

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Members,

We hope you had a good holiday, and look forward to *spring*. Seven of our members represented us at the State Convention in Syracuse the weekend of April 12 – 14. The next newsletter will contain the highlights of the convention.

We would like to express many thanks to the following:

- All the volunteers who went out on a blustery primary night to obtain the voter count for the Voter Service. Our branch earned \$136.
- Our speaker for the March branch meeting, Judy Scales-Trent, who presented an interesting review of her book *Notes of White Black Woman*. Karen Noonan did an outstanding job in making arrangements for the program.
- Our committee on AAUW Voter Education who deserve a round of applause for a superb job in dispersing information regarding our campaign in *Getting Out the Vote*. Thanks to Ann Bish, Barbara Carier, Stacey Johnson, Barbara Olandt, Diane Silvestro, and Judy Weidemann.

Daffodil's Restaurant will be the location for our annual banquet. We encourage all members to attend this gala affair. Our achievement award winner will be announced at the May luncheon.

As of this writing, a location for the book sale has not been determined. We will keep you updated.

The Family Literacy Program, *Books for Kids*, held on March 30 at Buffalo State College was quite successful. Over 200 people attended and contributed books for the project. Congratulations to all the people and organizations that worked so hard to put the program together. The *News Books for Kids* program, another part of the project, however, is still short of books. Although the date for the program will be past by the time this newsletter reaches you, the sponsors will still gratefully accept any children's books you might

have. Books can be used, but they must be in excellent condition. Please help this worthwhile program that is right in line with all of AAUW's goals.

Judy Weidemann and Sharon Rich have become involved in another new project for Buffalo Branch AAUW, the *Kids Vote* program, sponsored by the Buffalo News. Weidemann is heading the education committee and Rich is serving on the publicity committee. The idea is to promote an interest in voting, learning the issues, and then encouraging parents to vote. It will be on-going, and volunteers will be welcomed. Call Weidemann if you want further details.

Karen Noonan and Rich attended the Women's History Month program at Buffalo State College. Elaine Conway, Director of the New York State Women's Commission, spoke at the luncheon. Conway stressed the need for women to help one another and to promote those issues so crucial to women. It was an excellent networking opportunity, well-attended and interesting. Next

See Presidents on page 6.



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

BUFFALO BRANCH NEWSLETTER

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

Co-Presidents: Bunny Blackstone (655-4519)
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AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, life-long education, and positive societal change.

May 1996
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Deadline for the May issue is May 1.

PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW's Public Policy Program/Voter Education

Over the years AAUW's Public Policy Program has continually and consistently identified basic principles for action, such as, equity and education for all women and girls; opposition to all forms of discrimination; social, economic, and physical well-being of all persons; enhancement of a pluralistic culture; and a clean and healthful environment. From these and other defined principles, biennial action priorities have evolved with the input and general endorsement of the voting members representing branches around the country at each biennial Association meeting. Biennial action priorities

are intended to focus and direct our efforts at the branch and state levels.

The Public Policy Program brochure is included in this issue of our newsletter to remind us of the mission of AAUW, as well as to give direction to our efforts in the next several months. The Buffalo Branch Public Policy Committee is committed to Voter Education by providing *Getting the Facts*, which you received in the last two newsletters (lavender insert), and by enclosing this brochure. Additional Voter Education materials will be available at the book sale in June.

Ann Bish
Barbara Carier
Stacey Johnson
Karen Noonan
Barbara Olandt
Diane Silvestro
Judy Weidemann

PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 1996-97

The Nominating Committee hereby presents the following slate of officers to the membership of the Buffalo Branch. This meets the bylaws requirement of publication in the newsletter at least fourteen days before the annual meeting in May at which the election will take place. Nominations may be made from the floor with the permission of the person nominated.

President-Elect	
Second Vice-President for Membership Recruitment	Rita Cascia
Recording Secretary	Christine O'Connor
Corresponding Secretary	Carol Paskuly
Educational Foundation	Ann Hicks
Loan Funds Treasurer	Maryalice Seagrave
Public Policy Chair	Diana Sina
Nominating Committee Chair	Margit Spector
Nominating Committee Members	Bunny Blackstone
	Judy Bratty
	Marian Fay
	Jane Riga

Ernie Foster
Nominating Committee Chair

The Book Sale History

Part 3

Lois Jarrett has coordinated more book sales than anyone in the Buffalo Branch organization. During six sales, she flitted from 270 Pearl St. to the Liberty Bank Building, the Ellicott Square, back to 270 Pearl Street, and finally to the completed Convention Center (formerly 270 Pearl Street).

Jarrett recalls the year she was offered the entire contents of a small downtown bookstore. Elated by the call, she later was crushed to discover that the inventory consisted entirely of pornographic books.

When members told Ellie Lawson, former member, to "break a leg" running the sale, they didn't mean for her to take it literally, but she did. She did most of her coordinating by phone with on-site help from Jarrett. The following year she broke her wrist, but again managed to run the sale efficiently. Both "bad breaks" made splendid publicity pictures.

In 1973, dealers interested in first crack at the books advised us to charge first-day admission. We started with a \$1 charge, which was gradually increased to \$3, later to \$5, and this year to \$10 until noon, and \$5 after noon. While some people are aware of the charge, some are surprised, and some wait out the time until the lower charge goes into effect. Dealers never object to the cost, and it was back in 1973 when a dealer told a member, "You should charge \$10 to get in here." Now we do.

to be continued

Ruthe Sicherman

CULTURAL NEWS

By now, we should all have forgotten about the long winter. Most seasonal cultural organizations are winding down their seasons and enlisting your subscriptions for next year. However, there are still a few events to be enjoyed in May.

The Muir String Quartet will conclude the season for the Chamber Music Society on May 14 in the Mary Seaton room. The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra will spotlight violinist Gil Shaham on May 11 and 12 and narrator Christopher Plummer on May 24 and 25. Other May BPO concerts are *A Night of Gospel and Blues* on May 3 and 4 and *The Planets* by Holtz on the Sight and Sound Series on May 9.

The Burchfield-Penney Art Center will showcase local architect Robert Coles in connection with its exhibit, *Design Diaspora: Black Architects and International Architecture, 1970-1990*. The Albright-Knox Art Gallery's Western New York show opens May 27.

The Kenan Center in Lockport has two events of interest. Neil Simon's *Rumors* will play at the Taylor Theatre beginning on May 31, and the annual 100 American Craftsmen will take over the Kenan Arena from May 31 to June 2. An earlier Neil Simon play, *Come Blow Your Horn*, will be on stage at the Lancaster Opera House from May 16 to May 26. The exciting musical *Tommy* will take over Shea's Buffalo from May 6 - 12.

The Buffalo Choral Arts Society's 115-voice spring concert will be held June 1 at 8 p.m. in Rockwell Hall at Buffalo State College, under the direction of Dr. Peter Bagley, University of Connecticut. Traditional music and spirituals will be featured. Tickets are available from member Ernie Foster.



BRANCH NOTES

Congratulations...

...to member **Stacey Johnson**, who is a recipient of the prestigious Opera Guild's International Annual Partners in Excellence Award. The awards ceremony will take place on July 11 during the opening festivities of OGI's conference in Cooperstown, New York, the home of Glimmerglass Opera.

...to member **Freddie Cheek**, who took office on March 29 as president of the National Association for Job Search Training, a national association for career and job search for professionals.

Condolences...

...to member **Jan Vine** on the death of her father.

...to Co-President **Bunny Blackstone** on the death of her mother-in-law.

Volunteer Openings

Can you spare 1 - 5 hours to help?...

.... as interviewers of applicants for Chamberlin Loans?

Wednesday, June 5, 6 p.m. - 1 hour

Tuesday, June 25, - 3 - 4 hours

Wednesday, June 26 - 3 - 4 hours

Friday, June 28 - 3 - 4 hours

....pledge taker during Channel 17 May Days membership drive

May 1 - 10 for 4 - 5 hours in the evening.

To volunteer for either task, please call Maryalice Seagrave at 833-0437.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to Buffalo Branch's newest member.

Dana Wright
49 Colony Court
Snyder, NY 14226
839-0503

Wright is president of Medical Center Vending. She earned a master's degree in education from Auburn University in Alabama and a doctorate in nursing from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Rita Cascia
Vice-President for Membership Recruitment

Presidents continued from page 2.

year, let's put together a table from Buffalo Branch to introduce ourselves to the attendees.

The first award program for Outstanding Women sponsored by the New York State Commission on Women will be held on June 20; the place is yet to be determined. This will be especially exciting as the commission itself is setting the criteria for the awards. The commission's concerns for women are economic development, domestic violence, women's health, education, and social issues (not necessarily in that order). The awards will follow that agenda, and, hopefully, a small scholarship will be given to a woman who has achieved success while overcoming difficult circumstances. We're looking for a sponsor for the scholarship, and some good prospects have come forth. Rich is working on this exciting luncheon.

If you are interested in getting involved politically, state legislators could use some help by getting your view on whether or not Braille should be a required course in the master's special education program. Lobbyists from the New York

State Blind Association have asked for help for what they believe is a serious lack in the program. They believe that all children should have the right to read for themselves, and they want your help in passing legislation to require that Braille be learned by special ed teachers. The association says it is easy to learn in a short time, and it offers the blind a freedom they otherwise would not have. It is especially critical for those blind students in higher education science courses. Let Sharon Rich know what you think about this, or write to your own state legislator.

Sharon Rich
Bunny Blackstone

APRIL BOARD MEETING

The Buffalo Branch Board meeting was called to order by Co-President Bunny Blackstone on April 3, 1996, at the Original Pancake House. The minutes were circulated and accepted as corrected. The following reports were given:

President's Report – Bunny Blackstone thanked the members who were involved in Women's History Month at the Walden Galleria. The achievement award recipient has been selected. The May board meeting will be held at Blackstone's home, preceded by a potluck supper.

Sharon Rich reported that the Family Literacy program is very successful. *Books for Kids* is a little behind its goal, but it is still progressing. Rich and Judy Weidemann are working on *Kids Vote*. They need volunteers and groups that will sponsor school districts.

Past President's Report – Judy Weidemann reported on *Vote '96*. The branch's Voter Education Committee continues to meet monthly. They are inserting information sheets into the newsletter.

President-Elect's Report – Karen Noonan reported on the March branch program. It

realized a profit of \$23 and \$66 for the Legal Advocacy Fund.

First Vice-President for Program Report – Karen Noonan read the list of proposed programs for 1996-1997, prepared by the Program Committee.

Third Vice-President for Membership Retention Report – Carolyn Day received an accurate membership count from the Association. The branch has 231 recorded members. Day also received a \$2,538 rebate from past membership duplicate paymrnts. Sharon Rich thanked Day and Treasurer Michelle Bancroft for their work in collecting this information.

Treasurer's Report – Michelle Bancroft presented the treasurer's report which showed a balance of \$9,989.02 in the checking account and \$3,092.56 in the savings account. The report was accepted and filed for audit.

Loan Funds Treasurer's Report – Cindy Monacelli presented a report which showed \$29,553.73 in the Chamberlin Loan Fund and \$6,096.61 in Funds for Education. The report was accepted and filed for audit.

Educational Foundation Report – Stacey Johnson presented a report which showed an overall balance of \$4,085.66.

Public Policy Report – Judy Weidemann will draft a letter from Buffalo Branch to the Erie County Library and to Erie County legislators in support of the continuation of the West Falls Library Branch.

Education Report – Barbara Carier presented programs in March to the Erie / BOCES teachers about sexual harassment in schools.

Chamberlin Loan Report – Maryalice Seagrave has sent out many applications. She will start interviews the last week in June and will recruit volunteers at the next board meeting.

Finance/Budget Report – Diane Silvestro presented the budget report. A motion was made to subtract the 1992-1993 deficit from the 1994-

1995 surplus and put the balance into unrestricted funds. The motion passed unanimously. A motion was made to put \$3,000 from the Hope Isaac bequest into a CD with interest to be used for branch expenses. The motion passed unanimously. It was suggested that checks have only one signature, but to do so, the bylaws will have to be revised. A motion was made to donate the \$500 bequest from Marilyn Campbell to the Project FLIGHT in Campbell's memory. The motion passed unanimously. A motion as made to accept the budget committee report. The motion passed unanimously. Blackstone thanked Silvestro and her committee.

Legal Advocacy Fund Report – The branch did not raise enough money to meet the LAF 5-star requirement this year.

Study Groups Report – Judy Bratty reported that the Clueless Group, a mystery book club, met, and the Herb and Seasoning Group will begin in May.

May Luncheon Report – Linda Fusco reported that plans for the luncheon are progressing well. Vicki Marshall will be asked to install the officers.

Nominating Committee Report – The nominating committee will present the slate of officers at the May luncheon without any changes. Nominations may be made from the floor, and a secret ballot may be requested.

Book Sale Report – Bunny Blackstone reported that a site is still needed.

New Business – Linda Fusco presented her ideas for the Leadership Development Program. Fusco suggested calling new members and inviting them to our May Luncheon and recruiting them for committees. A motion was made to form a committee to develop a Leadership Development Program. The motion passed. Diane Silvestro offered to chair the committee.

AAUW BUFFALO BRANCH CALENDAR

5/7 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 meet at 7 p.m. at the home of Florence DaLuiso, 2660 South Park Avenue, Lackawanna. She will discuss Chopin's waltzes with some piano interpretations of her own. She will be assisted by a piano performance by Mary Mahoney. Call DaLuiso (828-0373) if you plan to attend.

5/1 Wednesday – The **Buffalo Branch Board** will meet at the home of Bunny Blackstone, 11478 Tomarsue Drive, Marilla, for a potluck supper at 6 p.m., followed by the meeting at 7 p.m. Members are asked to bring a dish to pass. Call Blackstone (655-4519) if you plan to attend.

5/8 Wednesday – The **Herb and Seasonings Group**, a new interest group to share recipes, research, and perhaps meals, will hold an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. at the home of Lynn McClive, 50 Anderson Place, Buffalo. Please call McClive (885-3299) if you are interested.

5/9 Thursday – The **Crafts Group** will meet. Call Barbara Dascomb (685-2079) for details.

5/11 Saturday – The **International Studies Group** will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Ernie Foster, 245 Ransom Oaks Drive, East Amherst. The subject will be *Honduras – Leaving Home to Find It*, presented by our own Joan Ward, Cornell Extension. She will present slides and discuss agriculture and economy, the role of women, nutrition, and health problems. There will be a \$1.50 charge for refreshments. Please contact Foster (688-6393) for reservations, which are necessary to attend.

5/14 Tuesday – The **German Study Group** meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. If you plan to attend, please call Gloria Beutner (838-1273) or Renny Ferber (836-3277) for information about location.

5/15 Wednesday – The **Dinner by the Book Group** will meet at 6 p.m. at the home of Joyce Swartney, 1 Hickory Hill Road, Apt. E, Williamsville, for a planning meeting for the coming year. A potluck feast will be held. Please bring a dish to pass. Contact Marion Kramer (688-9093) if you plan to attend.

5/21 Tuesday – The **Book Review Group** will meet at 1 p.m. at the home of Jo Herman, 258 LaSalle Avenue, Buffalo. She will review *Seven Laws to Success* by Deepok Chopra, and her husband, Bob Herman, will present the video. Please call Herman (833-1886) for reservations.

5/22 Wednesday – The **Clueless Group** (Mystery Book Club) will meet at 6 p.m. at the Original Pancake House, 5479 Main Street, Williamsville, for dinner. Discussion of favorite authors and mystery books will follow at 6:45 p.m. Please call Ann Hicks (741-3964) for reservations.

The **Investment Interest Group** will not meet this month.

5/28 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 Jan Vine (839-2559) for more information. Guests are always welcome.

Judy Bratty, Coordinator
Study and Interest Groups

AAUW BUFFALO BRANCH ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM
JULY 1, 1996 – JUNE 30, 1997

Amount:	\$48.50 (Includes branch, state, and Association dues)
Educational Foundation Donation	<u>2.00</u> (optional)
Total	\$50.50
Association Life Members pay	\$19.50 (Includes branch and state)
Educational Foundation Donation	<u>2.00</u> (optional)
	\$21.50
Dual Members: Buffalo Branch, 1st branch – \$48.50, Buffalo Branch 2nd branch – \$14.50	
AAUW Student Affiliate	\$ 24.25

Make renewal check payable to *AAUW – Buffalo Branch* and mail to Michelle Bancroft, 45 Oakmont Court, East Amherst, NY 14052-2417. **Renewals will be accepted at the May Luncheon.**

Name _____ Type of Membership _____

Amount enclosed _____

Registration Form for Awards Luncheon Program and Annual Meeting
Saturday, May 18, 1996
DAFFODIL'S

Name _____

Guest(s) _____ Name of Guest(s) _____

Luncheon choices:

- Chicken Marsala \$13
- Cheese & Vegetable Quiche \$13
- Broiled Salmon \$16

Amount enclosed \$ _____ Make check payable to *AAUW Buffalo Branch*.

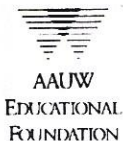
Please send reservations by **May 10** to Ann Bish, 5177 Willow Brook Drive, Clarence, NY 14031
 No reservations will be accepted at the door.

Check here if you are a new AAUW member, joining since June 1995.

In principle and in practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.



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



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



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

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

This newsletter was delivered to the William Street Post Office, Buffalo NY on April 26.



BUFFALO BRANCH
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