



Buffalo Branch Newsletter

NYS District 1

Buffalo Branch Home Page
<http://aauw.buffalo.edu>

November 2002

December Meetings

An Irish Holiday Party

The Irish Center
245 Abbott Road, Buffalo New
York

Sunday, December 8, 2002

2:00 p.m.

Entertainment: Rince Na Tiarna
Irish Dancers



President's Message

The New York State AAUW Board has designated "Living the Mission" as our theme for the next two years. Indeed, our Buffalo Branch Board Members read and re-read this mission statement to guide our discussions and in planning programs. For myself, the words that are most meaningful in this statement are "life-long education." With this in mind, I read with delight, the annual report, Study/Interest Groups 2001-2002, submitted by Mary Kellner Study Group Coordinator. Eight groups met throughout the year to enjoy and discuss various activities including Bridge, mystery books, films, global concerns, travel and international human rights for women.

"Dinner by the Book" has been meeting for ten years. Marilyn Carmichael, coordinator reports, "the group has been growing by leaps and bounds attracting members and potential members."

AAUW programs create so many opportunities for women to share their interests and talents. On behalf of the Board, I wish to thank the Study Group Chairs for their leadership.

Continue to invite non-members to join us so they may become acquainted with the programs the Buffalo Branch has to offer. What better way to live the mission!

Deadline for the January issue is December 11. 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 January issue.

An Irish Holiday Party

Watch Irish dancers kick up their heels in the city's Irish "capital"- South Buffalo. Enjoy an Irish Tea. Meet old and new friends at our Annual Holiday Gathering.

This event will be held at the Irish Center, 245 Abbott Road, Buffalo New York on Sunday, December 8, 2002 at 2:00p.m. The cost will be \$8.00 which will include entertainment by the Rince Na Tiarna Irish Dancers. Following the performance refreshments of tea sandwiches and sweets will be served.

As is our tradition at the Holiday Party you will be asked to contribute to a charity. This year the contribution will be for the Homeless of Buffalo. (See article on p. 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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 Publisher: Joan Eschner (655-1322)

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 Orchard Park, NY 14127

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

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A Very Special Public Policy Meeting

Each Public Policy Meeting is open to all members. On **December 9, 2002**, we will have a very special speaker. We hope that a number of our members will consider attending. **Bill O'Connell, the Executive Director of the Commission on the Homeless in Erie County** will speak. Mr. O'Connell is an attorney, and is extremely articulate and passionate about bringing the needs of the homeless to the forefront. It is appropriate that those of us who are fortunate in our lives hear Bill O'Connell's presentation. We have reserved a room at the Eagle House in Williamsville for dinner at **6:00 PM**. Please call **Cathy Weiss (688-6181)** or **Judy Weidemann (655-3649)** by December 7, 2002, to reserve a place. We will order from the regular menu.

You will note that we have suggested that our "Pass the Hat" donation at the holiday gathering be given to one of the homeless agencies with whom Bill O'Connell works.



Public Policy

Looking Ahead: On January 13, 2003, Alison Hyde, former Vice-President of the State School Boards Association will speak on the Task Force she heads looking at more equitable funding for education.

Visit with Rochester Branch

You may recall that we have been trying to arrange a meeting with the Rochester Branch of AAUW at their beautiful Club House on East Avenue in Rochester. Perhaps a spring meeting would be appealing and perhaps it would be even more appealing if we combined it with a Travel/ Study Event. Here are some possibilities:

- a dinner or tea with the the Rochester AAUW
- a speaker at the regular AAUW Rochester meeting
- Visit the Strong Museum or the Eastman House when we visit the Rochester AAUW
- other ideas

If you have thoughts on this call or e-mail Judy Weidemann - 655-3649 or jweide7170@aol.com

Kids Voting

A big thank you to

Lea Bendes
Donna Fitzgerald
Jane Riga
Joan Trinchera

for manning the **Kids Voting** booth at School 81 on Tacoma Avenue in Buffalo on Election Day. This effort teaches civic responsibility to the Future Voters of America.

Judy Weidemann

Plan to Attend January 25, 2003 Meeting

Join us for brunch on Saturday morning January 25 when Bruce A Holm UB's Senior Vice Provost and Professor of Pediatrics and Gynecology- Obstetrics will share with us his insights about the bioinformatics project at UB. As the senior administrator in charge of this exciting undertaking, he oversees an unprecedented array of faculty resources and research dollars. His "plain talk" style can help us all understand this sophisticated project and its significance to the WNY community and our own lives. See the related article entitled, "Bioinformatics 101".

Bioinformatics 101

When Jeffrey Skolnick, director of the Buffalo Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics, provided an overview to the UB Council recently he used the analogy of a car that had been disassembled—its numerous parts strewn on the floor—to explain the status of the human genome sequencing project. He likened the 30,000 genes mapped in the project to the parts of the car. "We have a collection of parts about which we know something about maybe half of them," he said. We've partly assembled the parts, but we don't know how the whole thing fits together."

The greatest challenge now in the post-genomic era, he said, is to understand the function of all genes and gene products. The long-term goal, he said, is personalized medicine—designing drugs to treat individuals according to their genetic makeup.

Now that the genes have been mapped and sequenced, scientists have turned their attention to

proteins which interact with each other much like the parts of the car that fit together to make up the door or the engine.

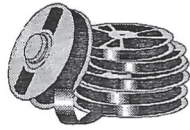
Bioinformatics—which uses the power of supercomputers to interpret data in the biological sciences at the molecular level—can help achieve this goal in a variety of ways including predicting the biochemical and physiological function of proteins, predicting protein-to-protein interactions and assigning proteins to metabolic pathways.

One of the prime objectives of the center Skolnick noted, is to create companies and spur economic development. UB has an "unfair competitive advantage" in that regard, he said, citing the unique partnership between UB—the lead research partner in the center of excellence—and Roswell Park Cancer Institute and Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute, the other major research partners in the center.

Moreover, members of the Scientific Advisory Board, as well as Skolnick, have had experience in starting companies. In addition, UB's Office of Science, Technology Transfer and Economic Outreach (STOR) is providing a "very friendly, efficient, academic environment" for technology transfer—contrary to the "barriers" frequently in place at other institutions, Skolnick said.

"In two or three years, this (center of excellence) will be the place people come to do world-class science and commercialize a significant portion of their work," he said.

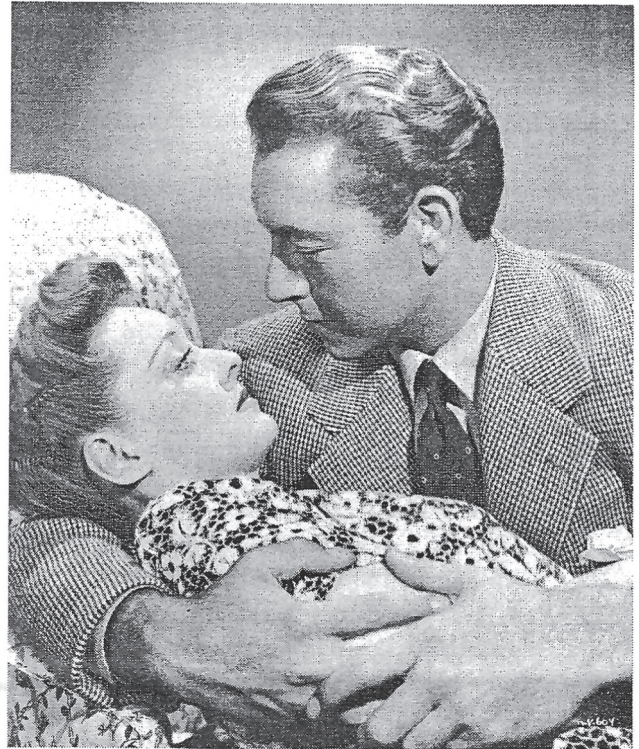
From "Skolnick briefs UB Council on Bioinformatics" By SUE WUETCHER
UB Reporter October 10, 2002



Now, Voyager
Plays
Friday,
December 13
As Part of Women in
Film Series

Now, Voyager, the third film in the Women in Film Series, "Look to the Ladies" co-sponsored by AAUW, Buffalo Branch, the Old Chestnut Film Society and Ken-Ton Community Education will be shown on Friday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m. It stars Bette Davis, Claude Rains, Paul Henreid and Gladys Cooper. Can embittered spinster Bette Davis get out from under the iron thumb of mother Gladys Cooper, and have a life? Claude Rains provides psychiatric help. Paul Henreid, provides romantic help. (Yes, this is the movie where he lights the twin cigarettes!) Here is a soap opera at its very best, supercharged by a magnificent Max Steiner score. Bring a hankie.

The film will be shown at the Community Room of Hoover Elementary School on Sheridan Drive (between Colvin and Delaware). The entrance is directly under the walking overpass. Admission is \$4. For more information, please call Maria Ceraulo at 881-0729.



BETTE DAVIS-PAUL HENREID-LITTLE, VOYAGER-LIKE CLAUDE RAINS

*Picture compliments of Grant Golden of
the Old Chestnut Film Society*

Mark Your Calendars!

Manna From Heaven, a comedic fable about what happens when you get a gift from God (a financial windfall), but find out many years later that it was just a loan, will have its Buffalo Premier on Friday, January 17. That evening we're arranging a special meeting with the five Burton sisters (all from Buffalo) who have produced this film. Find out more at <http://www.fivesistersproductions.com>

Look for specific information about this event in the January newsletter. Reserve the date. It will be special!!

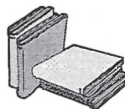
Buffalo Branch Study Interest Groups

Group Leaders

Please send study group information to:

Mary Kellner
8470 Lakemont Dr.
East Amherst, NY 14051
741-8127
mkellner39@aol.com

Group: **American Biographies**
No meeting this month



Group: **Bridge Biddies**
When: Once per month
Topic: Casual bridge playing
Contact: Margaret Haas (839-3701)
or Valerie Marvin (833-8506)



Group: **Dinner by the Book and
Clueless Mystery Book Club**

When: Wednesday, December 18 at 6 p.m.

Where: Original Pancake House
2075 Niagara Falls Blvd. just past
Home Depot/Walmart Plaza

Topic: *Stuffed: Adventures of a
Restaurant Family*
by Patricia Volk

Reviewer: Theckla Mullen

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



Group: **Film Group**
When: Tuesday, December 3
Contact: Maria Ceraulo (881-
0729)



Group: **Great Decisions**
No meeting this month.

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

When: Tuesday, December 17 at 7 PM

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

Topic: Business Meeting of *International
Relations Committee* & March event
committee to plan program for
International Women's Day 2003

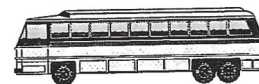
Contact: Teresa Gessner (634-5053)
tgessner@acsu.buffalo.edu

Group: **Travel Group**

Topic: Discuss plans for future trips.

Contact: Bev Schwiergerling (652-7182)
schwieg@adelphia.net

Contact Bev for date, time, location.



Members of the AAUW Buffalo Branch were saddened to hear of the death of Beatrice Cohen Rosen on October 23, 2002 at age 96. Bea was a member of our branch for many years. She was an exemplary teacher of Grade 3 at School #19 in Buffalo. Among her distinguished students were Mayor Tony Masiello and Surrogate Court Judge Joseph Matina.

Board Notes from October 2nd Meeting

Discussion was held regarding dispersal of the booksale funds. The largest single portion (\$10,000) will go to the Education Foundation, with the remaining \$17,000 being divided amongst various branch educational projects.

Work is continuing on the prospect of setting up a 501C(3) foundation organization within the branch.

The Transitions Conference is in the outreach phase. The conference and its speakers are all lined up - all that remains is to draw in participants.

The branch website is down. Betty Krist is heading a team to get a new one started, hosted by UB. Rose Cooper will be doing the technical work and several suggestions were provided.

It was announced that immediate past-president Rita Clement was leaving town soon, to move to California. We will miss her, and wish her the best of luck in her new home.

Help us Recruit New Members

Yvonne Evans: Welcome to our branch!

Seventeen new members have joined so far this year, but we would like to seek more! Please help recruit new members by inviting friends to AAUW events including study groups. Guests may attend an unlimited number of events except for the study groups. Guests are requested to join AAUW after attending three study group sessions.

Also, please send me names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of prospective members. I will then e-mail or mail mini-newsletters and membership brochures to them.

Thanks for your help!
Bev Schwiegerling
VP for membership recruitment.

schwieg@adelphia.net
652-7182

IRISH HOLIDAY EVENT RESERVATION FORM

Name _____

Guest _____

Phone number _____

Amount enclosed _____

Make Your Checks out to AAUW Buffalo Branch and send \$8:00 for each person to
Judy Weidemann, 21 Nye Hill Road, EastAurora, NY 14052 (655-3649) by December 4, 2002

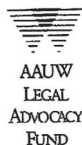
In principle and in practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.



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

Wednesday, December 4 - Board Meeting

Sunday December 8 - Irish Holiday

December 9 - Public Policy Meeting

January 8 - Board Meeting

January 25 - Bioinformatics

Wednesday, February 23 - Reading, Coffee and Dessert

Saturday March 8 - International Women's Day

Moving? Did not receive the newsletter? Please contact Betty Preble at 662-0608. This newsletter was delivered to the William Street Post Office, Buffalo NY on November 25, 2002.



BUFFALO BRANCH
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6935 East Quaker Road
Orchard Park, NY 14127

Return Service Requested

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Amherst, NY
14226-4072