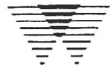


Buffalo Branch Newsletter



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

NYS District 1

November 2001

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

“Autoimmune Diseases and Women”

Dr. Bernice K. Noble, University at Buffalo
Department of Microbiology

November 19, 2001

Networking and coffee, tea, cider, and dessert
at 7 p.m.

Hostesses: Great Decisions Study Group and Human Rights Study Group

Harlem Road Community Center, Classroom 1 and Auditorium
Harlem Road (corner Lincoln, one block south of Main)
Snyder, NY

Menu and additional information can be found on page 3.
Reservation form can be found on page 7.

President's Message

The year is well underway for the Buffalo branch of AAUW. Our projects reflect the message of the District I Conference from Cocoon to Coalition. Linda Drajem, our Education area representative, is working on a project, "Math as Metaphor," with other professors from Buffalo State College and local schools and students. You may participate in this project by offering your help to plan a workshop session for the girls attending the Sister-to-Sister Summit in March, 2002. Carol Jamieson is our Education and Equity chair. This project affords the opportunity for you to begin work on this program while it is in the early planning stages. Carol's project will recognize a local college or university's efforts to include gender equity or women's studies into the overall curriculum courses. She welcomes your participation. Suzanne Oliver and Ann Hicks and Cathy Weiss continue to work on the Sister-to-Sister Summit with a group of dedicated women from our community. They have established a Sister-to-Sister Board and are working with the Law School at the University at Buffalo to establish 501 (c) 3 status for Sister-to-Sister Summit activities with future plans to include publishing a networking newsletter and creating a website. Teresa Gessner, our International Relations chair, has kept us informed by following the progress of events with the International Federation of University Women

Deadline for the December issue is November 14. Please send articles to Joan Eschner via e-mail to jmeschner@att.net. Articles that are received later than the above date will not appear in the October issue.

or IFUW. She is planning our celebration for International Women's Day on March 8, 2002. Teresa also arranged for our branch of AAUW to co-sponsor an event with the League of Women Voters concerning charter schools. More information is included with our newsletter. Jennifer Stoll is chair of the Public Policy committee and Executive Director of the YWCA in Lockport, NY. The Public Policy committee invites all members to a free presentation for pay equity for women by Kathryn Lake Mazierski, President of the NYS National Organization for Women. This presentation will be on Monday, November 26 at 5:15 pm at the Amherst Library located on John James Audobon Parkway near the north campus of the University of Buffalo. Please R.S.V.P. to Jennifer Stoll by November 19 at 439-8939.

I thank Sandra Ceraulo for her dedication to our AAUW branch website since 1998. Sandra

(Continued on page 3)



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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 Editors: B. Krist and J. Weidemann
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 Amherst, NY 14236-3219

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

November 2001
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(President's Message continued from pg. 2)

did all the work to arrange the startup of our website and continued to keep the website up to date. This undertaking involves much time and effort. Sandra is no longer able to continue as web designer due to her research and publishing work. It is with deep regret that we accept her resignation. Betty Krist has accepted the position of web designer on our Buffalo Branch AAUW board. We thank her for her enthusiasm and creativity.

Marguerite Collesano was inducted as President-Elect of the Buffalo Branch of AAUW on October 3, 2001. Our branch welcomes her to this position and offers our support to Marguerite in promoting our future endeavors.

Rita Clement

November Meeting Autoimmune Diseases and Women

Our next meeting will be Monday, November 19, 2001 at the Harlem Road Community Center (Harlem Road corner Lincoln, one block south of Main). Outside Classroom 1, we will have coffee, tea, cider and dessert at 7 p.m. We can chat and network in Classroom 1. Our hostesses, members of the Great Decisions Study Group and members of the Human Rights Study Group, will tell us more about their activities in the Auditorium at about 7:20 p.m. No food is allowed in the Auditorium, so please be respectful of the Community Center rules.

We are honored to have as our featured speaker Dr. Bernice K. Noble, Professor of Microbiology at UB. Dr. Noble's impressive credentials include appointments at the Royal College of Surgeons,

London, England and the National Institutes of Health. She is Past President of the Association of Women in Science, Buffalo Chapter, and the author or coauthor of 68 scientific papers and 24 book chapters or review articles.

In the abstract of her presentation, Dr. Noble states, "Of the nearly 9 million individuals affected by autoimmunity (USA), 80% are women. ... The personal, social and economic impacts are enormous, with high direct and indirect costs." Among the common autoimmune diseases are hyperthyroidism, hypothyroidism, rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, multiple sclerosis and insulin-sensitive diabetes. In the hundred year history of intensive investigation of normal and aberrant immune responses the possibility of gender differences has been almost entirely ignored.

Bring a friend and come to learn more.

Betty Krist

Alison Des Forge to Speak on November 15

Sylvia DeRosas, chair of the Volunteer Roundtable, invites you to attend a special Human Rights Watch presentation by Alison Des Forges on Thursday, November 15, 2001 at 8 am at the United Way 742 Delaware Ave in Buffalo, NY on the corner of Summer St. Please R.S.V.P. to Sylvia at 433-6670 by November 8, 2001. This presentation is free.

Alison Des Forges, winner of a 1999

(Continued on page 4)

(Des Forges continued from page 3)

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 U.S. She has also 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.

Public Forum — Charter Schools: Who Benefits? Who Loses?

Our Branch of AAUW is co-sponsoring this important forum organized by the League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara. It will take place at WNED-TV Studio, Horizons Plaza, in Buffalo on Tuesday, November 13, 2001 at 8pm. Panel participants will be: Marion Canedo, Super

intendent of Buffalo Public Schools; Phillip Rumore, President of Buffalo Teachers Federation; Bill Phillips, Executive Director of New York Charter Schools Association. Also participating will be: Dee Cosby, Director of Buffalo Parents for School Choice, Greg Speranza, Principal of South Buffalo Charter School, Alison Hyde of New York State School Boards Assn. We hope that many of our members will come to hear the distinguished panel and participate in discussion of the issues. Please help publicize the event by posting and distributing the flier inserted in this Newsletter. You are urged to come and bring a friend.

Teresa Gessner

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, November 28, at 6:00 PM

Where: Cameo's Restaurant

Niagara Falls Blvd., Tonawanda

Topic: *9 Tailors*

by Dorothy L. Sayers

Reviewer: Jan Vine

Contact: Jan (636-6182) for reservations



Group: Dinner by the Book

When: Wednesday, November 14 at 5:30 PM

Where: Plaka Restaurant
2904 Delaware Ave.,
KenmoreTopic: *Daughter of Fortune*
by Isabel Allende

Reviewer: Ingrid Weatherbee

Contact: RSVP to Fran Witnauer (H 837-5887
or W 856-3150) for reservations**Group: Film Group**When: Tuesday, November 6,
December 4Contact: Maria Ceraulo
(881-0729)**Group: Great Decisions**

When: Thursday, November 1 at 1:30 PM

Where: Unitarian Universalist Church
6320 Main St. near ECC NorthTopic: *Conflict Resolution In Africa:*
Can It Succeed?

Contact: Suzanne Grossman (837-8769)

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

When: Tuesday, November 20 at 7:00 PM

Where: Williamsville Branch of Amherst
Public Library
5571 Main St., Williamsville
(between Cayuga & Mill Sts. next to
Amherst Town Hall)Topic: *Women of Poland & Ukraine in*
*Post-Soviet Europe*Discussion Leaders: Anastasia Johnson &
Teresa GessnerContact: Teresa Gessner (634-5053)
*All are Welcome!***Group: Out on the Town**

When: Sunday, November 11 at 2:00 PM

What: View *Art Across Borders* – 9 permanent
public artworks to honor women's
roles, history, and achievements – a
recently unveiled Pan Am project.Where: Meet at Tops Market on Elmwood just
south of Hinman in North Buffalo,
between Kenmore and Hertel, to
carpool.

Park near Elmwood.

Contact: RSVP to Marilyn Kihl (691-8299)
for information and directions**Group: Travel Group**

When: Thursday, November 15 at 5:30 PM

6:15 PM if you do not wish to have dinner

Where: Original Pancake House
5479 Main St., Williamsville

Topic: Discuss ideas for spring and summer trips.

Contact: RSVP to Bunny

Blackstone

(655-4519) for reservations



Leadership Portfolio Prepared

Thanks to portfolio editor Freddie Cheek's outstanding job the Fall 2001 Leadership Portfolio for Branch Officers and Committee Chairs is in the mail and on-line at <http://www.northnet.org/nysaauf101port.htm>.

Knowledge is Power!

The Legal Advocacy Fund started its Campus Outreach Program in 1996. The pilot program was aimed at educating campus communities about the issue of sex discrimination in higher education and the work of the Legal Advocacy Fund to combat it. The program has evolved into a proactive effort by the Board and staff to speak on campuses to educate students, faculty and other employees about the problem of sex discrimination. Campus outreach presentations address the reality of sex discrimination in higher education, strategies to resolve it or correct it when it does occur and the services LAF provides to women who challenge it.

As a part of this program, Evvie Currie, the NYS Legal Advocacy Fund Director, met with the President of the University of Rochester in June to discuss the importance of recruiting, mentoring and retaining capable women professors in that institution. She also explained the importance of the LAF in monitoring the situation, when sex discrimination in various forms is reported by members of a university staff.

Also as part of this program, the NYS LAF Director met with the President of SUNY Potsdam on October 11. She met with him to assist in presenting the "Status of Women at SUNY Potsdam Task Force Report." October 11 marked the anniversary of the founding of the National Commission on the Status of Women. It also was the birthday of Eleanor Roosevelt, a woman whose long and honorable public career was devoted to issues of equality and peace. It was a wonderful way to observe that important date in women's lives.

When we give to the Legal Advocacy Fund, we

help support the Campus Outreach Program. With that in mind, we have 2 more months to reach Sylvia Newman's challenge of each state giving 5% more than they gave last year IT IS CRUCIAL THAT WE FIND MORE MAJOR DONORS!!! Please appoint yourself a committee-of-one to find at least one other, along with yourself. I believe the "Power of One" can produce amazing results!

Donor Levels: LAF Circle (\$50-\$99)
LAF Amicus (\$100-\$249)
LAF Partner (\$250-\$499)
LAF Advocate (\$500-\$999)

A check made out to AAUW LAF is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law

Please send to Evelyn M. Currie, PO Box 16, Burnt Hills, NY 12027-0016

Many, many thanks for your help! Evvie

NOTE: Please bring your wallets to the Buffalo Branch's November event at the Harlem Road Community Center. I'm bringing baskets to raffle off, all with a seasonal theme: holiday gift baskets for the dog, cat and bird lover, cook, collector, child in us all, reader, tea drinker, etc. You could win a wonderful Christmas or Chanukah present to give a friend or relative (or yourself). See you all there.

Freddie Cheek



Victorian Holiday

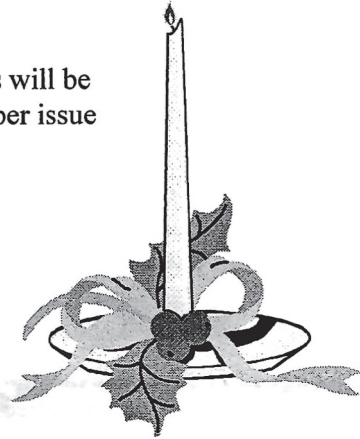
We have a wonderful group of members, guests, and even several husbands signed up to participate in the Victorian Holiday at the Amherst Museum on December 9th! A good time should be had by all, and it will be an interesting learning experience.

Several things participants should remember are:

• Please try to arrive as close to 2 PM as possible. Although we will go out on tours in groups of 10-15 people every 10 minutes or so, it will be much easier to form the tour groups and keep things moving along if everyone is present at the outset. While you wait for your tour to go out, you can look at the exhibits in the Main Building. You won't be disappointed.

- Dress warmly if you are going out on the tours. It will be winter, so hats, gloves, and boots or waterproof shoes would probably be appropriate. We don't want anyone to be uncomfortable.
- You are welcome to stay and view the exhibits in the Main Building as long as you like. Remember, it is an option to stay in the Main Building instead of going out on tours.
- Driving directions will be given in the December issue of the Newsletter.

The Chair of this event is Marilyn Kihl. Please call her with any questions at 691-8299.



Reservation Form for November Meeting "Autoimmune Diseases and Women" Catered by Shelia Jones Catering

Name _____ Phone _____

Guest(s) _____

Cost \$4.50 per person Total included _____

Return reservations by **November 12, 2001** to
Caren Shapiro, 142 Viscount Dr., Williamsville, NY 14221-1770

Make checks payable to Buffalo Branch AAUW.

If you need transportation or assistance, contact Betty Krist (675-4059)



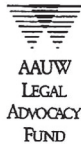
In principle and in practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.



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

Monday, November 19,

“Autoimmune Diseases and Women”

Sunday, December 9,

“Victorian Christmas Tour at the Amherst Museum”

Saturday, January 26

Continental Breakfast

“Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder”

Wednesday, February 13

Coffee and Dessert

“Voices of Difference”
and Pan Am Recap

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 October 24, 2001.



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

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