

BUFFALO BRANCH NEWSLETTER



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

NYS District 1

December 1995

Bienvenidos a todos
(A welcome to everyone)



la Navidad en México
(Christmas in Mexico)

MEXICAN HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Vengan y diviértanse
(Come and enjoy yourselves)

Medaille College

Sunday, December 3, 1995
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Carolina Márquez, a Ph.D. candidate
in Spanish linguistics at the University of Buffalo will speak on
Christmas Customs in Mexico

COME AND ENJOY THE FOODS, SIGHTS, AND SOUNDS OF MEXICO

comida y bebida mexicana
(Mexican food and drink)

Feliz Navidad

For more information and a registration form, see page 11.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Members,

We would like to thank our speaker for the October meeting, Dr. Barbara Tedlock, for a stimulating discussion regarding women's historical roles as healers and priests. We were fascinated by Dr. Tedlock's tales explaining her experiences in Guatemala living with the Indians, and her training as a shaman. Dr. Tedlock will notify us when her next book is published so that those who are interested can purchase it.

We have received many calls regarding the book sale. Our sale will take place this year despite the fact that we don't have a coordinator at present. We do have a committee which will meet in January to start planning for the sale. The date of the book sale will probably be in July. Jackie Trace is our negotiator for the site. If you have any suggestions for a free (or inexpensive) vacant store front, please call Jackie at 883-1906. Chris O'Connor is our new Collections Chair. If you need to know where to deliver books, please call Chris at 649-0637. More depots are needed as collection sites for our books until they can be moved to the sale. If you have some space in a dry garage, basement, or other space, please volunteer to help us. "Many hands make light work."

The Nominating Committee will meet in January to select nominees for the 1996-97 slate of officers. If you are interested in serving on the board, or know a member who you feel would be willing to serve, please contact the Nominating Chair, Ernie Foster (688-6393). We would like to see some new faces and get some new ideas. Thanks to all the members who attended the District 1 meeting, and special thanks to Karen

Noonan for the excellent presentation on our branch's activities to the group's "Brag Session."

Bunny Blackstone
Sharon Rich

A Positive and Upbeat Experience is Guaranteed

Come and meet some inspiring college students - male and female - from teenagers to 40-something. You'll feel good about college students and their goals after a few hours interviewing applicants for loans and grants from the Chamberlin Loan Fund and Funds for Education. Interview teams will be working on Thursday, December 28, from 3:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Reinstein Library on Harlem Road near Walden. If you can spare about three hours, contact Maryalice Seagrave at 833-0437.



AMERICAN
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BUFFALO BRANCH NEWSLETTER

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

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836-5660

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, life-long education, and positive societal change.

December 1995
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ASSOCIATION CONVENTION REPORTS:

Highlights, Memories, and News

In my last report to you about the AAUW Association Convention in Orlando in June '95, I wrote about the New Voter Education Campaign which AAUW has enjoined. The traditional legislative priorities of AAUW are now the battlefields where the present Congress and mainstream AAUW members – along with millions of others – are fighting. Every issue important to us and every right gained for several decades are being challenged, underfunded, eliminated, or otherwise damaged by the zealotry of the newly-empowered majority. I am happy to report to you that Buffalo

Branch has stood up to the challenge and has established an ad hoc task force to coordinate activities designed to educate ourselves and those around us to become aware of the ramifications of some of these tragic cutbacks. We plan to make a difference in the next election!

Author and journalist Peggy Orenstein talked about her writing of the book *Schoogirls* at the Awards Celebration. *Schoogirls* portrays the crisis in self-esteem of several adolescent girls and was inspired by AAUW's 1991 poll, *Short-changing Girls, Shortchanging America*. Orenstein talked about the year she spent probing her subjects' lives, inside the classroom and out. Her book has already been through six printings in hardcover and will be published in paperback this fall.

Elizabeth Fernandez of Venezuela was honored as an International Fellow. She spoke about her research on an enzyme in our bodies – Tyrosine Hydroxylase – which has been shown to control almost all physiological functions, including eating, breathing, remembering, and reading. It seems also to play an important role in Parkinson's disease and other physiological disorders.

...Buffalo Branch has stood up to the challenge and has established an ad hoc task force to coordinate activities designed to educate ourselves and those around us to become aware of the ramifications of some of these tragic cutbacks.

Dr. Jennifer Jones, an urban cultural anthropologist, columnist, radio personality, and lecturer, spoke during the Managing Change Plenary Session. She enthralled the audience with her comments and challenges about enhancing our personal lives and bettering society. She offered some suggestions for generating a 21st Century mind, emphasizing that we all must become computer literate and get on-line. She claims this creates a whole new kind of person, and the audience tended to agree. She said that data are coming at us 400X faster than ever before...and that the nerds shall inherit the earth!

Dynamic speakers like these three were the norm, not the exception, at this marvelous AAUW Convention! If you ever have an opportunity to attend an Association Convention, try to take advantage of it. Coming soon is a convention in Washington, DC.

Barbara Carier

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Deadlines for Fellowships and Grants

Please share the information below with individuals who may be interested in participating in the Eleanor Roosevelt Teacher Fellowship or Community Action Grant programs.

The deadlines for applications for 1995-97 Educational Foundation Fellowships and Grants are rapidly approaching. Following is the Fellowships deadline information: Eleanor Roosevelt Teacher Fellowships, January 9, 1996 (postmark date); Community Action Grants, awarded twice yearly, February 2, 1996 (grant year is July 1, 1996, to June 30, 1997), and September 2, 1996, (grant year is December 1996 to June 30, 1997).

Application requests should be mailed before December 18, 1995, for the Eleanor Roosevelt Teacher Fellowships to AAUW Educational Foundation, Department 53, 2201 N. Dodge Street, Iowa City, IA 52243-4030, or call 319/337-1716. Applications for the Community Grants may be requested from the above address, Department 55.

The application request should contain the following information: *Name, Address, City, State, Zip, School Name, Grade(s) taught, Subject area(s) and Where did you see this notice?*

Eleanor Roosevelt Teacher Fellowships offer teachers the opportunity to develop a better understanding of educational equity issues and to implement classroom techniques that boost girls' self-confidence and academic performance. Awards range from \$1,000 to \$10,000. Teacher

Fellows propose individual programs of study to further their careers and meet the needs of girls in their schools and communities. A highlight of the Fellowship year is attendance at a four-day Teacher Institute, July 20-24, 1996, in Washington DC.

Community Action Grants stimulate community-level systemic change on education and equity issues for women and girls by providing seed money for new projects and nondegree research. They are available to individual women or to AAUW branches and states. Collaborative proposals involving schools or school districts, businesses, community-based organizations, and AAUW branches are encouraged. Awards range from \$500 to \$5,000.

Stacey Johnson
Educational Foundation Chair

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

A personal thank you was received by the New York State AAUW International Relations Director, Judith Wagner, from the Sierra Leone Association of University Women for the \$200 that they received for their scholarship program.

They are presently embarking on a fundraising program in order to sponsor female students in the science faculty.

This thank you is reassuring to the branches in NYS who each submit \$5 each year. It helps to personalize our gift-giving and to appreciate the far-reaching effects of even a small donation.

Anyone wishing to become more familiar with the situation in Sierra Leone may contact Marilyn Smiley (Oswego Branch and State Board), who is continuing to monitor the problems and situation in Sierra Leone.

Barbara Burke
International Relations Representative

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

First, a welcome our newest member.

Jennifer Siller
1770 Woodard Road
Elma, NY 14059
655-4710

Secondly, I will be resigning as Vice-President for Membership Recruitment in December because my husband and I will be moving to Newark, Delaware. Thank you to the Membership Committee and everyone who has made my tenure as VP so easy and enjoyable. Being a member of AAUW has been one of the best things about being in Buffalo, and I will take with me lots of wonderful memories of the friends I've made.

Your new Vice-President for Membership Recruitment is Rita Cascia (625-6957), who will serve for the remainder of the year.

Happy holidays!

Marlene Dick
Vice-President for Membership Recruitment

Dues Need to Be Paid

All dues are to be paid **now**. If you have not paid, please make your check out to **AAUW Buffalo Branch** and mail it to

Carolyn Day
127 Meadowview Lane
Williamsville, NY 14221



Get the Facts

What is EITC? The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is a refundable tax credit available to the working poor. Since its creation, EITC has been supported by both Democrats and Republicans. It was hailed by President Reagan as "the best anti-poverty, the best pro-family, the best job creation measure to come out of Congress." Last year the EITC helped more than 2 million families stay out of poverty, yet the Senate is proposing to cut the EITC by \$43.2 billion, and the House by \$23.3 billion to pay for tax cuts for higher income Americans. What do you think? Call your Senators and Representatives at 202/224-3121 and express your opinion.

Noted Art Critic to Speak

Lucy Lippard, one of the art world's most famous and outspoken art critics, will address multiculturalism in art education, contemporary art, and art criticism.

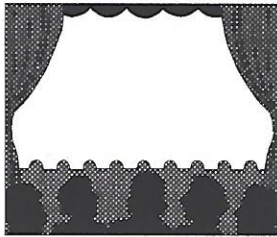
The lecture will be held Tuesday, November 28, at 8:00 p.m. in Bulger Communication Center, room South.

The event is sponsored by the Buffalo State College Faculty-Student Association for the Art Education Department's Student New York State Art Teachers' Association.

For more information, call Mary Wyrick (878-4109) at the Buffalo State College Art Education Department.

CULTURAL NEWS

December cultural offerings include many holiday favorites, among others. The Alleyway Theatre offers its thirteenth annual version of *A Christmas Carol* from November 30 to December 23. The Studio Arena Theatre's version is an



alternative, *Inspecting Carol*, and for those who missed last year's sell-out hit, *Over the Tavern* will be back at the Pfeifer Theatre from December 12 to January 7. This is the play with a local

background, written by Tom Dudzick. Another seasonal repeat is *The Gift of the Magi*, presented by Artpark at the Marie Maday Theatre of Canisius College.

For children in grades kindergarten through five, the Theatre of Youth will be performing *The Snow Queen* on eight dates in December. For those who are young at heart, try the annual Victorian Christmas celebration at The Theodore Roosevelt inaugural National Historic Site from December 2-9.

The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra celebrates with Doc's Holiday Pops with Doc Severinson at Kleinhans on December 14-17. Also on their schedule for December is pianist Lilya Zilberstein playing the Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto #3 on December 8, 9, and 10. Also check the *Gusto* for local church listings of Christmas music.

Enjoy the holiday season!

Judy Summer
Cultural Representative

Telephone Volunteers Needed for Channel 17

Telephone volunteers are vital to Channel 17's Holiday Fest '95 Membership Drive. You know the funding cuts at the state and national levels suffered by WNYPB in the last three years. You know the quality, or lack of quality, of so many commercial TV programs. You know the high quality of programming on Channels 17 and 23 in the following areas: children's programs, mysteries, British sit-coms, *Masterpiece Theatre*, business, government and world affairs, music from Frank Sinatra to the Three Tenors, cooking, how-to shows, and on and on. Don't you find yourself tuning to Channel 17 more and more frequently because there is nothing good on commercial channels? Pledges phoned in during membership drives provide a large share of Public Television's budget, and a ringing telephone with no one to answer is a pledge lost!

I have been answering phones in TV and radio drives since 1977, and I'll be there at these times in the next drive: Tuesday, November 21, from 7:15 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.; Saturday, November 25, from 5:15 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.; Tuesday, December 5, from 5:45 to 11:30 p.m.; and Saturday, December 9 from 1:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Why don't you join me for good TV, refreshments, studio tours, and board games? Come alone or with friends, neighbors, and family. Even you high schoolers are welcome on December 9. Just call me at 833-0437, and I'll reserve a phone for you.

This is an opportunity to serve our branch's commitment to education and culture.

Maryalice Seagrave





BRANCH NOTES

Thank you...

...to Marlene Dick for doing an exemplary job as Membership Chair. We'll miss you!

Condolences...

...to member **Marion Elmer** on the death of her sister, Rita Dielman.

December Newsletter Deadline

Because of the holidays and the later date for the Board of Directors Meeting, I would appreciate having as many articles as possible before the December 6 deadline.

Betty Loucks
Editor

Address Correction

Judith A. Earl's street number should have been listed as 2025 Delaware Ave., Apt. 3 C.