

BUFFALO BRANCH NEWSLETTER



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

NYS District 1

October 1997

OCTOBER PROGRAM

Can Women Run for Political Office and Win?

Yes !!!!!

Find out what a group of local women are doing to
help elect women to political office.

**Speaker: Dianne Bennett, Esquire
from the Women's TAP Fund**

**Saturday, October 18, 1997 12:00 noon
Holiday Inn Amherst
1881 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst, NY**

Send reservations to:

*Carolyn Iadovito; 8687 Rebecca Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221-6313
By October 11th, 1997*

See more information on page 5 and reservation form on page 17

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



The Public Policy brochures for 1997-99 have been sent from the Association, and for 1996-98 from New York State. Action priorities for both include: To support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness,

equity, and diversity; To achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women; To guarantee equality and individual rights for a diverse society. We are aware of the inequities in society and work to support the rights which we feel are essential to us. But, this takes more than just belonging to an organization, although the support of women who can't contribute otherwise is genuinely appreciated. The opposite side of rights is responsibility which can be keeping vigil to see that our rights are not eroded little by little and letting lawmakers know our views. It can be running for office or sitting on community boards. Or, it can be volunteering for one of the projects the Buffalo Branch has adopted this year. The one thing to remember is that no one likes to give up power — over your job opportunities, your access to education, or your reproductive choices, and other civil and constitutional rights. I would like to see a public policy study group formed within our branch, even if only to write letters and answer editorials in the media. If anyone is interested, please contact me.

On September 20, I will be meeting with representatives from area branches to firm up plans for the AAUW-NYS meeting in April at Niagara Falls. Remember, our branch is committed to doing the registration and I'm asking members to join a committee for the State Convention. I'm absolutely certain that everyone will be hearing more about this! Ann Hicks has been asked to chair a conference for the "Sister to Sister Summits"

initiative from the Association before the convention in April. These conferences are launching a nationwide dialogue among girls to help them build a network and strengthen their voices. The dialogues will bring together girls of diverse backgrounds to address issues that schools often cannot do adequately; such as sexual harassment, violence, early sexual activity, substance abuse, and body image. Other organizations (YWCA & Girl Scouts) will join in. Ann will keep us posted on this. (Thanks Ann!)

At the new member orientation in August, members who agreed to mentor new members attended. If any new member couldn't appear at the meeting and wants a mentor, please contact me at 631-3349. AND, if anyone has a suggestion, comment, complaint — call me. A suggestion box will be provided at branch meetings — LET ME HEAR FROM YOU.

Diane Silvestro



BUFALO 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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Send address changes to
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Snyder, NY 14226-4307
836-5660

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

October 1997
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Deadline for October issue is October 10

Minutes from the AAUW Board Meeting September 1997 Buffalo Branch

The Buffalo Branch AAUW Board Meeting was called to order at 6:50 PM by President Diane Silvestro at the Clearview Branch Library in Williamsville on September 3, 1997.

Members present:

Bunny Blackstone, Rita Cascia, Ann Hicks, Joan Eschner, Barbara Carier, Maryalice Seagrave, Stacey Johnson, Caren Shapiro, Sandra Ceraulo, Diane Silvestro, Karen Noonan, Mary Jo Evans, Karen Stephenson, Judy Bratty, Judy Weidemann, and Chris O'Connor.

The August minutes were approved.

President's messages:

1. There are board vacancies for President-Elect, by-laws, LAF, Study Group Coordinator, and Book Sale Coordinator!
2. Newsletter deadline is September 8. All items are to be submitted to Silvestro
3. In correspondence, there is an invitation from Rodney Obian at the University of Buffalo for the opening of a Frank Lloyd Wright exhibit to be held in the Darwin Martin House.
4. Kevin Gaughan is presenting a Symposium at Chautauqua on September 10 titled "Building a Regional Community". We will be a sponsor. The Board had been polled by phone.
5. Public Policy Brochures were available at the meeting.
6. AAUW National Public Policy Brochures for 1997-1999 were also available. Silvestro will also read this at the Potluck Supper.

Treasurer's Report:

Bunny Blackstone presented her report Showing a balance of \$17,094.34. All dues have not been paid. Blackstone asked for volunteers to phone members who have not paid their dues this year. Blackstone asked for Board members to submit their projected expenses for this year.

Potluck supper:

Blackstone asked members - to sign up for set-up and clean-up. Blackstone will also sell pens, T-shirts and umbrellas at the supper.

Chamberlin/Funds for Education:

Maryalice Seagrave presented her report showing and ending balance as of August 31, 1997 of \$25,463.89 in Chamberlin Loan Fund and \$7528.43 in Funds for Education.

Finance/Budget:

Sandra Ceraulo is still organizing her report. Ceraulo will set up a finance committee which will include Silvestro, Blackstone, the president-elect, all vice-presidents, and two non-board members which will be recruited by Silvestro. The meeting will be held at Silvestro's home on September 10 at 7:00 PM. Budget lines were reviewed with some projected expenses.

AAUW Regional Meeting:

District I Conference will be held September 27, 1997. Silvestro asked who will be attending and will coordinate car pools. Blackstone will sell our t-shirts, pens and umbrellas.

NYS Convention:

A meeting for the NYS convention preparation will be held in Niagara Falls on September 20, 1997. The registration notebook from last year will be available. A committee will be set up at the next Board meeting to handle the registration at next year's convention.

(Board Minutes continued from page 3)

Standing Committee Reports:

Program:

Karen Noonan reports that the October program is in the planning stages. It will be called "Emily's Fund". and is tentatively set for October 19. The January program is titled "How Experience Shapes the Brain."

Membership:

Rita Cascia reported that there are 2 new members and 2 new members joining soon. A zip code meeting will be held at Cascia's home on September 21 for the members from the North Tonawanda area.

EF:

Ann Hicks reports a balance of \$14,025.18. Admission checks were given to Blackstone Hicks also emphasized the many ways that individuals can contribute to the Foundation The Eleanor Roosevelt Fund is celebrating it's 10th anniversary. There will be a specific focus on it at this year's district meeting. We may want to incorporate it into this year's activities. Brochures are being made available to universities describing our grants and fellowships. Hicks also encouraged members to see the video funded by the Eleanor Roosevelt Foundation. Donna Berow has also donated 2 videos "Women on Postage Stamps" which are available to members.

Hicks presented the "Sister to Sister Project" which is being presented in Philadelphia October. It includes girls from middle schools, high schools and colleges. They will be discussing violence, harassment and gender equity. A conference is being planned for Buffalo with other branches prior to the State Convention. Hicks will work with school systems and other women's groups.

Sandra Ceraulo suggested giving each participating girl a small token of AAUW Buffalo Branch. There is still approximately \$100.00 in the Tri-County bank account which may be used for financing.

Public Policy:

Kids Vote. Silvestro encouraged members to participate. Please send application to Diane Sina, so AAUW will get credit for your participation.

Membership Retention:

Carolyn Day asks that members pay their dues. Blackstone sent out 124 letters to members reminding them to pay their dues.

Women's Focus:

Blackstone updated the Board on the project. Laura Meyers Rogerson is still waiting for funding. The funding will provide transportation for inner city girls to places of employment. Any member interested in donating time, a vehicle or their place of employment, please contact Blackstone. Our branch will be featured in the Women's Focus Newsletter.

Gender Equity Library:

Silvestro pointed out the information which has been ordered from the Association. It will be donated to the Buffalo and Erie County Library System.

New Business:

Penka Skatchkova requested \$150.00 to fund Women's Film Festival in October at SUNY Buffalo. A motion was made to donate \$150.00 from special projects.

(Continued on page 5)

(Board Minutes Continued from page 4)

Announcements:

- LAF Mary Jo Evans suggests we have a basket for the Pot Luck Supper to raise money for LAF. The Board will sponsor a Movie Theme Basket.
- Sandra Ceraulo suggests a raffle at the Book Sale . She will coordinate the raffle.
- Maryalice Seagrave announced that 7 volunteers from AAUW helped with phone recruitment for Channel 17.
- Bratty announced that she will help with Study groups.
- Ann Hicks announced that November 13 will be AAUW day at Habitat for Humanity.
- Karen Stephenson announced that the nominating committee will help the president recruit for positions on the Board.
- Diane Silvestro announced that it is difficult to find places to hold the monthly meetings.
- Stacey Johnson suggests we appoint a House Chairman to find sites.

The next meeting will be at the Audubon Library.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted:
Christine O'Connor

OCTOBER PROGRAM

In 1996 AAUW initiated a Voter Education Campaign. The Voter Education Campaign continues this year as a major AAUW priority. Informing women about the issues, working in coalition with other groups, and getting out the vote are the major thrusts of the Voter Education Campaign.

Last October as part of the Voter Education Campaign, we heard Dr. Nancy McGlen of Niagara University explain the difference in women and men's expectations and participation in the political process. This year on October 18th, Dianne Bennett, a local lawyer and partner in the firm of Hodgson, Russ, Andrews, Woods & Goodyear and board member of the Women's TAP fund will join us and describe what a group of local women are doing to support women who are running for political office. The Women's TAP Fund provides financial support to women in the 8 Western New York counties who are running for non-federal offices. This year the Women's TAP Fund supported 13 women candidates in the September primaries and is committed to providing over \$40,000 of support for the fall elections.

YES! I would like to volunteer to help Kids Voting New York on Election Day, Nov, 4

Name _____	Times available to assist
Address _____	6:00 AM to 9:00 PM _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	9:00 AM to noon _____
Phone _____	noon to 3:00 PM _____
Poling place preference or neighborhood _____	3:00 PM to 6:00 PM _____
	6:00 PM to 9:00 PM _____

Return to: *DIANE SINA; 60 BROOKDALE DRIVE; WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221 (632-4188)*
no later than October 5, 1997.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

9/2-10/31 Exhibit @UB Archives "Manuscripts, Photographs, and Architectural Drawings from the Frank Lloyd Wright - Darwin Martin Collection" 645-2916

Sat 9/27 District I Regional Meeting-send in registration from September newsletter

Tue 9/30 Buffalo Forum, NYS Constitution Debate-see September newsletter

Wed 10/01 Board meeting 6:45 PM, Audubon Library

Wed 10/08 Dr. Joycelyn Elders, 1997 Annual Celebration-Planned Parenthood 853-1779

Thu 10/09 Distinguished Speaker Series @UB Carol Burnett 8:00 PM 645-6147

Sun 10/19 "Honoring the Peacekeepers" YWCA Week Without Violence 852-6120

Mon 10/20 "Community Based Child Care as a Violence Prevention Strategy" YWCA 852-6120

Tue 10/21 Film Festival "About Women" @UB 6:30 pm 645-2960

Tue 10/21 "Safe School Days" YWCA Week Without Violence 852-6120

Wed 10/22 "Domestic Violence as it Affects the Workplace" YWCA 852-6120

Thu 10/23 "Facing Violence Among Men" YWCA 852-6120

Fri 10/24 "Eliminating Racism & Hate Crime" YWCA 852-6120

Sat 10/25 "Replacing Violence With Sports, Recreation and Fun" YWCA 852-6120

Tue 10/28 Film Festival "About Women" @UB 6:30 pm 645-2960

Tue 11/04 Kids Vote. Sign up with Diane Sina

Sat 11/15 Branch program "Achievement of African-American Women"

Thu 11/20 Distinguished Speaker Series @UB, Marian Wright Edelman 7:30 pm 645-6147

KIDS VOTING NEW YORK

Did you know that . . .

only 49 percent of the nation's eligible voters voted for the 1966 Presidential election?

less than 14 percent of eligible young adults between the ages of 14 and 24 vote?

fewer than 40 percent of those 18 to 21 register to vote?

more than 70 percent of registered voters do not participate in local elections?

Kids Voting New York is an innovative, non-profit, non-partisan voter education program. Its mission is to provide educators with short curricula designed to educate students about voting and the democratic process. The goal is to have students accompany their parents to the polls and vote in their own separate election on November 4.

Buffalo Chapter of the AAUW has volunteered to join a growing list of community organizations who recognize the importance of Kids Voting.

Members are needed at the schools to help the students. For more information about the program call Diane Sina at 632-4188. A volunteer form, accompanies this newsletter. Not only will your effort will be appreciated this year, it will have a positive effect for years to come .

Please sign up today

Mail form to Diane Sina , 60 Brookdale Drive; Williamsville, NY 14221-3215 before October

See form on Page 5

EF Fellowships & Grants 1998-99

The Buffalo Branch has a long and strong commitment to supporting and promoting the Educational Foundation fellowships and grants. The branch established a Research & Projects grant in its name and then decided to take on the challenge of a fellowship. This year we will complete a pledge made in 1982-83 to raise and contribute \$100,000.00 to establish the **Buffalo Branch Centennial American Fellowship**. The funds for these contributions to the EF are generated through our annual used book sale which time-and-again has proven to be a very successful and fulfilling fund raising project for our branch. Once again, I want to extend my thanks to all the members who so graciously supported this year's sale through generous donations of their time, talent, supplies, equipment and funds. Without this ongoing cooperative and unified effort by our members, we never would have achieved these results. **Congratulations, Buffalo Branch!**

Share the information about the Educational Foundation. Now is the time to request information and applications for these highly competitive EF fellowships and grants.

Briefly these are the fellowships and grants available and the deadlines for submitting applications:

- American Fellowships Deadline: November 17, 1997
 - Postdoctoral/research leave \$27,000
 - Dissertation fellowship 14,500
 - Summer faculty fellowship \$ 5,000
- International Fellowships Deadline: December , 1997
 - Fellowship stipend \$15,160
- Selected Professions Deadline: January 6, 1998
(except engineering)
 - Engineering dissertation Deadline: November 17, 1997
- Career Development Grants Deadline: January 5, 1998
 - Applicants must have earned a bachelor's degree
& received their last degree before June 30, 1993.
 - Grant range \$1,000-\$5,000
- Eleanor Roosevelt Teacher Fellowships Deadline: January 12, 1998
 - Fellowship range \$1,000-\$10,000
- Community Action Grants Deadline: February , 1998
 - Grant range \$500-\$5,000

Tell your friends and colleagues about this exceptional source of funding for women of all ages, races, creeds, and nationalities. Preference goes to women whose civic, community, or professional work shows a commitment to advancing the welfare of women and girls.

Brochures describing the various fellowships and grants are available. Contact Ann Hicks (741-3964), call the AAUW EF office (800/ 821-4364 10:00 AM-5:00 PM EST) or obtain information by visiting the website (www.aauw.org).

2nd ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL "ABOUT WOMEN"



New member, Penka Skachkova, not only addressed the Buffalo Branch at our September meeting, but she is also organizing a film festival "About Women." Last year it was held at the Calu-

met, and presented films from Iran, Argentina, France, and Ivory Coast. Her dream has been to establish this festival as an annual event attracting local, national, and international audiences, eventually inviting some of the creators and actors to Buffalo. This year, the festival will be held at the Center for the Arts, North Campus on October 21 and 28, November 10, 18, and 25. The selection process is underway by a committee whose members are from diverse backgrounds, departments, nationalities, and experiences. Our branch has donated \$150.00 and the University will provide the majority of funding. This is a new direction for our branch but still consistent with our mission. Good luck to Penka for her dedication and energy. Please support her effort! All films will start at 6:30 PM and until the selection process is completed, information can be obtained from the Graduate Student Association, 645-2960.

AAUW BUFFALO BRANCH STUDY GROUPS

10/7/97 Tuesday-AAUW Book Review Interest Group at 1:00 PM. Nancy Acara will review "Africa, Give me Your Eyes" by Matthew Haumann. The hostess is Grace Kenline. Please call Grace (877-0734) if you plan to attend.


10/14/97 Tuesday-Mollie Fleisher Memorial Music Study Group will meet at 1:30 PM at the home of Carolyn Day, 127 Meadowview Lane, Williamsville, NY. Call Carolyn (634-6340) if you plan to attend.

10/15/97 Wednesday-Dinner by the Book will meet at 6:00 PM at the Country Kitchen on Niagara Falls Blvd., Tonawanda, NY. Rita Green will review "Cloud Chambers" by Michael Dorris. Please call Lynne Tauriello (689-0549) for reservations.

10/16/97 Thursday-Travel Study Group will meet at 7:00 PM at the Home of Bunny Blackstone, 11478 Tomarsue Dr., Marilla, NY. This will be an organizational meeting. Members are welcome and your input is important. Please call Bunny at 655-4519 or Karen Noonan at 688-0978 for reservations and directions.

10/20/97 Monday-Mind/Body Talk—For the Health of it! will meet at 7:00 PM at the home of Ann Hicks, 5177 Willow Brook Drive, Clarence, NY. Join us for this opportunity to explore with a highly respected health care professional key issues and special concerns about health and health care services. As patients and consumers, we need to educate

(Continued on page 10)




YWCA
Week Without
Violence

October 19 - 25, 1997

Imagine...
7 days
168 hours
10,080 minutes
604,080 seconds

WITHOUT VIOLENCE

Call 852-6120
for a complete
schedule of events.



YWCA of
Western New York
190 Franklin Street
Buffalo, NY 14202

Third Annual YWCA Week Without Violence October 19-25, 1997

Live for seven days in a new world. A world where there is talking instead of yelling Negotiation instead of hitting. Open minds and open hands, instead of loaded guns. A place where your race, ethnicity sexual orientation, age and religion would invoke appreciation and respect - not fear and spite.

Last year millions of people heard or read about this new world and responded by participating in the YWCA Week Without Violence. You and your family, neighbors, coworkers, friends and classmates can join in this October 19-25, 1997.

You hold in your hands a vital ingredient to the formula for defeating violence Each person can take a simple action. Together, these actions offer solutions to this country's frightening addiction to violence.

The YWCA of Western New York is one of over 400 YWCA's across the country and around the world to participate in the Week Without Violence. Our complete schedule of events will be out very soon, but in the meantime, here's a sampling of the events we're planning.

Sunday, October 19: A Day of Remembrance "Honoring the Peacekeepers."

Monday, October 20: Protecting Our Children
"Community Based Child Care as a Violence Prevention Strategy" John M. Jeffries. Ph.D., Vera Institute of Justice

Tuesday, October 21: Making Our Schools Safer "Safe School Days"

Wednesday, October 22: Confronting Violence Against Women
"Domestic Violence as it Affects the Workplace"

Thursday, October 23: Facing Violence Among Men

Friday, October 24: Eliminating Racism and Hate Crime Poster & Essay Contest Awards Ceremony

Saturday, October 25: Replacing Violence With Sports, Recreation and Fun

Event #1: "Healing the Hurt"
Sisters Hospital, 10:45 a.m.

Event #2: "Sports Demonstrations and Skills Clinics"

Our media sponsors are WKBW-TV Channel 7 and WKSE FM 98.5. Additional support has been received from Erie County Legislature District 11, through the efforts of Legislator Lynn Marinelli.

(Study Groups continued from pg. 8)

ourselves in order to be prepared to adequately assess and evaluate our options. Where do you turn for professional advice? Who can you trust? How much control/responsibility do we have over/for our health?

Future sessions scheduled will focus on fitness, meditation, and massage. Homeopathy, aging, nutrition and reflexology have also been identified as possible areas to study. Come and share your ideas about this group along with any good resources and publications or tapes you would recommend. If you have questions or wish to discuss the group, call Ernie Foster (688-6393) or Ann Hicks (741-3964). Please let one of us know if you are attending so we can prepare adequate copies of handout materials.

10/22/97 Wednesday-Clueless Group (Mystery Book Club) will meet the Original Pancake House on Main St. in Williamsville. Myra Menti will review the works of Lillian Jackson Braun, whose sets her stories in the Northern Mid-West. If you plan to attend, please contact Myra at 626-4832.

Ready for another day of work on the women-built house?

We are scheduled to work on Thursday, November 13th, beginning at 8:30 AM. and staying until we finish the jobs for the day. By November 13th we will be inside and could be taping and plastering seams, staining doors or doing whatever needs to be done. If you haven't worked, you'll find it a most rewarding experience. Call Ann Bish at 741-3964 to sign up.

AAUW's Organization

For new members who hear old hands toss initials around, AAUW is organized in the following way:

The Association:

Education Foundation (EF)
Association (corporate)
Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF)

Middle Atlantic Region (MAR):
New York State (and others)

NYS Board of Directors;
Membership
Education Foundation
Equity
Public Policy
Diversity
Branch Council

District Teams:
Buffalo Branch (and others)

The Buffalo Branch supports the fellowships and scholarships that the EF awards with funds from our annual book sale. LAF receives \$2.50 for each member of the branch to fight sex discrimination in higher education.

submitted by Diane Silvestro

5-STAR BRANCH IN A 5 STAR STATE: BUFFALO

by Barbara Carier, Buffalo Delegate Chair

The 5-Star Branch program entered its fourth year in 1996-97, and Buffalo again achieved this status, along with 369 other branches (of approx. 1400) from around the nation. The tribute from New York State was given at the State Convention in Saratoga Springs last May, and I was proud to be able to accept the Association's award at the Anaheim Convention for us. The award signifies that we made major gains in at least five of the areas most important to AAUW: membership, visibility, public policy, leadership, community action, and EF/LAF giving. This means that Buffalo has achieved this high status in all four of the years the competition has been in effect. New York State itself also reached 5-Star State status for the second year. The state-level competition has existed for only two years, so New York can also be proud of itself. Only 28 states were able to reach the 5 Stars this year.

At the Anaheim Convention, several special interest groups held caucuses to discuss issues of concern and to explore how their experiences relate to their AAUW membership. The Breast Cancer Survivors discussion was led by former AAUW President Sharon Shuster (CA) and outgoing EF President Alice Ann Leidel (NY.) The Women of Color caucus focused on the experiences of women of color in AAUW and on ways to move more women of color into AAUW leadership positions. The Lesbian Caucus offered ideas on how to make AAUW

branches safe environments for lesbian and bisexual members to be open about their identities. The Younger Members Caucus talked over efforts to make AAUW more appealing to women under age 40. So far the work has concentrated on public policy, especially voter education. The International Caucus discussed AAUW's involvement in international issues and future investment in international women's rights. The Gender Balance Project discussed a project to achieve gender equity in politically appointed boards and commissions. The Members at Large had an informal gathering where MALs could meet each other and talk about ways they can utilize AAUW resources and be active as national members.

It was announced at the Convention that New York State is one of nine states to win a Public Policy Impact Grant to build public policy capacity to mobilize women to vote in the 1998 national elections. The first-time awards will give the states initial grants of \$850 for use in 1998, when Association leaders and staff will work with state, congressional district, and branch leaders to increase statewide activism.

Keep in Touch



Whenever you hear of a member who has had a major event in her life, please let **Carol Paskuly** (881-4358) know so she can send them an appropriate card. When she called members last year to work on the book sale, some had been in the hospital and not received cards from the branch. But if someone also has a new grandchild or job or received a promotion, tell Carol so she can congratulate them.



Eleanor Roosevelt: *Her Star Still Shines*

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the AAUW Educational Foundation Eleanor Roosevelt Fund for Women and Girls. Established in 1988, the fund launched the research initiatives and reports that exposed the nature, scope and consequences of gender inequity in our schools. From the earliest report, *How Schools Shortchange Girls* (1992) to the most recent solutions offered in *Growing Smart: What's Working for Girls* (1996), the AAUW EF continues to provide significant information and leadership on key issues affecting the quality of education in our nation's public schools.

Named for the woman who proclaimed, "We need every single mind" for America's future, the fund features three programmatic efforts: research initiatives, Teacher Fellowships for public school teachers, and community-based projects. In addition, the fund sponsors several special awards for outstanding contributions toward gender equity.

Each one of these initiatives has not only helped to focus attention on gender inequity in schools and what needs to be done to eliminate it, but has substantially increased the visibility of AAUW, nationally and internationally. It has profoundly influenced the direction, priorities and activities of AAUW at every level and seems to have encouraged an even greater level of commitment to actively seek innovative solutions to correct and improve existing conditions in our nation's schools. The outcome can only serve to benefit future generations of women and girls.

The studies and reports published and videos

produced since the inception of the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund include:

- The AAUW Report: How Schools Shortchange Girls
- Hostile Hallways: The AAUW Survey on Sexual Harassment in America's Schools
- Growing Smart: What's Working for Girls in School
- Girls in the Middle: Working to Succeed in School
- Shortchanging Girls, Shortchanging America (video/18:58min.)
- Girls in the Middle (video/26:23min.)
- Girls Can! (video/16:29min)

Copies of these materials are available and can be borrowed from the branch resource library.

How fitting to have named this particular fund for Eleanor Roosevelt. As we celebrate the tenth anniversary of the fund, it seems only appropriate that we also pay special tribute to this world renowned, respected and admired woman whose remarkable life and significant contributions provided inspiration and focus for this fund. It was Eleanor Roosevelt's humanitarian efforts on behalf of children, the oppressed and the poor throughout her life that earned her the love and admiration of people around the world. Born October 11, 1884, we particularly want to remember her this month and celebrate her life which personified in so many ways the beliefs and hopes integral to the work of AAUW, and especially this fund. Deservedly, there are volumes written about her as well as many written by her. Samples of her insightful and practical commentary follow:

Be your own best self After all, that is the only special thing you have to offer the world—you,

(Continued on page 13)

*(Eleanor Roosevelt from pg. 12)
yourself and the things that make you
different from others. Do not try to be like
someone else, develop your talents and
your interests, all of them. The most
interesting and successful people in the
world are those who have developed the
most interests in life.*

*We all create the person we become by our
choices as we go through life. In a very real
sense we are the sum total of the choices
that we have made.*

*There is so much to do, so many engrossing
challenges, so many heartbreaking and
pressing needs, so much in every day that is
profoundly interesting*

*You gain strength, courage, and confidence
by every experience in which you really
stop to look fear in the face. You must do
the thing which you think you cannot do.*

*There is no more liberating, no more
exhilarating experience than to determine
one's position, state it bravely and the act
boldly. Action brings with it its own cour-
age, its own energy, a growth of self
confidence that can be acquired in no other
way.*

Doesn't that last quote reflect the action orien-
tation of AAUW! Look for more about **ER** and
this fund next month.

— submitted by
Ann Hicks

House Eliminates Sex Equity Provisions in Vocational Education; Senate is Only Hope*

On July 22, the House approved the Carl Perkins Vocational-Technical Education Act (HR 1853), 414-12. In doing so, the House eliminated the sex equity provisions that since 1984 have required states to reserve 10.5 percent of their Perkins funding to address gender bias in the classroom and to prepare displaced homemakers and single parents for the workplace.

These sex equity programs are critical in helping women who have been out of the work force gain marketable skills and access to nontraditional careers. During floor debate there was an amendment to maintain funding for these programs that failed 207-214.

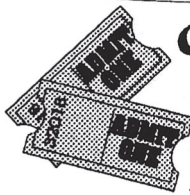
The Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee has not yet taken action on the bill leaving one last opportunity to save these critical programs. Committee consideration should come in early fall with Senate floor consideration soon after.

ACTION: CALL YOUR SENATORS AT 202-224-3121. Urge them to support sex equity programs and programs that eliminate sex bias and stereotyping in vocational education (Senate bill has no number yet.)

Affirmative Action at Risk*

In June, Rep. Charles Canady (R-FL) and Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY) introduced the so-called Civil Rights Act of 1997, HR 1909/S 950.

(Continued on page 15)



Cultural Events

October is turning out to be an extremely busy month as far as things to see and do are



concerned. Let's start with theater. I'm going to do a bit of editorializing this time on behalf of two plays. First, "Molly Sweeney" which is being performed by the Irish Classical Theatre Company at the Calumet Arts Theatre, beginning on October 16. I saw this in New York and it was dynamite: a serious contemporary piece by Brian Friel, considered to be Ireland's greatest living playwright. Second "Dancing in the Dark" a musical about the influence of Fred Astaire, created and performed by a former student of mine, Jeff Denman. Summerfare is presenting it at the Pfeifer Theatre, beginning on October 30.

Also on stage this month: "Pippin (the musical)", at the Niagara University Theatre, opening October 10. More musicals: the Tony award winning "Chicago" at Shea's from October 14-19, and the classic "Guys and Dolls" at the Lancaster Opera House from October 2-19. The Studio Arena Theatre will present Tennessee William's classic, "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof", beginning on October 24. At the Ujima Theatre, opening October 31, will be Sam Shepard's "A Lie of the Mind."

Musically, there is also a full schedule. QRS will present guitarist Christopher Parkening on October 5 at Kleinhans. At the University of Buffalo Center for the Fine Arts: a free concert by the U.S. Marine Marching Band on October 12 and "Jewel Box", an opera about Mozart on October 17. At the University's Slee Hall: the Oberlin Trio on October 24 and the Cassatt String Quartet beginning the annual Beethoven Cycle on October 30. The BPO has two sets each a, classical and pops concerts: Manuel Barrueco, guitar, on October 4

and 5, Barry Douglas, piano, on October 25 and 26, Maureen McGovern on October 17 and 18 and "Doe's Halloween Treat" on October 30 and 31. Finally, the Chamber Music Series opens with the St. Petersburg Quartet on October 7.

An exhibit of the works of glass artist Dale Chihuly of Installations created between 1964 and 1997 will open at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery on October 19. Also look for an exhibit of independent glass artists at the Burchfield-Penney Art Gallery about the same time.

For those readers in our group, why not try Bistro Bookers, meeting this month at Pettibone's on October 28? Henry Louis Taylor will review "Home from Nowhere: Remaking Our Everyday World for the Twenty-First Century."

Let's Celebrate Our Differences

"In principle and 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". This is the Diversity Statement of AAUW. Our group advocates rights and opportunities for women and girls, but women and girls are not a cohesive group and what unites us is our mission. Within the group, women and girls, there are many differences, some obvious others not, but often being different, even in a positive way sometimes puts people off and the effect can be devastating. Let's remember that AAUW works because it's members believe in a

(Continued on page 15)

(...Celebrate... Continued from page 14)

(Affirmative Action from pg. 13)

common cause, in other words, follow the flag not the person carrying it. Langston Hughes has shared his feelings about being different with us in the following poem:

"Genius Child"

by Langston Hughes

This is a song for the genius child.
Sing it softly, for the song is wild.
Sing it softly as ever you can —

Nobody loves a genius child.

Can you love an eagle,
Tame or wild?

Wild or tame,
Can you love a monster
Of frightening name?

Nobody loves a genius child.

Kill him—and let his soul run
wild!

LANGSTON HUGHES was revered as the dean of Afro-American writers and world-renowned artist whose poems, plays, and stories have had profound influence. He wrote "Genius Child" early in his career (about 1938) around the time his mother died.

Submitted by Diane Silvestro

This proposal would prohibit all affirmative action policies in federal contracts, hiring and promotions, end all other federal programs and activities. Additionally, it would overturn every Supreme Court decision authorizing the courts' use of affirmative action to remedy past discrimination.

On July 9, the House Judiciary Subcommittee passed HR 1909 by voice vote, The full House Judiciary Committee will consider the bill this fall. The Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing last month on affirmative action, but hasn't taken further action on S 950.

ACTION: CALL YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AT 202-224-3121. Urge them to oppose the McConnell/Canady bill. Monitor your state legislatures for similar anti-affirmative action legislation.

*This information was excerpted from Action Alert, AAUW's public policy newsletter.

Subscribe to Action Alert For information on legislation affecting women and families and step-by-step information on what you can do to make a difference, call 800-608-5286 for a subscription form.

Loans and Grants

Loans and Grants Applications to the Chamberlin Loan Fund and Funds for Education are available for applicants interested in applying for Spring 1998-Fall 1998. Deadline for completion of applications is December 1, 1997. For application forms write to Chair, Chamberlin Loan Fund, P.O. Box 397, Amherst NY 14226-0397 or call Dr. Anastasia Johnson at 885-2486.

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 Membership Retention VP
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 Maria Coppola 882-1562
 Judy Bratty 833-5995
 Elaine Cusker 741-4885
 No Candidate
 Jane Riga 837-7924
 Diane Silvestro 631-3349

Something to think about...

If the world had only 100 people, there would be:

57 Asians
 21 Europeans
 14 From the Western Hemisphere
 8 Africans

70 Non-white
 30 White

70 Non-Christian

30 Christian

70 would be unable to read
 50 would suffer from malnutrition
 80 would live in sub-standard housing
 1 would have a college education

50% of the world's wealth would be in the hands of only 6 people...all 6 would be United States citizens.

Information from the Schenectady YWCA Review

DID YOU PAY YOUR DUES???

Payment Form For 1997 - 98 Dues

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone (H) _____ (W) _____

Fax _____ E-Mail _____

Place of Employment _____

Position _____

Other organizations to which you belong _____

Amount *	Branch Member \$53.50	Life Member \$24.50
	Student Affiliate \$26.75	Dual Member \$16.50

* All amounts include an optional \$2.00 contribution to the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF).

Send form and payment to: Grace Blackstone, 11478 Tomarsue Drive, Marilla, NY 14102.

OCTOBER BRANCH MEETING

Can Women Run for Political Office and Win?

Saturday, October 18, 1997

Holiday Inn Amherst
1881 Niagara Falls Blvd, Amherst, NY

MENU (check your and your guest's preference) \$10.00

- _____ Quiche Du Jour & Fresh Fruit
 - _____ Cashew Chicken Salad
- Includes fresh rolls & butter; coffee, tea & decaf; & desert*

Send reservations and check by **October 11th, 1997** to:
Carolyn Iadovito; 8687 Rebecca Drive; Williamsville, NY 14221-6313

Make checks payable to Buffalo Branch AAUW

Name _____

Guests _____

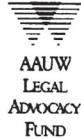
In principle and in practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.



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 possessive societal change.



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

Moving? Did not receive the newsletter? Please contact Marion Fay (836-5660). This newsletter was delivered to the William Street Post Office, Buffalo NY on September 29, 1997



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