



NYS District 1

Buffalo Branch Newsletter

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

January 2003

January Meetings

**Buffalo premiere of *MANNA FROM HEAVEN*
January 17 at 7 p.m. at the Dipson Market Arcade
Theater on Main St.**

More information can be found on page 6 and reservation form is on page 11.

Return reservations by **January 10, 2003**

**Bioinformatics
Brunch at University Inn & Conference Center
2402 North Forest Road, Amherst
January 25, 10:00 a.m.**

More information can be found on pages 3 and 9. Reservation form is on page 11.

Return reservations by **January 17, 2003**

If you need assistance, contact Betty Krist at 675-4059.

von wii

President's Message

Happy Holidays! I extend my best wishes to the members and their families for a healthy and happy New Year. May the spirit of goodwill linger throughout the year.

Sadly, the closing days of 2002 finds our nation and the world in tremendous turmoil and uncertainty for peace. Yet, in our small corner of the world, Buffalo, New York, there are individuals who use their energy and talent to help people in crisis situations. Those of us who attended the December Public Policy Meeting had the opportunity to meet two young people who work daily for the homeless people of Erie County. Bill O'Connell, the Executive Director of the Commission on the Homeless and Diane Bessel made us aware of the needs of the homeless in our community.

Diane is a member of the AAUW and a Ph.D. candidate at SUNY. She has conducted extensive research on homelessness. She stated that in Erie County, on any given night, some 2,000 men, women, and children are found on the streets and in emergency shelters. We give many thanks to Cathy Weiss and Judy Weidemann for organizing the program.

On this note, we are seeking recommendations for our Achievement Award recipient for the year 2003. As most of you are aware, this award is presented at our Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon. We are seeking an exceptional woman, who has significantly contributed to our community. Please send your nomination, along with your reasons for your choice to me by January 30, 2003.

Marguerite Collesano

Deadline for the February issue is January 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
February issue.

Olga Karman Speaks at February Meeting

Olga Karman was born in Cuba in 1940. In 1960 at the age of 20, she left Cuba and would not return for 37 years. Olga returned in 1997 and again in 1998.

Ms. Karman received a BA in Spanish at Connecticut College for Women in 1966 and a Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1976.

From 1976-79, Ms. Karman taught at Nichols School. She later began her teaching at D'Youville College in 1980 where she as remained to the present except for a 1.5 year hiatus at the Rath Bldg.

Some of her poems have been published in, *The Nation* and *The New Republic*. An excerpt from a work in progress (memoir) appeared in *Re-Membering Cuba*, an anthology published by University of Texas Press, 2001.

Ms Karman has read from her work at, Simmons College, Boston, MA; Fukuoka University, Fukuoka, Japan; The Burchfield Center Poetry Series, Buffalo, NY; Canisius College; The University of Rochester; Just Buffalo Literary Center; and The Harvard Club of WNY

Olga Karman has published two chapter books of poetry: *Adios* (1980) and *Border Crossing* (1986)

Travel Study Group Trip to Toronto

FYI: Mark your calendar for the **Saturday, March 15, 2003** trip that will include Canada Blooms, Antiques Canada, the Antiquarian Book fair, Canadian Fine Art Show, Casa Loma and museums.

January 25, 2003 Meeting Buffalo Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics

Join us for 10:00 am brunch on Saturday January 25 at the University Inn & Conference Center, 2402 North Forest Road, Amherst when Bruce A Holm, UB's Senior Vice Provost and Professor of Pediatrics and Gynecology-Obstetrics, will share 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 it's significance to the WNY community and our own lives.

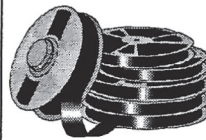
The Buffalo Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics merges high-end technology, including supercomputing and visualization, with expertise in genomics, proteomics, and bioimaging, to enable major contributions in science and health care.

Buffalo is in a unique position to form a world-class center in bioinformatics. The Center combines computational science and high-throughput experimental biology to enable new medical treatments by developing and exploiting state-of-the-art algorithms for data acquisition, storage, management, and transmission, as well as innovative parallel and grid computing techniques. The Center leverages the Center for Computational Research, one of the nation's leading academic supercomputing and visualization facilities, as well as world-class scientists at the University at Buffalo, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, and Hauptman-Woodward

Medical Research Institute. In fact, collaborations among these institutions have already led to world-class research in bioinformatics and functional genomics.

See the related article entitled, "Bioinformatics 102" on page 9. FYI, "Bioinformatics 101" was in last month's newsletter.

Woman of the Year (1942) Plays Friday, January 10 As Part of Women in Film Series



Woman of the Year, the fourth 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, January 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Katharine Hepburn meets Spenser Tracy in this charming battle-of-the-sexes type romantic comedy. Can a world famous political commentator find happiness with a lowly sports reporter? Come see! Directed by George Stevens, from an Oscar winning script by Ring Lardner, Jr.

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.

Maria Ceraulo

AAUW TRANSITIONS CONFERENCE — A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS!

On November 14, 2002 AAUW Buffalo Branch held its first Transitions Conference at Erie Community College, North Campus, co-chaired by Janet Fowler and Linda Suchocki. The Buffalo Branch was presented with a New York State AAUW "LIVING THE MISSION" Recognition Award on the day of the conference by Janet Forbes, Director of Education Equity, New York State AAUW.

The participants deemed the conference an overwhelming success. 122 participants attended the half-day conference, comprised of 75 adult women and 47 inner city high school girls. Our audience represented a divergence of ethnic and racial backgrounds, and judging from the comments on their surveys, the workshops and sessions were very well received and appreciated. They not only completed the bullet point questions; they wrote lengthy comments praising the conference. "There should be more workshops like these", wrote one woman, and another woman wrote to us after the conference to inform us she had already "taken her first step", thanks to our conference. One of the committee members commented on the "professional level" of the event — "very well organized and proficiently run". This important program's main purpose was helping women achieve their personal or career goals by addressing some of the obstacles they face in returning to school. The conference began at 12:30 PM and concluded at 5:00 PM.

Following an enlightening and motivating opening speech by Marsha D. Jackson, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs at Erie Community College, a series of workshops with speaker panels on various topics were the program for the afternoon where the participants could pick and choose the sessions that interested them most.

Sessions and speakers/panelists were:

Where the Jobs Are. A workshop on the job markets today, where the jobs and money will be for the next decade and consideration of non-traditional career choices for women. Panelists were: Joan M. Eustace Reeverts, Coordinator of Placement, ECC, Sandi A. Surace, General Manager, Iroquois Bar Corp., ECC and Vanita Evans, FBI Community Outreach Program Coordinator. A separate session on the same topic was provided for the high school girls and presented by Debbie Michaux, Dean of ECC's Employment and Training Center.

I Can't Pass for 22 Anymore. A discussion for the older woman returning to college or just starting out, pointing out the obstacles she might face and how to overcome them. Panelists were: Betty L. Loucks (AAUW), retired teacher, Wellsville Central Schools and Brenda Yamin, Assistant Professor in Construction Engineering and Management Technology at ECC.

Who's in the Neighborhood. Information on the support services available on campuses from daycare, counseling, tutoring, services for students with

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

disabilities, centers for diversity and more. Speaker: Kathy Hoffman, Coordinator of Special Services at ECC.

TAP, PELL and Beyond.

Alternatives and options for financing your education, including loans, scholarships and more. Panelists: Bernice Anson, Director of Financial Aid, ECC, Kathleen Michalski, Financial Aid advisor, NCCC and Lea Nicholson, Assistant Director of Student Financial Aid, Canisius College.

Wonder Woman Doesn't Live Here Anymore.

(1st session) Learn how to balance family, work and school, maintain self-esteem and set realistic expectations. Panelists: Faith Hoffman, VAWNY Healthcare System and Patrice Funderburg, Manager, Inroads.

Wonder Woman Doesn't Live Here Anymore.

(2nd session) Panelists: Stephanie Lopez, NCCC, Laura Meyers-Rogers Ph.D., EPIC, Nancy M. Oakley, Facilitator, Womanfocus Group

Money Doesn't Grow on Trees. Debt management and how to afford your cake and eat it, too. Panelists: Martie Rutlege-Howell, Financial Aid Counselor, Niagara University, and Ruby Williams, Registered Investment Planner, L & M Financial Services.

Ready, Set, Go! A practical guide to getting started: everything from course selection, registration, to books, study skills, and myths about college. Speaker: Nancy McGlen, Ph.D, Niagara University.

The panel moderators were: Catherine Weiss (AAUW), Chair of Amherst Planning Board; Ivy Diggs-Washington, Director of the Buffalo Office Everywoman Opportunity Center; Leona Barback (AAUW), Retired Erie County Department of Social Services; Marguerite Collesano (AAUW), Retired Teacher, Buffalo Public Schools, and Ingrid Weatherbee (AAUW) Retired Erie County Department of Social Services.

The diverse tapestry continued into the conference committee members and the numerous school intern volunteers who helped on the day of the event.

At the end of the program, light refreshments were served in ECC's Erie Room, giving the participants and the presenters an opportunity to meet and network.

Also to be commended are the numerous Corporate, Organization and Friend sponsors who contributed money, time, meeting locations, the facility for the conference, art work and design, pens, token gifts, door prizes, and scholarships for those women/girls who would not have been able to attend without their help.

There is excitement brewing already about "next year's program." Will it be all day? Who will host it? Will it be as good as this year? Will it be better? What other topics will it offer? We, Linda and I, are excited about this program. It was very successful and rewarding to us as co-chairs. If any of you are interested in being on the committee for next year's program, let us know now, as we will begin the planning shortly.

Janet Fowler

MANNA FROM HEAVEN Buffalo premiere January 17

Shot entirely in the Buffalo area, MANNA FROM HEAVEN was made by the five Burton sisters (Jennifer, Ursula, Gabrielle, Maria, and Charity Burton) of the independent feature film production company FIVE SISTERS PRODUCTIONS. The film was written by their mother (award-winning screenwriter, Gabrielle B. Burton) and was produced by the five Burton sisters along with their father (Roger Burton). The Burton family is from Buffalo.

The stellar ensemble cast includes Academy Award winners SHIRLEY JONES, CLORIS LEACHMAN, LOUISE FLETCHER; Academy Award nominee SEYMOUR CASSEL; URSULA BURTON, SHELLEY DUVALL, JILL EIKENBERRY, FRANK GORSHIN, HARRY GROENER, FAYE GRANT, WENDIE MALICK, and AUSTIN PENDLETON.

Like *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, MANNA is an uplifting, feel-good comedy which is getting strong positive word-of-mouth.

Notably, the sisters have partnered with HABITAT FOR HUMANITY on their national release. Five Sisters Productions is committed to community involvement and social responsibility. They have offered to donate proceeds from an opening screening in each market to benefit the charity. "One of the themes of the film is community coming together to improve itself," said Ursula Burton, sister #3, who produced and acted in the film. "We want to take this opportunity to reach out to the communities to which we are traveling,

to reach beyond the boundaries of the film as a piece of entertainment, and to use it as a chance to do something good for a local charitable cause."

"By buying a ticket, every person can influence the types of American movies being made and offered to the public," said Gabrielle, co-director and sister #4. "With the focus now on weekend box office reports, people are, in effect, 'voting' for the types of movies they want to see."

WHEN & WHERE: MANNA will have its BUFFALO PREMIERE on Friday, January 17, 2003, at 7 p.m. The "girls" will be at this special screening to benefit Habitat at the Dipson Market Arcade theater on Main St, downtown where they'll have a Q & A after the show. Parking is free at the M&T lot on the corner of Washington & Chippewa if you bring your ticket to be validated at the theater. Use the reservation form on p. 11.

In Memorium

Mary (Molly) Harrington died September 19, 2002. She was 94 years old and a member of AAUW Buffalo Branch for over 25 years. She was a participant in the Book Sale for many years and a school librarian with a keen interest in helping children learn to read.

International Women's Day Conference Planned on Saturday, March 8 at Buffalo State College

The Buffalo Branch's second annual celebration of International Women's Day will be on Saturday, March 8, 2003 at a conference entitled, "Women Count: Conversations about Equity" to be held at Buffalo State College (BSC) from 9:20 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The keynote speaker will be Joanna Kerr, the Executive Director of the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID), an international organization based in Toronto. Her keynote address is "Making Women Count: International Strategies to Value Women and Their Work". Ms. Kerr has a rich background in policy research and advocacy related to the gender dimensions of economic reform, women's human rights, organizational development and leadership and women's employment issues.

The conference will also include the showing and discussion of the documentary, "Who's Counting? Marilyn Waring on Sex, Lies and Global Economics" (short version). A panel presentation afterward will focus on the national scene regarding the unpaid work of women, the underpaid work of women wage earners and the under-funding of resources for women such as child care. The program of the conference will illustrate the local and international problems that these inequities cause. Panelists will be

economists, lawyers and other experts knowledgeable about the issues.

The event, which will be held in the Student Union Social Hall, is being organized with the collaboration of the Women's Studies Interdisciplinary Unit of BSC. Other co-sponsors include The League of Women Voters, Buffalo/Niagara, National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (Buffalo Chapter), United University Professions and Everywoman Opportunity Center. Admission will be free for students.

Watch next month's newsletter for more information and a reservation form.

For more information, please contact Dr. Teresa Gessner at tgessner@acsu.buffalo.edu.

Reading List for American Biographies Study Group

The American Biographies study group will be reading and discussing the following books in 2003. They invite you to join them or enjoy the biographies on your own.

Not One of the Boys by Brenda Feign (1960's V.P. of N.O.W.) – February

My Wars Are Laid Away in Books, the Life of Emily Dickinson by Alfred Habegger – March

Portrait of an Artist, a Biography of Georgia O'Keefe by Laurie Lisle – April

Grover Cleveland, a Study in Character by Alan Brodsky – May

Woodrow Wilson by Louis Auchincloss – June

John Adams by David McCullough – September

Decorators' Show House

The Junior League of Buffalo is looking for volunteers for their 2003 Decorators' Show House, the Miller Mansion at Nottingham Terrace. Over 40 of WNY's finest decorators and landscapers will combine their talents to revert this former private school back to a premier residence. This will be a wonderful opportunity to not only enjoy one of Buffalo's most prestigious properties, but to support this worthwhile community project and provide recognition for our branch.

A volunteer shift lasts about 4 hours and involves greeting and explaining features of the room to the guests. Information is provided by the decorator. Volunteers are also provided the opportunity to tour the home at no charge either before or after their shift. For every group with ten or more volunteers signed up for the same shift, there will be a sign at the door recognizing their organization's contribution.

We are looking for volunteers for Saturday, May 17, 2003 from 9:30 am - 1:45 pm. If interested, please contact Linda Suchocki at 823-4154 by January 20, 2003.

Velma Cobb Scholarships Due February 1, 2003

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2003 Velma Cobb Scholarships. Two \$1,000 scholarships are awarded annually, for a total of \$2,000. They are open to female seniors attending an Erie County high school who will be attending (full-time) a two or four year college in fall 2003.

Applicants are not based on financial need. They are based on academic achievement, student

activities, community service, paid job experience, letters of recommendation, and a personal interview (finalists only). Applicants must have at least a 90 average and must send a completed application, three letters of reference and a high school transcript by February 1, 2003. An application is available in each Erie County high school guidance counselor's office. For more information or to request an application, please call Maria Ceraulo at 881-0729.

Summary of November Board Minutes

Planning for the Transitions Conference is coming along nicely. All that remains is to continue publicizing it.

The Travel Group is working on getting a trip together for the spring to combine a visit to the Rochester Branch (at its beautiful house) and some other attraction in the Rochester area. It was suggested that late May would be a good time for our branch.

The International Human Rights luncheons at Buff State have been moved to a larger room to accommodate the larger-than-expected attendance. "Women of Argentina" is to be the next session. The keynote speaker for the March 8 conference will be Joanna Kerr, Executive Director of the Association for Women's Rights in Development in Toronto.

The speaker for the next Public Policy group meeting will be Bill O'Connell, executive director of the Erie County Commission on Homelessness. The need for help in this arena will also be the focus of our holiday charitable contributions.

Bioinformatics 102

What is Informatics?

Informatics is the science of information acquisition, storage, analysis, and presentation. It may be the fundamental discipline of the 21st century, ubiquitously required by diverse fields of endeavor ranging from architecture to medicine.

What is Bioinformatics?

Bioinformatics is an emerging discipline, which combines efforts and advances in computer science, computational science, and various aspects of life science. While there is currently no generally agreed upon definition of 'bioinformatics,' one view is that bioinformatics is concerned with the creation and development of advanced information and computational technologies to solve problems in biology. That is, bioinformatics typically relies on techniques from informatics, involving efficient algorithms for manipulating large amounts of data stored and processed on high-performance computers, in order to obtain information about genomic or protein sequence data. Bioinformatics is often applied to problems in computational chemistry, functional genomics, neural imaging (brain mapping), pharmacogenetics, pharmacogenomics, pharmacometrics, proteomics, and structural biology.

What does Bioinformatics mean for industry?

Massive computing power is needed to spin gene data into drugs. Computer and software industries must provide the next-generation networks, database tools, and other high-tech resources that drug companies require in order to upgrade their operations.

Why focus on Bioinformatics in Buffalo?

For two simple reasons: 1) infrastructure and 2) people. The facilities and people in Buffalo have the capability to move from the genetic analysis of disease through the development of a drug and its clinical trial in an efficient "one-stop-shopping" scenario.

This is an extremely interesting subject and one that is on the cutting edge of science. Be one of the first to gain knowledge of such a groundbreaking area of study.

Voter News Service

Many thanks go out to our dedicated members who volunteered to report the voting results at 9 p.m. on Election Day. Due to a failure of the phone system to handle the calls received, our members tried for hours to get through without any success. Voter News Service apologized profusely over the inconvenience to the volunteers and reported that we will be fully compensated for our efforts. We covered over 90 precincts with the following members: Ingrid Wetherbee, Janet Trinkwalder, Mary Chotoff, Helen Duffy, Marilyn Kihl, Lynn Beller, Betty Loucks, Betty Krist, Anita Kunkle, Arlene Jacus, Jean Hubbard, Sue Oliver, Judy Weidemann, Maryalice Seagrave, Mary Kellner, Ruby Thompson, Carol Battle, Beverly Mooney, Barbara Carier, Barbara Engler, Lois Dabney, Donna Fitzgerald, Gloria Eastman, Marilyn Carmichael, Eve Stoklosa, Carol Jamieson, Ann Hicks, Leona Barback, Maria Ceraulo, Janice Barber, Lynn McClive, Bertha Boston, Karen Stephenson, Jean Sylvester, Joan Trinchera, Sara Simmons, Diane Bishop, Suzanne Grossman, Yvonne Smith, Elizabeth Howell, Barbara Smith, Elizabeth Binner, Carol Golyski, Barbara Olandt, Anastasia Johnson, Peggy Meinel, Gretchen Szymanski, Katherine Johnson.

Bunny Blackstone

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

Note: If you are interested in forming a new study group, please send the purpose and expectations of the group to Mary.

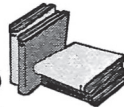
Group: **American Biographies**

When: Thursday, January 16 at 1:30 p.m.

Where: Eggertsville Library
4622 Main St. (on Burroughs,
off Main St., east of Harlem)

Topic: *Theodore Rex* about T. Roosevelt
by Edmund Morris

Facilitator: Peg O'Brien
Contact: Nancy Ryther (884-8324)
All are welcome whether you have
read the book or not.



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, January 22 at 6 p.m.

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

Topic: *Clue for the Puzzle Lady*
by Parnell Hall



Reviewer: Judy Bratty

Contact: Judy (833-5995) for reservations

Group: **Dinner by the Book**

When: Wednesday, January 15 at 5:30 p.m.

Where: Plaka Restaurant, 2904
Delaware Ave. at Victoria, Kenmore

Topic: *Too Close to the Falls*
by Catherine Gildener



Reviewer: Jane Riga

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

Space is limited. Call early.

Group: **Film Group**

When: Tuesday, January 7

Contact: Maria Ceraulo (881-0729)



Group: **Great Decisions**

Next meeting February 6.

Topic to be announced.

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

Topic: Business Meeting of International
Relations Committee and the
March 8 conference organizing
committee

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

Date, Time and Location to be announced.

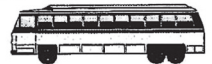
Group: **Travel Group**

Topic: Make plans for future trips.

Contact: Bev Schwiegerling (652-7182)

to put item on the agenda
and for date, time and location
schwieg@adelphia.net

All are welcome!



Reservation Form
MANNA FROM HEAVEN

January 17, 2002
Dipson Market Arcade
Theater on Main Street

Name _____ Phone _____

Guest(s) _____

Cost unavailable at time of publication

Contact Maria Ceraulo at 881-0729

Make checks payable to AUW Buffalo Branch.

Return by **January 10**
to Maria Ceraulo
813 Potomac Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209.



BUFALO BRANCH NEWSLETTER

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

President: Margurite Collesano (853-6480)
Editors: B. Krist and J. Weidemann
Publisher: Joan Eschner (655-1322)

Send address changes to
Betty Preble
6935 East Quaker Road
Orchard Park, NY 14127

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

January 2003
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Reservation Form for January Meeting, Buffalo Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics

Brunch at University Inn & Conference Center, 2402 North Forest Road, Amherst
January 25, 10:00 a.m.

Assorted Danish, Bagels with Whipped Butter and Cream Cheese, Croissants, Fresh Fruit Platter, Belgian Waffles, Fluffy Plain Scrambled Eggs, Homemade Breakfast Breads, Crispy Bacon, Breakfast Sausage Links, Assorted Fruit Juices, Fresh Brewed Columbian Coffee and Decaffeinated Coffee, Selection of International Teas

Name _____ Phone _____

Guest(s) _____

Cost \$15.50 per person Total included _____

Return reservations by **January 17, 2003** to
Betty Krist, 116 Iris Avenue, West Seneca, NY 14224-2747

Make checks payable to **Buffalo Branch AAUW**.

If you need assistance, contact Betty Krist at 675-4059.

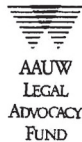
In principle and in practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.



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, January 8 - Bd. Mtg.

Friday, January 10 - *Women of the Year*

Friday, January 17 - *Manna From Heaven*

Saturday, January 25 -
"Bioinformatics"

Sunday, February 23 - Reading
Coffee and Dessert

Saturday, March 8 - International
Women's Day

Saturday, March 29 - Sister to Sister
Conference

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 December 21, 2002.



BUFFALO BRANCH
Betty Preble
6935 East Quaker Road
Orchard Park, NY 14127

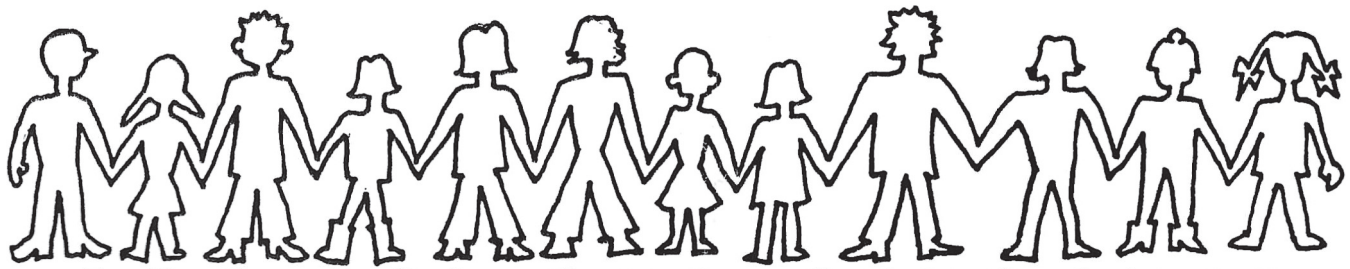
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Barbara Carier
295 Lakewood Parkway
Amherst, NY 14226-4072

142264074 22





**ARE ALL OUR STUDENTS
GETTING AN ADEQUATE EDUCATION?**

The League of Women Voters Buffalo/Niagara

sponsors

A PUBLIC MEETING

AN UPDATE ON CFE v. STATE OF NEW YORK

SPEAKER FROM CAMPAIGN FOR FISCAL EQUITY

JESSICA GARCIA

DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH AND YOUTH PROGRAM

McKinley High School Auditorium
1500 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo
Across from Historical Society
Off Scajaquada Exp. (rt. 198)

January 27, 2003

Monday, 7:00pm-9:00pm

co-sponsors:

AAUW Buffalo

Erie County Association of School Boards

Department of History + Secondary Social Studies Education at Buffalo State

Background

There is a court case pending between the Campaign for Fiscal Equity and the State of New York. CFE initiated a lawsuit against the State of New York, because of the inequality of amounts of money spent on school children in different parts of the state. After many months of work by CFE, State Supreme Court Justice Leland DeGrasse ordered the state to change its state aid formula to distribute school aid more equitably. The judge ruled that the state has violated both its own constitution and federal law "by failing to provide New York City's 1.1 million public school students the resources needed for an education that prepares them for competitive jobs and helps them to become well-informed voters and jurors." The judge ordered Governor Pataki and the Legislature to produce a simpler, more equitable

formula by last September 15. That did not happen. Instead Pataki appealed to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, which overturned Justice DeGrasse's decision. The Appellate Court held the current funding system for public schools constitutional, and that the state is only responsible for providing public school students with an 8th grade level of education. Now CFE has appealed the decision to the highest state court, the Court of Appeals. Our speaker from the CAMPAIGN FOR FISCAL EQUITY will review the situation, and discuss how this case will affect schools in communities across the state. CFE is working closely with the Alliance for Quality Education, a statewide grassroots organization, to mobilize the public to move the agenda forward outside the courts.

CFE's goal: to provide equal educational opportunities to all public school children in N Y.

Parking available.

Free Admission

Please invite your friends.



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN (AAUW)
BUFFALO BRANCH

in collaboration with

The Women's Studies Interdisciplinary Unit Minor Program at
Buffalo State College

co-sponsor

Human Rights for Women Discussion Group

on the Buffalo State College campus, 1300 Elmwood Ave.

focusing on

- Human rights in critical areas of the world
- Issues that affect women and girls in various countries
- Opportunities and barriers to education and advancement

JOIN US FOR THE SPRING 2003 DISCUSSION SERIES:

Tuesday, February 11, 12:15 to 1:30 p.m.

Bulger Communications Center East (2nd floor)

Women of the W. African Country of Benin

Presenter: A. PAULETTE THOMPSON

\$20 before 2/14
Saturday, March 8, 9:20 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Social Hall, Student Union

Women Count: Conversations About Equity

The conference features a keynote address by JOANNA KERR and will be followed by panel presentations and discussions. For details and registration contact Dr. Amitra Hodge as listed below.

Tuesday, April 8, 12:15 to 1:30 p.m.

Bacon Hall, Room 115

Women of India

Presenter: HARSHA ACHARYA

For more information contact Dr. Amitra Hodge (716-878-3542 or hodgeaa@bscmail.buffalostate.edu)
or Dr. T. Gessner (tgessner@acsu.buffalo.edu)

AAUW Travel Group Plans May 17-19 Trip to the Big Apple

Many of us have put off a trip to New York City. What better way to show our American pride than to visit the Big Apple with the AAUW Travel Group this May. And the price is certainly right.

If you are interested in going to this trip, please call Maria Ceraulo at 881-0729. A registration form will be in the February newsletter. Please note you will only have ten days from the date of that newsletter to send in your money for this trip. This is because we can only hold the reservation for a short time before payment is due. I have no control over that. I am also looking for input on what you'd like to do while in NYC. Do you want all free time or would you like some planned activities? Would you like some group meals or all on your own?

DATES—***Please note new dates

We depart Buffalo on Saturday, May 17 and return to Buffalo on Monday, May 19.

THE FLIGHT

Flights would be on US Air scheduled service at 10:35 a.m. on Saturday, which arrives at 11:56 a.m. The return on Monday, May 19 would be either 5:40 p.m., which arrives at 7:05 p.m. or at 7 p.m., arriving at 8:25 p.m.

THE US AIR PACKAGE

This includes:

- Round-trip airfare to La Guardia
- Round-trip bus transfers from airport to hotel/hotel to airport
- Two night's accommodations at the Ramada Milford Plaza (see below)
- All hotel taxes and surcharges

THE GREAT PRICE

The attractive price is about \$295 per person, double occupancy. Please note this price does not include any group activities or group meals. If we decide to do either, it will be reflected in the price. We may have an optional group meal at a nearby Italian restaurant, if the group is interested. This would be an additional charge.

THE HOTEL

The Ramada Milford Plaza, 270 W. 45th St. (between Times Square and Eighth Avenue) (www.milfordplaza.com)

I have stayed here twice and can vouch that it is centrally located (in the middle of the theater district) and an excellent value. It is a large, three star hotel, with about 1300 well-appointed rooms, very close to Rockefeller Center, shopping and many other things to do. There are two restaurants (serving breakfast, lunch and dinner), room service, concierge, and a Broadway theater/sightseeing/transportation desk. The subway and buses are nearby. The hotel has a state-of-art fitness center that is free for guests.

TRIP CANCELLATION POLICY

Trip cancellation insurance is available which covers cancellation for ANY REASON for \$49. Medical reason cancellation is \$29. To qualify, both people in the room have to take out the insurance. This must be purchased at the time the trip is paid for.

OPTIONAL TRIPS TO CONSIDER

Many optional trips can be booked through the hotel.

Since many have been here before, we probably won't do any group sightseeing, with the possible exception of Ground Zero. Since many have expressed an interest in going here, we could share a cab to Lower Manhattan or take a bus. The viewing platform is at Broadway and Fulton Street and is open daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Call 212-732-7678 for platform ticketing information.)

BOOK SALE DEPOTS AND PICK-UPS

If you have books for the used book sale, please contact the depot closest to you to arrange a drop-off. If you need a pick-up, call the Pick-up member closest to you to pick up your books. If you have over 20 boxes of books that need to be picked up, please contact one of the Collections Chairs. If any members are interested in assisting with picking up books for the sale or holding books at your home (need a dry basement or garage), please contact Bunny Blackstone (655-4519).

COLLECTIONS CHAIRS

BARBARA ENGLER 674-3462 AND MARGUERITE COLLESANO 853-6480

AMHERST

Marilyn Kihl	27 Dearwood Ct.	691-8299	DEPOT
Mary Kellner	8470 Lakemont Dr.	741-8127	DEPOT
Cathy Weiss	70 Fennec Ln.	688-6181	PICK-UP

BUFFALO

Leslie McCain	228 Hoyt St.	645-2417 ext.460	PICK-UP
Marguerite Collesano	120 Rivermist	853-6480	PICK-UP
Judy Weidemann		655-3649	PICK-UP
Janet Fowler	156 St. James Pl.	884-8698	PICK-UP

CLARENCE

Ann Hicks	5177 Willowbrook	741-3964	DEPOT, PICK-UP
Ann Allan	4560 Gunnville Rd.	759-8190	DEPOT

CONCORD

Ruth Auer	5655 Brown Hill Rd.	941-5923	DEPOT
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EAST AURORA

Judy Weidemann	21 Nye Hill Rd.	655-3649	DEPOT ,PICK-UP
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	EDEN		
Ann Montes	2316 Shadagee Rd.	627-9825	PICK-UP
	LANCASTER		
Kathy Basher	5668 Broadway	683-5159	DEPOT
	MARILLA		
Bunny Blackstone	11478 Tomarsue Dr.	655-4519	PICK-UP
	ORCHARD PARK		
Chris O'Connor	3797 Lynn Rd.	649-0637	DEPOT, PICK-UP
Claudia Kania	2 Quaker Rd.	662-1992	DEPOT
Alice Glace	95 Thorn Ave.	662-2302	DEPOT
	SNYDER		
Marion Fay	347 Brantwood Rd.	836-5660	DEPOT
Bev Mooney	359 Mt. Vernon Rd.	839-2941	PICK-UP
Jean Hubbard	62 Garden Ct.	832-3157	DEPOT
	TONAWANDA		
Barb Smith	348 Everett Pl.	835-2541	PICK-UP
	WEST SENECA		
Barbara Engler	86 Patricia Dr.	674-3462	PICK-UP
	WILLIAMSVILLE		
Betty Loucks	43 Jenawood Ln.	632-3157	DEPOT
	YOUNGSTOWN		
Karen Noonan	123 Main St.	745-1283	PICK-UP