

# Buffalo Branch Newsletter



AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY  
WOMEN

NYS District 1

June 2001

Buffalo Branch Home Page  
[Http://www.aauwbuffalo.org](http://www.aauwbuffalo.org)

**DON'T FORGET THE  
BOOK SALE**

**JUNE 6 - 10, 2001**

**Steinmart/Premier Plaza**

**8012 Transit Road**

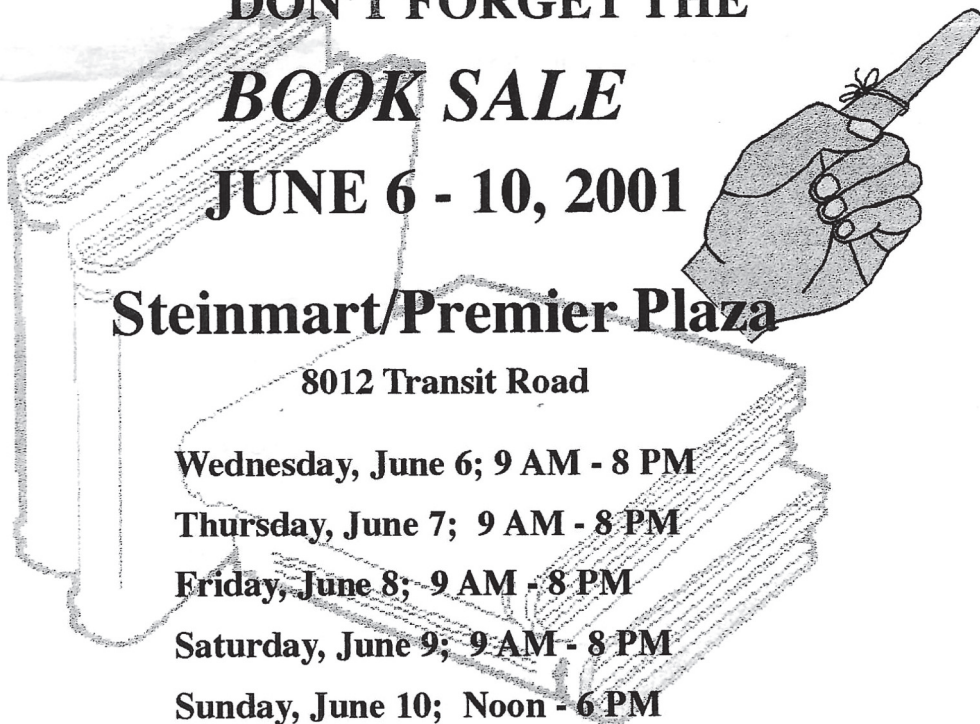
**Wednesday, June 6; 9 AM - 8 PM**

**Thursday, June 7; 9 AM - 8 PM**

**Friday, June 8; 9 AM - 8 PM**

**Saturday, June 9; 9 AM - 8 PM**

**Sunday, June 10; Noon - 6 PM**



## Presidents' Message

What a dynamic ending we have had to the 200-2001 year. The delightful luncheon on May 5, 2001 at the Buffalo Museum of Science helped us to look at the accomplishments of the Buffalo Branch this program year. It was announced at that event that the branch received 6 stars from the State for its accomplishments. We were able to give the largest amount of money in the State to the Educational Foundation. This amount, \$14,470, was raised through our Used Book Sale.

It was a great pleasure to honor Gretchen Stringer as the AAUW Woman of Achievement at the luncheon. Gretchen has made many contributions to the community and she is currently President of the Pan Am Women's Pavilion. That connection is significant because so many of our members have been involved in the Women's Pavilion and the activities connected with it. A group of our members marched at the Pan Am Centennial Opening Parade on May 5, 2001. The branch made a significant monetary contribution to the Pan Am Woman's Leadership Conference held from May 18 to May 20, 2001. We acted as co-sponsors with Zonta International, District 4 for the "City of Light Gala Dinner" held on May 19 in connection with that Conference.

Now on to the next term. Rita Clement and her

Deadline for the July issue is June 15  
Please send articles to Joan Eschner via e-mail to [jmeschner@att.net](mailto:jmeschner@att.net). Articles that are received later than the above date will not appear in the October issue.

board will do an outstanding job leading the branch. The strength and enthusiasm within the branch is very high. There continues to be much work to be done to promote the causes of women and children. We are equal to the challenge.

We would be remiss in not thanking Joan Eschner and her committee for doing such an excellent job in getting the newsletter to us each month. Thank you, Joan.

Cathy Weiss and Judy Weidemann



*Achievement Award is presented to Gretchen Stringer by Cathy Weiss*



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

Co-Presidents Judy Weidemann (655-3649)  
Cathy Weiss (688-6181)  
Editor: B. Krist and J. Weidemann  
Publisher: Joan Eschner (674-5837)

Send address changes to  
Marion Fay  
347 Brantwood Road  
Snyder, NY 14226-4307  
836-5660

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

June 2001  
Vol. CX No 6  
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## Buffalo Branch Study/ Interest Groups

### Group Leaders

Please send study group information

to: Mary Kellner

8470 Lakemont Dr.  
East Amherst, NY 14051  
741-8127  
mlnkel@aol.com

### Group: Bridge Biddies

When: Once per month

Topic: Casual bridge playing

Contact: Margaret Haas (839-3701)  
or Valerie Marvin (833-8506)



### Group: Clueless Mystery Book Club

When: Wednesday, June 27 at 5:30 PM

Where: Village Restaurant  
827 Military Rd., Kenmore

Topic: *McNally's Trial*

by Lawrence Sanders

Reviewer: Myra Menti

Contact: RSVP to Myra (626-4832)  
for dinner reservations



### Group: Dinner by the Book

When: Wednesday, June 20 at 5:30 P

Where: Plaka Restaurant  
2904 Delaware Ave., Kenmore

Topic: *White Oleander*  
by Janet Fitch

Reviewer: Frances Witnauer

Contact: RSVP to Fran (H 837-5887 or  
W 856-3150) for reservations



### Group: Great Decisions

When: Thursday, June 14 at 1:30 PM

Where: Unitarian Universalist Church  
6320 Main St. near ECC North

Topic: "Global Health Crisis"

Contact: Suzanne Grossman (837-8769)

### Group: Human Rights for Women – Global Issues

When: Thursday, June 21 at 7:00 PM

Where: Williamsville Branch Amherst  
Public Library

5571 Main St., Williamsville

Topic: Will be announced at meetings and  
E-mailed

Contact: Teresa Gessner (634-5053)

### Group: Travel Group



When: Thursday, June 21 at 5:30 PM

6:30 PM if you do not wish to

have dinner

Where: Original Pancake House  
5479 Main St., Williamsville

Topic: Discussion of day trip possibilities  
for fall

Contact: Bunny Blackstone (655-4519)

RSVP- No meeting if not enough re-  
sponse

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## Privatizing Social Security Will Hurt Women

On May 2, President Bush appointed a commission to reform Social Security composed entirely of members who favor individual retirement accounts. Replacing Social Security in whole or in part with individual accounts threatens essential protections for women and families including: full cost-of-living adjustments; compensation for women with lower lifetime earnings; spouse and widow benefits; and disability and survivor benefits.

Social Security is especially important for women because nearly two-thirds of women 65 and over receive a majority of their

income from Social Security and one-third rely on Social Security for 90 percent or more of their income. Without Social Security, over half of all elderly women would be living in poverty.

Women have more to lose if individual retirement accounts replace Social Security. Benefits from individual accounts are directly related to the size of the contribution and the return of the investment. Women in low-income, part-time, or temporary jobs would have less income to contribute to individual retirement accounts.

Benefits are not guaranteed. Individual accounts risk lifetime retirement income since beneficiaries would have to rely on the uncertainties of their investments rather than on guaranteed lifetime Social Security benefits. Individual accounts do not contain automatic protections for spouses, surviving spouses and former spouses, most of whom are women.

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### HERES WHAT YOU CAN DO!

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Help spread the word. Work with friends and family to distribute this alert in your community.

Call your members of Congress at 202/224-3121 and urge them to oppose replacing Social Security with individual retirement accounts.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE ALERTS, CALL 800/608-5286

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## *Minutes from the April Board Meeting*

The Board was called to order by Co-presidents Judy Weidemann and Cathy Weiss.

Treasurer Bunny Blackstone reported an income of \$400.00 more than budgeted.

Funds in Mutual are lower, due to the change in the stock market,

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Nominating Committee reported slate of officers complete for May election.
  - Velma Cobb updated loan guidelines were approved. Chair Maria Ceraulo presented the committee's recommendations to be: 2 winners and 2 runner-ups.
  - International Relation—Chair Teresa Gessner reported next meeting to be at Williamsville Library, on April 19th to discuss and to prepare for the International conference of AAUW to be in Ottawa, Canada in August.
  - Public Policy—Writing to State Senators to remove the "conscience clause" in the Women's Wellness Act. To support at State Convention the resolution to remove the Bush "Gag Order" on International Aid for Women's Health.
  - Membership—Cathy Weiss reported 5 new members attended the New Member Reception. A male attended and joined.
  - Program: Plans for the fall-winter programs are completed.
- LAF—Chair Carol Jameson reported that baskets for the State Convention to raise funds for the Legal Aid Fund are being filled. Request that each member donate \$3.00 at member dues renewal.
- Book Sale: Work will begin on May 1st. Due to raised fees by the Ameri-Corp, alternative solutions are needed to ship books from depots to sale site.

Next Board Meeting will be a Pot Luck Supper on May 23rd, at Judy Weidemann's House in East Aurora.

by Clarine Radt

# Women are Strongly Represented in Pan American Centennial Parade



*AAUW members march in Pan Am Parade*



*Members of the League of Women Voters dressed as suffragists, carry placards noting women's issues through the years*



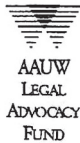
*In principle and in practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.*



*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 AAUW women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.*

## Upcoming Events

June 6-10 - **Booksale**

June 13 - Board Meeting at Judy Weidemann's

June 22 - YWCA of WNY Conference

August - 1 Poetry and Tea

September - 12 - Pot Luck Dinner

September 29 - City of Light event

**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 May 23, 2001.



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

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## **A SPECIAL TIME**

*There Will Be a Very Special Summer Gathering at the Home of  
Judy Weidemann*

This year, for the first time in many years,  
the Buffalo Branch will have a summer meeting

It will be tea and poetry with several of our own published poets and paintings by some of our  
member artists. Come and enjoy a summer garden party

Wear your hat and gloves if you wish

We will enjoy tea, sandwiches, and cakes

on  
Wednesday, August 1, 2001  
at

**21 Nye Hill Road  
East Aurora, N.Y. 14052**

**Phone 655-3649**

Cost: \$4.00 per person

Please RSVP by July 25, 2001

Name of those attending \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Judy Weidemann, 21 Nye Hill Road, East Aurora, NY 14052