

# Buffalo Branch Newsletter

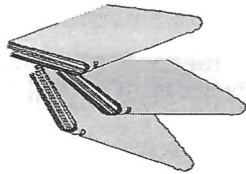


AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY  
WOMEN

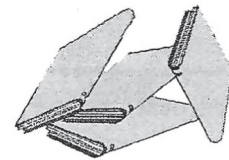
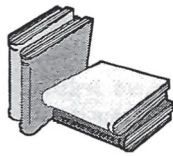
NYS District 1

April 2002

Buffalo Branch Home Page  
<http://www.aauwbuffalo.org>



**Don't Forget the  
Buffalo Branch AAUW  
Book Sale  
June 5 - 9  
Steinmart Premier Plaza  
Transit Road,  
Amherst**



## President's Message

The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Recognition Program has replaced the 5 Star program as a reward system for AAUW branch members. Our efforts are focused in seven areas. The Buffalo Branch book sale raises funds for the Educational Foundation. The amount raised always brings recognition to our members. We count on your help to continue our success! The dynamic combination of Freddie Cheek's energy and our member's generosity equals meeting the Legal Advocacy goal. Our membership initiative is called the Shape the Future campaign. Visibility is increased by the varied activities that engage our members in the community, as well as, programs like Portrayal of Women in Mass Media. Technology is utilized by connecting with e-mail and encouraging the use of e-mail in our planning activities. Leadership development is intertwined with our programs and networking among members in our community. We accomplish outreach to diverse people or groups with our Sister-to-Sister Summit, our International Relations/Human Rights Study group and our Diversity Committee chaired by Norine Borkowski.

Rita Clement

Deadline for the June issue is May 10

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 June issue.

## Don't Forget the Book Sale



The Buffalo Branch's biggest fundraiser is coming soon. Don't forget to mark your calendars with the following dates:

April 29 - Clean-up  
 April 30 - Move books  
 May 1 - Begin sorting  
 May 28 - June 4 - Table set up  
 June 5 - 9 The Book Sale  
 June 10 and 11 - Clean up

See the insert from the April issue of the *Newsletter* for more exact information and times. Many hands make light work. We can use all the help we can get.



### BUFALO BRANCH NEWSLETTER

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

President: Rita Clement (434-2639)  
 Editors: B. Krist and J. Weidemann  
 Publisher: Joan Eschner (655-1322)

Send address changes to  
 Jean Hubbard  
 62 Garden Court  
 Amherst, NY 14226-3219

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.

May 2002  
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## INFLUENCING CHANGE

Can we, as AAUW members strongly committed to the work of the Legal Advocacy Fund, influence change in the academic community to make it equitable for women? The answer is "Yes!" and we are doing it now, although the process is slow and our progress is not without delays and pitfalls.

The more obvious way of influencing change is through our financial support of the Legal Advocacy Fund. In this area, our progress has been steady, with increased financial contributions year by year. Recognition of major donors and of Branches and States for their donations has been a stimulus for this. The Legal Advocacy Fund is also receiving strong support for our cases from the Rawalt Legal Defense Fund, a \$250,000 trust acquired by LAF in 1997. Other foundations which have given their support are the Ruth McLean Bowman Bowers Foundation, Ford Foundation, Massena Family Foundation, and the Rockefeller Family Fund. All of these recognize the importance of working to end discrimination against women on our campuses and certainly influence change.

The Campus Outreach Program, established in 1995 with more than \$200,000 from an anonymous donor, provides money for campus visits as well as for case support. Any opportunity to talk with students, faculty and administrators on their own campuses will certainly increase awareness of discriminatory practices and ultimately influence change for the benefit of all women.

LAF's Progress in Equity Award also influences change by recognizing programs that advance equity for women on college and university campuses. This sends out a message that LAF rewards colleges and universities for improving the climate for women on campus by conducting faculty women surveys, developing appropriate daycare programs, and serving women traumatized by violence, to name a few programs.

What about the alumnae of the colleges and universities named in LAF-supported lawsuits? It is our responsibility to make our disapproval known at the highest administrative levels. We must let administrators know that we will not give any financial support to these institutions as long as they practice discrimination and that our contributions will be made instead to the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund in support of the plaintiffs. If we are firm with our stance and also make our presence known in the courtroom when cases go to trial, we are not only making our support clear to the college or university, we are providing physical and moral support to the women whose last resort is a lawsuit against the offending institution.

While a trial is in progress, it is important to use our influence to secure media coverage. Having a newspaper or television news reporter present is important for making the public more aware of campus inequities. After a newspaper has run a story, letters to the editor about the case are important as well. Letters call additional attention to the situation in a public forum, informing the readers about situations they might not have been aware of and to which they might also have objections.

(continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

## Chamberlin Loan

These are some of the ways in which we, as AAUW members and supporters of the Legal Advocacy Fund, can influence change. We must do everything possible to support the women whose careers have been put on hold or even destroyed by discriminatory practices on their campuses. Each one of us, by taking action in these ways, is influencing change. We must do it, not only for those women at the forefront today but for all those who will follow them in the future.

Gloria Weston

It is nice to know where some of the money loaned by our branch goes and for what it is being used. The following is an excerpt from a letter received by the Chamberlin Loan Committee that shows to our members, just how important the services we provide are.

Dear Mrs. Fowler,

I have recently received some great news. I have passed my national boards, and have matched for a Small Animal Medicine & Surgery one-year internship position for advanced clinical training at Kansas State University. They have an excellent clinical program and a strong oncology (cancer) program, which continues to be one of my strong interests.

I would again like to express my sincere thanks to the membership of the American Association of University Women for their support over the last four years. I have enjoyed talking with the Loan Committee members every year, and the financial support has just been such a tremendous help.

Sincerely,  
Jacqueline M. Wypij  
Cornell University College  
of Veterinary Medicine  
Class of 2002

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## National Conference for College Women Student Leaders

There is a very exciting event planned for the near future. It is the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders: Women in Charge that AAUW is sponsoring. It will be held on June 6-8, 2002 with a Pre-Conference Public Policy Institute on June 5-6 at American University in Washington, DC. It is hoped that several hundred young women will attend the event, experiencing Washington, DC, learning new skills and connecting with AAUW.

The help of members from all AAUW branches and states across the country is needed in making this and future NCCWSL conferences a success. The conference presents us with an opportunity to introduce the leaders of tomorrow to AAUW, and for us to expand our membership by introducing AAUW to these exceptional young women.

<http://www.aauw.org/9000/nccwsl/>

## 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, May 22 at 6:00 PM

Where: Cameo's Restaurant

Niagara Falls Blvd., Tonawanda

Topic: *Planning Meeting for Next Season*

Contact: Judy Bratty (833-5995) for reservations



### Group: **Dinner by the Book**

When: Wednesday, May 15 at 5:30 PM

Where: Home of Marilyn Todd

107 North Brier Rd., Amherst

Topic: *Annual Potluck Dinner & Planning*

Select books for 2002-2003. Bring 2 books to recommend & a dish for dinner

Contact: RSVP to Fran Witnauer (H 837-5887

or W 856-3150) who is coordinating the menu. Space is limited. Call early.



### Group: **Film Group**

When: Tuesday, May 7

Contact: Maria Ceraulo (881-0729)



### Group: **Great Decisions**

When: Thursday, May 2 at 1:30 PM

Where: Unitarian Universalist Church

6320 Main St. near ECC North

Topic: *Colombia and Drug Trafficking* by David C. Morrison

Contact: Suzanne Grossman (837-8769)

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

When: Tuesday, May 14 at 7:00 PM

Where: Williamsville Branch-Amherst Public Library 5571 Main St., Williamsville

(between Cayuga & Mill Sts.; building between Amherst Town Hall & Williamsville Village Hall) Ample parking.

Topic: *Women of Netherlands*

Discussion Leader: Joyce Bol

Contact: Teresa Gessner (634-5053)

All are welcome!

### Group: **Travel Group**

When: Thursday, May 16 at 6:00 PM

Where: Book Sale Site-Steinmart/Premier Plaza Transit Rd., Amherst

Topic: Discuss Montreal trip in July and plans for fall and winter trips.

Contact: Bunny Blackstone (655-4519)

Call if you plan to attend.



(See center fold for more information and reservation form)

# **AAUW BUFFALO BRANCH TRAVEL GROUP MONTREAL TRIP MONDAY, JULY 22- FRIDAY JULY 26**

Join us for a week in Montreal. We will travel via train to Montreal and spend four days and nights at the Quality Inn located in downtown Montreal. The rooms are spacious with two double beds and a pull-out sofa, if three wish to share the same room. A continental breakfast is included in the price of the hotel. The prices below include only the hotel and train expenses. The group traveling to Montreal will meet in June to discuss special tours, night entertainment, restaurants and transportation to the train station in Niagara Falls, ON. The following are some suggestions of attractions to visit in Montreal:

1. Botanical Gardens of Montreal
2. Canadian Centre for Architecture
3. Basilica of Notre Dame
4. McCord Museum of Canadian History
5. Montreal Museum of Fine Arts
6. Mont-Royal Park
7. Lachine Rapids Jet Boat Tours
8. Chateau Ramezay Museum
9. Old Montreal
10. The Old Fort and David Stewart Museum
11. Montreal Museum of Archaeology and History (pointe-a-calliere)

July 22: depart— 6:45 a.m. from Niagara Falls, ON  
arrive —Montreal at 2:20 p.m.

July 26: depart—9:40 a.m. from Montreal  
arrive—Niagara Falls at 7:36 p.m.

Responsibility: The Buffalo Branch of the American Association of Women and its Board acts as promoter and agent only and disclaims any and all liability of property lost or damaged and/or any and all damages or irregularity of any vehicles, restaurant, or otherwise or whether caused by failure or delay or by any transportation company due to any cause whatsoever occurring during this tour. All tickets are furnished and issued subject in all respects to these terms and conditions. The Buffalo Branch of AAUW acts solely as agent and reserves the right to make any changes in established itinerary whenever, in its sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if it is deemed necessary to the comfort, convenience or safety of the passengers, and may refuse to accept or retain as a member of the tour any person at any time and to pass on to tour members any expenditures caused by delays or events beyond its control. The transportation company is not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or events during the time passengers are on board their transportation. The passage contract in use, when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation company and the purchaser of the tour or the passengers.

Check one for the hotel, one for the train, and add the prices together.

Hotel (4 nights) single \$408.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Train Adult \$115.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Hotel (4 nights) double \$204.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Train Senior (60+) \$103.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Hotel (4 nights) triple \$136.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel \$ \_\_\_\_\_ plus train \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = total price \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out the form and send check payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch Travel Group to Bunny Blackstone, 11478 Tomarsue Dr., Marilla, NY 14102 by June 1, 2002. Questions: call Bunny at 655-4519.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Rooming with (If you have a preference) \_\_\_\_\_

**5th Annual**  
**Sister**  
 -to-  
**Sister**  
**Summit**  
**Presented by**  
**The Sister to Sister**  
**Connection of WNY**

Once again, more than 100 girls came to the campus of Buffalo State College to talk about challenges they face, meet new people, to find out about programs they might like to try, to hear about and talk to women in non-traditional careers, and to have some fun!

We added Erie 1 Boces and the NYS Department of Health to our already phenomenal committee. Some of the members of the committee are as follows: YWCA of WNY and Niagara, Native American Community Services, Girl Scouts, EPIC, Eating Disorders Association, Buffalo Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Services, Project Flight, Planned Parenthood, and Prevention Focus.

The Federal Women's Program Network took on the task of getting donated prizes and items for our "goodie bags", which the girls got after they handed in their evaluations at the end of

the day. A member of the branch donated a television set she had won and didn't need and the YWCA of WNY donated a new computer. Project Flight has always donated new paperback books and other things come from businesses and some of the government agencies for which the committee works.

We offered a parent component, facilitated by EPIC and the community outreach component of the FBI, that took place simultaneously with the chat rooms.

Among the special activities were a leadership development session, yoga, self defense, web page design, a campus tour, and a very popular program presented by Erie 1 BOCES called "What Girls Need to Succeed."

Ann Hicks and I would like to thank all of you who supported this effort either by donating \$30.00 (or more) to help support this event or by working with us on the committee.

Right now we are working on a mini-mentoring project with the Women's Group to take place on April 30.

This is a major AAUW project that very definitely supports our mission to help better the lives of women and girls.

Suzanne Oliver





# Member's Recognition Page



## Past AAUW Member, Sylvia Morris to be Honored

Sylvia Morris has been selected as the seventh Nancy J. Borins Woman of the Year. She will be presented the award on Friday evening, May 10<sup>th</sup>. Sylvia was a long time active member of the Buffalo Branch of AAUW. Congratulations and best wishes from the Buffalo Branch.

## Member Publishes Book

Member Anne Szczsney has recently published her first book. Anne is the administrator and a teacher for the Gifted Math Program at the University at Buffalo. She is also the one who often designs and prints the name-tags for our meetings. Her publication, which is a Barron's review book for math students, is entitled, *Let's Prepare for the Grade 8 Math Assessment*. It contains practice problems and a practice test. It also includes a review of all topics found on the Math 8 New York State Assessment.

## Buffalo Branch Member Son to be Featured Violinist at BPO

Charles Wetherbee, son of **Ingrid Wetherbee**, will be the featured violinist for THE RED VIOLIN concert under the direction of JoAnn Falletta at Kleinhans Music Hall Saturday, April 27, 2002 8:00PM and Sunday, April 28, 2002 2:30 PM.



Charles is the concertmaster of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra where he has received acclaim as a violinist and conductor. He has conducted and played at many festivals and is an active chamber music performer and soloist.

Our congratulations go out to Ingrid and Charles. We anticipate enjoying the concert. For more information you can use <http://www.bpo.org> or call the Buffalo Philharmonic Ticket Office at 885-5000.

## BUFFALO BRANCH BOARD NOTES

March 6, 2002

The meeting was called to order by President Rita Clement. Rita congratulated and presented to Cathy Weiss, a bouquet of daffodils, upon her induction into the WNY Women's Hall of Fame.

Treasurer's Report: Bunny Blackstone reported expenses of \$2846.22 and income of \$4840.70 year to date. Mutual Funds have \$24100.31, and the Educational Foundation has \$11305.50.

Chamberlin Loan: Janet Fowler reported a balance of \$42,186.62, and \$8,657.46 in the Funds for Education. Records were re-audited for the past 3 years and corrections were made. Janet recommended that the accounts be audited in both July and January. There are 83 accounts.

Janet Fowler, Ann Hicks, and Cathy Weiss reported as of 3-08-02 all Buffalo Branch Funds will be covered by 501C3. In the past, only Educational Foundation Funds were covered. Application for NYS tax exemption and I.D. number is in process.

Rita Clement reported Buffalo Branch is allowed to have 6 delegates, and 3 alternatives at the New York State Convention. 3 baskets for auction are being prepared.

New Study Group: Nancy Ryther requested permission to form a new study group, to read American Biographies. Motion passed.

Clarine Radt

## Alison Des Forges Honored

Alison Des Forges will be honored at the Buffalo Branch Awards and Achievement Luncheon on April 27 at The Mansion. Alison Des Forges, winner of a 1999 MacArthur Fellowship, directs research on the Great Lakes region of Africa for Human Rights Watch. Author of *Leave None to Tell The Story: Genocide in Rwanda*, she serves as expert witness to the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and has provided evidence to judicial authorities in Belgium, Switzerland, Canada, and the United States. She has assisted the U.N. Commission, the OAU commission, the Belgium Senate, and the French National Assembly in their investigations of the Rwandan genocide.

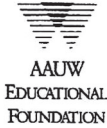
As co-chair of the 1993 International Commission of Investigation into Human Rights abuse in Rwanda, she reported on government organized massacres of Tutsi that presaged the 1994 genocide. Des Forges also chaired the 1994 International Commission that investigated massive slaughter in Burundi following the assassination of President Mechior Ndadaye.

Trained as a historian at Harvard and Yale Universities, Des Forges holds a doctorate in African History and has authored scholarly articles and monographs on Rwandan history.

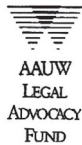
*In principle and in practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.*



*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

Saturday, April 27  
Luncheon  
Annual Awards

May, 3-5  
The NYS AAUW Convention at  
the Hilton Lake Placid Resort

June, 5-9  
Book Sale - Steinmaart -Premier  
Plaza, Amherst

September, 18  
Potluck Dinner

**Moving? Did not receive the newsletter? Please contact Jean Hubbard, (832-0349).** This newsletter was delivered to the William Street Post Office, Buffalo NY on April 22, 2002.



BUFFALO BRANCH  
Jean Hubbard  
62 Garden Court  
Amherst, NY 14226-3219

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295 Lakewood Parkway  
Amherst, NY 14226-4072