stored at a monthly cost. If any of you have an idea for a location for our major fundraiser, please inform Betty Loucks. As Educational Foundation Chair, I am concerned that our efforts to raise funds be successful, for the Buffalo Branch Centennial American Fellowship and the Educational Foundation.

There are additional ways to contribute to the education of women through the Foundation fellowships and research grants. I want to encourage you to consider any of the following avenues:

- The 21st Century Club, established in 1992, costs \$210 to join, which may be paid at one time or in three installments of \$70 each over three years. Sustaining members contribute each year to this fund. You may designate where your contribution will be applied, and certainly contributions to the Buffalo Branch Centennial American Fellowship are greatly appreciated by your Board of Directors.
- For \$25 to the Equity Futures program you may honor or memorialize a friend or relative. This supports the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund for Women and Girls. If you purchase four Equity Futures in one fundraising year, you automatically become a member of the annual Eleanor Roosevelt

Honor Roll and receive a pin from the Foundation.

- Association memorial cards may be purchased for \$5 or \$10, which can be sent by the branch, district, or state chair.
- When planning your estate, please consider making AAUW EF a beneficiary.

For applications for the 21st Century Club or the Equity Futures Program, please call me at 885-2486, and I will send you the form which you return to me so that Buffalo Branch is credited for your contributions.

Buffalo Branch has a fine history of contributing as a branch to the Foundation. We also need your contributions to further support the education of women through grants and fellowships. Our friends and our branch have been beneficiaries of the Foundation through the efforts of each one of you.

Stacey Johnson
Educational Foundation Chair

The Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.

EDUCATION AND EQUITY

A Look at Equity

Although the information is a little dated, the data once again point out the importance of our individual and collective efforts to educate and change existing conditions which limit access and opportunities for women. *Issues Quarterly (IQ)*, a publication of the National Council for Research on Women, was launched to provide current research, policy, and action that affect the lives of women and girls. Each quarterly focuses on a theme, such as sexual harassment, and includes regular features called "Eye Openers" and "Profession Update." These columns in the premier issue serve as the secondary sources for the facts reported in this article. You will find the AAUW *Shortchanging Girls, Shortchanging America: A Call to Action* report cited.

Eye Openers – The School Environment: Protecting our Daughters?

- 1. Percentage of girls who say "I am happy with myself" in elementary school: 60
Percentage of girls who say "I am happy with myself" in 10th grade: 29
- 2. Ratio of girls suffering from eating disorders as compared to boys: 9:1
- 3. Percentage of girls participating in extracurricular sports in 1972: 4
Percentage of girls participating in extracurricular sports in 1987: 26
- 4. Ratio of girls attempting to commit suicide compared to boys: 4:1

Profession Update – Education

In 1992 women comprised

- 98% of pre-kindergarten and kindergarten teachers
- 96% of early childhood teachers' assistants
- 85% of elementary school teachers
- 85% of special education teachers
- 74% of primary and secondary teachers
- 66% of educational and vocational counselors
- 56% of secondary teachers
- 27% of college and university teachers
- 18% of principals
- 12% of college and university presidents
- 5% of superintendents

Taken from *IQ*, Volume one, Number one, 1994. (A list of primary sources can be found in *IQ*, p. 16.)

Ann Hicks
Education and Equity Chair

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Buffalo Branch Has 12 New Members!

Please make a point to meet and to welcome the following new members:

Joan Allison
170 Greenaway Road
Amherst, NY 14226-4166
838-5933

Allison received a master's degree in English from Brooklyn College.

Edna M. Lindemann
52 Behm Road
West Falls, NY 14170-9744
652-5774

Lindemann has a bachelor's degree in art from SUNY at Buffalo, a master's degree from Northwestern University, and a doctoral degree in education from Columbia University.

Anne Claus
731 W. Ferry Street
Buffalo, NY 14222
881-0886

Claus has a bachelor's degree from Daemen College, a master's degree from the University of Marquette, and a doctoral degree from the University of Wisconsin.

Rita Cascia
6925 Campbell Blvd., #6
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120
625-6957

Cascia received a bachelor's degree in sociology from Daemen College.

Carolyn Harten
48 Robin Hill Road
Williamsville, NY 14221
689-8488

Harten has a bachelor's degree from Trenton State College, a master's degree from Southern Illinois University, and has done post-graduate work at SUNY at Buffalo. She was recruited by Maryalice Seagrave.

Yvonne Smith
401 Engelwood, Apt. 3
Buffalo NY 14223
834-9448

Smith received a bachelor's degree from Valporeiso University and a master's degree from Case Western University.

Marilyn Morris
151 Ruskin Road
Eggertsville, NY 14226
645-2440

Morris has a doctoral degree from SUNY at Buffalo. She was recruited by Marlene Dick.

Katherine Bibby
239 Warren Avenue
Kenmore, NY 14217
877-4746

Bibby has a bachelor's degree in social sciences from SUNY at Buffalo. She was recruited by Kathleen Nelson in Las Vegas.

Jean Smith
33 Gates Circle
Buffalo, NY 14209
882-2767

Smith received a bachelor's degree from Mount Holyoke and a master's degree from Duke University.

Victoria Hess
52 Woodbury Drive
Snyder, NY 14226
836-3024

Hess has a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in linguistics from SUNY at Buffalo.

See **Membership** on page 8.

A Golden Opportunity Meet The Chamberlin Loan Applicants

A few more members are needed to round out the panel of interviewers needed on Wednesday, December 28. A session lasts about three hours. A team of three or four members conducts the interview to decide which applicants will be awarded interest-free loans and in what amounts. An orientation is given that day and the panel works from a folder of data about the applicants. We shall be working in the Reinstein Library on Harlem Road (opposite St. Joseph Hospital) from 1:15 p.m. until 4 p.m. and from 4:45 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

If you can serve, please call Maryalice Seagrave at 833-0437 by December 23.

Maryalice Seagrave
Chamberlin Loan Chair

Membership *continued from page 7.*

Cynthia A. Primus
98 Peace Street
Buffalo, NY 14221
895-5169

Primus has a bachelor's degree from the University of Delaware and a master's degree in education from Kent State University.

Wendy Zhang
21 Slate Creek Drive, #6
Cheektowaga, NY 14227
656-8095

Zhang received a master's degree in accounting from Oklahoma City University. She was recruited by Miriam Cody.

Marlene Dick
Vice-President for Membership Recruitment



Buffalo Branch Reaches LAF Goal

The Buffalo Branch has exceeded its Legal Advocacy Fund goal with donations totalling \$257. Attaining the goal qualifies the branch for one star in the 5-Star Branch Recognition Program for 1995. However, we continue to encourage members to contribute to this special need.

Part of the program at the January branch meeting will be a "Readers' Theatre" on LAF. Plan to attend and learn why this is so important to women who have been victims of sex discrimination in institutions of higher learning.

If you cannot attend, please mail a check in any amount to Carolyn Day, 127 Meadowview Lane, Williamsville, NY 14221. Make checks payable to AAUW-NYS-LAF and write Buffalo Branch in the lower left hand corner. Donations will be mailed to the state, and then on to the LAF.

Help us help these women attain the goals they deserve.

Carolyn Day
LAF Chair

*AAUW's Legal Advocacy
Fund provides funding and a
support system for women seeking
judicial redress for sex
discrimination*



BRANCH NOTES

Member Wins Art Award

Lorna Berlin has been awarded the "Grumbacher Gold Medal Award" in the Watercolor West 20th annual contest in Brea, California.

The show of watercolors is on exhibit in the Cultural Center Gallery in Brea until December 16. As an award recipient, Berlin has been invited to participate in a national touring exhibition sponsored by the Grumbacher Company.

Along with this award, Berlin has been elected to signature membership in Watercolor West.

She has been a frequent award winner at the Allentown Art Festival and was awarded a second at the Festival of the Masters at Walt Disney World in 1992.

Congratulations!

Member **Marilyn Carmichael** has been appointed by Erie 1 BOCES to be the new assistant principal for the Alternative Learning Program South.

Member **Barbara Carier** will be a speaker at the Erie 2 BOCES dinner series. Her topic will relate to *Hostile Hallways: The AAUW Survey on Sexual Harassment in America's Schools*. Small group discussions will follow the presentation.

Needed: Site for AAUW Buffalo Branch Used Book Sale

CULTURAL NEWS

At least in Buffalo, the cultural scene tends to quiet down in January. But there are still many events to take in. Perhaps this is a time for the visual. Four exhibits are opening at the University at Buffalo's Center for the Arts between January 19 and January 25. The Albright-Knox Art Gallery will be showcasing "American Arts and Crafts: Virtue in Design" beginning on January 14. Be sure to check out the satellite Gallery Shop next to the temporary exhibition galleries. It features books and objects related to the show.



Ben Vereen will brighten the winter with two Pops concerts on January 6 and 7, and on January 30 you might want to help celebrate Mozart's birthday at the Lancaster Opera House.

Buffalo's own A. R. Gurney wrote *The Snow Ball*, which will be presented by the Studio Arena Theatre from January 3-29. Two timeless classics will also be presented in January: *The Lion in Winter* at the Irish Classical Theatre and Arthur Miller's *The Price* at the Kavinoky.

Judy Summer

Schools *continued from page 4.*

and the American Federation of Teachers--have sharply criticized privatization efforts. The National Education Association's Center for the Preservation of Public Education has been fighting these inroads, and has prepared an extensive set of background materials on the for-profit companies seeking contracts to manage individual public schools and entire school districts. An NEA manual for stopping efforts to privatize cafeteria, transportation, and other school services is also available.

If any Buffalo Branch member hears of any proposals in this direction in the Western New York area or elsewhere, please alert me or any member of the Board immediately. We must monitor these situations carefully to assure that our schools remain in our own control.

NEA Today, "Is There Gold in Them 'Thar Schools?" by Anita Merina. November 1994.

TEACHER, "Current Events in Brief: For-Profit Company to Run Hartford Schools." November/December 1994.

Barbara Carier
Representative for Education

All You Ever Wanted to Know About Lille, Buffalo's Sister City

The first meeting of the International Studies through Food study group will feature Brenda Benzin and Jean Gounard, co-founders of the Buffalo-Lille Association Inc., who will present a videotape and discussion about Lille, France, including the visit there of a western New York delegation during the summer of 1994. The meeting will be held on Saturday, January 28, at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Suzanne Grossman at 310 Pryor Avenue, Town of Tonawanda. Your guests are welcome. Call Grossman at 837-8769 by January 24 to make reservations. There will be a \$2.50 charge for refreshments.

DECEMBER BOARD MEETING

The regular meeting of the Buffalo Branch Board of Directors was called to order by President Judy Weidemann at 7 p.m. at the Eggertsville-Snyder Library in Amherst on December 7, 1995.

She expressed her appreciation to Sharon Rich for getting the treasurer's materials ready for audit. The audit is completed, and the tax return information was mailed on November 14. A motion was approved that Lois Meyer be asked to serve as treasurer for the remainder of the year.

Weidemann polled the executive board, and they agreed to donate \$50 to the Food Bank of Western New York.

There will be no Board of Directors meeting in January.

Past-President's Report - Suzanne

Grossman gave an update on the March 25, 1995, equity conference. The keynote speaker will be Sharon Farley, president of New York State NOW. The next committee meeting will be December 14. The conference treasurer is Ruth Seitz. The conference will be limited to 250 people.

Loans Fund Treasurer - Cindy Monacelli distributed the financial report for November, which showed a balance of \$28,011.43 in the Chamberlin Loan account as of November 30, and a balance of \$2,885 in the Funds for Education account. The report was circulated and approved.

Educational Foundation - Stacey Johnson stated that the deadline for applications for the Eleanor Roosevelt Teacher Fellows is January 9, 1995.

Education and Equity - Ann Hicks discussed the possibility of finding school drama

groups to present *School Secrets*. She asked if the board wanted to continue the branch's listing in the White Directory. It was decided to renew it for the next year.

Nominating Committee - Suzanne

Grossman announced that the committee will meet on February 4, 1995, at 10 a.m. There are many offices to be filled.

Education Chair - Barbara Carier spoke of her concern regarding the privatization of public schools. She has submitted an article for the January newsletter.

Chamberlin Loan - Maryalice Seagrave reported that members are needed to interview candidates.

Newsletter Editor - Betty Loucks asked for a board decision regarding second references for names in newsletter articles. It was decided that the last name be used as a second reference.

Legal Advocacy Fund Chair - Carolyn Day reported that she has collected \$257, which exceeds our LAF goal for this year. She asked for suggestions for the continuation of our support of the LAF fund in the future.

Used Book Sale - Betty Loucks reported that the search for a site is continuing.

May Luncheon - Alice Mason is investigating the Brookfield Country Club's policies toward women's club memberships and privileges.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

Omission

Phyllis Kelly's name was omitted in the president's letter in the December newsletter from the list of those attending the District I Conference.

AAUW BUFFALO BRANCH CALENDAR

1/4/95 Wednesday – The **Craft Club** is changing its meeting time to the first Wednesday at 7 p.m. The project will be making mophead dolls. Call Barbara Dascomb (833-0904) for reservations and more information.

1/10 Tuesday – The **Duplicate Bridge Group** should call Mary O'Connor (631-9227) for location and reservations. Bridge time is 7:30 p.m.

The **Music Study Group** will not meet this month.

The **German Study Group** meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. For information about location, call Gloria Beutner (838-1273) or Renny Ferber (836-3277).

The **Women's Issues Group** will meet at the home of Rita Nowak, 40 Condon Avenue, Buffalo, at 7 p.m. The topic, *Lower Westside – Microcosm for Women* will be developed further. The guest will be announced later. Call Nowak (874-9725) if you plan to attend.

1/11 Wednesday – The first meeting of the **Computer Support Group** will be held at the home of Marlene Dick, 576 Longmeadow Road (off Main and Eggert). Call Dick 837-3458 for reservations and directions.

1/17 Tuesday – The **Book Review Group** will meet at 1 p.m. at the home of Nancy Acara, 267 Lowell Road, Kenmore. Pam Haupt will review *Woman – Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness*. Call Acara (877-2320) for reservations.

The **Book Collecting Group** will meet at the University at Buffalo, North Campus, Amherst, at 6:30 p.m. Space is limited. Please call Jill Brown (836-8601) for reservations.

The **Dinner By the Book Group** will dine from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at The Cafe in the Square, 4476 Main Street, Amherst. Karen Stephenson will lead the discussion of *A Thousand Acres* by Jane Smiley from 7 to 8 p.m. If you plan to attend, please call Elizabeth Smith (836-2316) for reservations.

The **Literature Group** will not meet this month.

1/23 Monday – **Investment Group 2** will meet at 7 p.m. sharp at the Greenhaven Library, 350 Greenhaven Road, Tonawanda. Contact Eve Stoklosa (695-3606) or Judy Bratty (833-5995) for more information. Guests are welcome.

1/28 Saturday – The **International Study Through Foods Group** will honor Buffalo's link to its sister city, Lille, France. Brenda Benzin and several of her colleagues, including our own Sharon Minklein, will share their experiences from the 1994 Tour to Lille. Join us at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Suzanne Grossman. Call Grossman if you plan to attend.

1/31 Tuesday – The **Investment Club** will meet at 7 p.m. sharp at the Williamsville Library, 5571 Main Street, Williamsville. All members are encouraged to be in attendance to transact business. Contact Carolyn Iadovito (634-0927) for more information. Guests are always welcome.



Sundays in the winter, a **Skiers Club** is being suggested by Eve Stoklosa (695-3606). Both downhill and cross-country skiing are proposed. Skiers with any level of competence are encouraged to participate. Lessons, lunch, and apres ski activities will be available.



A **Pinochle Club** is being suggested by Mary O'Connor and Judy Bratty. Anyone interested in further information should contact O'Connor (631-9227) or Bratty (833-5995).

Judy Bratty, Coordinator
Study and Interest Groups



Reservation Form for January 21 Meeting

Communication Between Men and Women

Little White House, 5877 Main Street, Williamsville

Katy - chicken

Choice of two Entrees: #1 – Lemon Chicken, #2 – Stuffed Flounder

Name _____

Choice of entree # _____

Guest/s _____

Choice of entree # _____ # _____

Amount enclosed @ \$10.00 per person _____

Make checks payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch.

Send reservations by **January 13** to Marlene Dick (837-3458).

576 Longmeadow Road
Amherst, NY 14226

February Program

Circle this date on your calendar for our February Branch meeting:

Saturday, February 25, 1995

11:30 a.m.

Shannon Pub at the Lord Amherst Motor Hotel
Barber B. Conable, Jr., former president of the World Bank
Global Changes Affecting Women



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

Moving? Did not receive newsletter? Please contact Marion Fay (835-5660)

This newsletter was delivered to the William Street Post Office, Buffalo NY on December 27.



BUFFALO BRANCH
Marion S. Fay
347 Brantwood Road
Snyder, New York 14226

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Barbara Carrier
295 Lakewood Parkway
Snyder,
New York 14226-4072