



# Buffalo Branch Newsletter

NYS District 1

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March 2003

## Programs

**Thursday, February 27**

**AAUW Buffalo Branch Co-Sponsors**

***Martin Luther King Jr.***

***Commemorative Event***

**Mae Jemison - Astronaut, Speaker**

**UB s Center for the Arts (CFA) Main Stage, 8 pm**

**Saturday, March 8**

**International Women s Day - Conference**

***Women Count: Conversations about Equity.***

**9:20 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Buffalo State College,**

**Campbell Student Union,**

**1300 Elmwood Avenue in Buffalo.**

See page 3 and last month's issue for more information.

## President's Message

March is Woman s History Month so plan to attend and participate in the events to celebrate the achievements of women. Among the many regional programs is the AAUW Buffalo Branch s sponsorship of three significant programs.

On February 23, Olga Karman will read from her memoirs, *Scatter My Ashes* at D Youville College, 320 Porter Avenue, Buffalo. More information was published in last month s newsletter.

Then on February 27, Buffalo Branch will co-sponsor Mae Jemison, Astronaut, Engineer, and Physician, who will be the guest lecturer for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Lecture. Join us at the State University in Amherst. For more information on this event, see page 3 of this issue.

March 8, is International Women s Day. The International Women s Rights Committee, along with the support of various local women s groups have organized an exceptional conference: Women Count: Conversations about Equity.

Woman s History Month is a time to reflect on the achievements and activities of the Buffalo Branch AAUW. Our Organization s History is

Deadline for the April issue is March 10 Please send articles to Joan Eschner via e-mail at [jmeschner@att.net](mailto:jmeschner@att.net). Articles that are received later than the above date will not appear in the March issue.

important to our community. I would like our members to be aware that an AAUW Archive is maintained at the State University of New York Library, Amherst Campus. The Archive is interested in the records that best illustrate the purpose, activities, and policies our branch. Members may have various original letters, newspaper clippings, photographs, pamphlets, videos, etc. to add to this historical repository. Please send such documents to Donna Fitzgerald, Historian, or me. The heart of a branch s memory is in its records.

Marguerite Collesano

## In Memoriam

Members of AAUW, Buffalo Branch offer their sympathy to the family and friends of Eleanor Dye. She was a retired teacher of mathematics in Hamburg and had been honored as Republican Women of the Year by the Erie County Republican Party. She was a long time member of AAUW.



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

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## AAUW Buffalo Branch Co-Sponsors Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Event, Mae Jemison, Speaker

We are proud to co-sponsor this special event at UB's Center for the Arts (CFA) Main Stage, 8 pm on Thursday, February 27. Mae C. Jemison blasted into orbit aboard the space shuttle Endeavour, September 12, 1992, and became the first woman of color to go into space. Dr. Jemison was a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) astronaut for six years. In a 1999 Presidential Ballot national straw poll conducted by The White House, Jemison was selected as one of the top seven women leaders. She was the keynote speaker at the AAUW Convention in 2001, Houston, TX

Jemison founded The Jemison Group, Inc. to focus on the beneficial integration of science and technology into our everyday lives. She also created BioSentient, a medical technology company that develops and markets mobile equipment worn to monitor the body's vital signs and train people to respond favorably in stressful situations.

Dr. Jemison serves on the Board of Directors for Scholastic, Inc. and Valspar Corporation. In 2001, she was elected into the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine; she has been inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame and the National Medical Association Hall of Fame. Dr. Jemison is an A.D. White Professor-at-Large at Cornell University. She spent two and a half years (1983-1985) as Area Peace

Corps medical officer for Sierra Leone and Liberia in West Africa.

Born in Decatur, Alabama and raised in Chicago, she entered Stanford University at age 16 on a scholarship. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering and fulfilled the requirements for an A.B. in African and Afro-American studies. She earned her doctorate in medicine at Cornell University Medical College. She has received a number of honorary doctorates including one from Princeton University.

Tickets are available at the CFA Ticket Office 645-ARTS or <http://www.student-affairs.buffalo.edu/special/tickets.shtml#tix>. Make every effort to have your attendance contribute to this special event. Why not bring a young woman with you?

## AAUW Plans Women Count: Conversations about Equity Conference

Join the Women's Studies Interdisciplinary Unit of Buffalo State College, in celebrating March 8, International Women's Day with a conference, *Women Count: Conversations about Equity*. It will be held from 9:20 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Buffalo State College, Campbell Student Union, 1300 Elmwood Avenue in Buffalo.

The International Women's Day Conference will feature a documentary in which Marilyn Waring, former member of the New Zealand Parliament demystifies global economics for general audiences. With wit and humor, she points out that Gross Domestic Product does not take into account  
(continued on page 4)

(continued from page 3)

count some costs and completely ignores the unpaid work of women. Keynote speaker will be Joanna Kerr, who will present international Strategies to value women and their work. she is the Executive Director of the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID), an international organization based in Toronto, Canada with thousands of members worldwide, connecting, informing and mobilizing people and organizations committed to achieving gender equality, sustainable development and women's human rights. Ms. Kerr has a rich background in policy research and advocacy related to the gender dimensions of economic reform, women's human rights, and women's employment issues. In addition, there will be group discussions and presentations by panelists including "How Courts Value Women's Household Services", "Pay Equity: Two Case Studies in How to Achieve It", "Why the Judge Ruled in This Plaintiff's Favor" and "The Challenge of Child Care Finance". There will also be time for questions and answers.

**REGISTRATION FOR THE CONFERENCE IS REQUIRED.** The cost of the event, which includes morning coffee and box lunch; is \$25. For students, registration is free with student ID. (Note: A limited number of student subsidies are available.) Student box lunch requires a \$5.00 contribution by February 28, WHICH IS THE DEADLINE FOR ALL LUNCH ORDERS. For more information, please contact Teresa Gessner at [tgessner@acsu.buffalo.edu](mailto:tgessner@acsu.buffalo.edu). To register, (non-student registration) please call Diane Silvestro at 716-631-3349 or contact her at [belvoir6@hotmail.com](mailto:belvoir6@hotmail.com). Free parking for the event is available in all campus parking lots.

## The Farmer's Daughter Plays Friday, March 14 in Film Series



The Farmer's Daughter (1947) is the sixth 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. It will be shown on Friday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Country girl Loretta Young does a lot better in the big city than her predecessor, Ms. Gish! Can this spirited lass win a vacant congressional seat, fighting against the man she loves (Joseph Cotton)? This delightful comedy won Ms. Young the Oscar. Ethel Barrymore shines in support.

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

Maria Ceraulo

### Condolences

The Buffalo Branch sends condolences to the family of Bella Stoll, branch member Bella's granddaughter Elizabeth Rose Bailey was a past winner of the Velma Cobb Scholarship for her academic, school and community achievements.

The branch also sends condolences to member Shirley Joseph on the death of her husband, Norman. Shirley was the AAUW Buffalo Branch Woman of Achievement in 2000.

## 2003-2004 Program Ideas Invited

Do you have suggestions or ideas for the 2003-2004 program? Is there a location or event in which you'd like us to participate? Come to a planning meeting on Monday March 10, 2003 at The Original Pancake House, 5479 Main Street, Williamsville at 5 p.m. or contact any Board member or contact Betty Krist at 675-4059 or kristb@adelphia.net. Please call Betty to reserve a seat for dinner.

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## An Invitation from the Rochester Branch

The Buffalo Branch of AAUW has been invited to attend the Rochester branch meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 2003. Their guest speaker will be Elaine Spaul, The Executive Director of the Center for Youth Services. Her topic will be "Career Transitions- My Journey".

The program begins at 7:00 p.m. We have the opportunity to join them before the meeting at dinner, which starts with a social time at 5:30 PM, and dinner at 6:00 p.m. The cost of the dinner is generally \$15.00.

Please let Judy Weideman (655-3649) or Norine Borkowski (688-0612) know of your interest in attending this program so that we can organize car pool transportation to the event and provide you with more detailed information.

## Buffalo Branch Nominating Committee Report Officers 2003-2005

The officers to be considered for the 2003-2004 year are as follows:

**Co-Presidents:** Suzanne Oliver and Linda Suchocki

**President-Elect:** Janet Fowler

**First Vice-President (Program):** Teresa Gessner

**Third Vice-President (Membership Retention):** Janet Trinkwalder

**Treasurer:** Adrienne Kotler

**Loans Fund Treasurer:** Marilyn Kihl

**Nominating Committee Chair:** Marguerite Collesano

**Nominating Committee Members:**

Carol Battle  
Bertha Boston  
Lois Dabney  
Marie Jansen

**Voting for the slate will take place at the Annual Awards Luncheon on May 3rd.**

The members of the Nominating Committee wish to express their deep gratitude to Rita Clement, the elected Chair of the committee, for her enthusiastic assistance and contributions to our deliberations prior to her departure for her new job and home in San Diego. You gave us a firm basis for our current success. Thank you!

Marilyn Kihl, Acting Chair, Bertha Boston, Anastasia Johnson, and Maryalice Seagrave submit this report.

## 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: Tuesday, March 21 at 1:30 p.m.

Where: Eggertsville Library  
4622 Main St. (east of Harlem at

Burroughs. Parking lot off Burroughs)

Topic: *My Wars Are Laid Away in Books, the Life of Emily Dickenson*

by Alfred Habegger

Facilitator: Lynn McClive

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, March 26 at 6 p.m.

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

Topic: *Gone for Good*

by Harlan Coben

Reviewer: Jean Hubbard

Contact: Jean (832-0349) for reservations

### Group: Dinner by the Book

When: Wednesday, March 19 at 5:30 p.m.

Where: Plaka Restaurant, 2904

Delaware Ave. at Victoria, Kenmore

Topic: *A Bend in the Road*  
by Nicholas Sparks



Reviewer: Julia Piquette

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

Space is limited. Call early.

### Group: Film Group

When: Tuesday, March 4

Contact: Maria Ceraulo (881-0729)



### Group: Great Decisions

When: Thursday, March 6

Where: Unitarian Universalist Church  
Main St. East of Youngs Rd.,  
Williamsville

Topic: *Afghanistan: a Fragile Peace*

Contact: Suzanne Grossman (837-8769)

### Group: Human Rights for Women — Global Issues International Women s Day Special Conference

When: Saturday, March 8 from 9:20 am to  
2:30 p.m.

Where: Buffalo State College,  
1300 Elmwood Ave.,  
Campbell Student Union, Social Hall  
(Free parking in all campus lots)

Topic: Women Count: Conversations about  
Equity

### 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!



## Public Policy

On January 27, 2003, members of the Buffalo Branch had the opportunity to hear an up date on the efforts of the Campaign for Fiscal Equity (CFE) for public schools in New York State. The meeting was organized by the League of Women Voters Buffalo/Niagara and co-sponsored by AAUW, Buffalo Branch.

Jessica Garcia, representative of CFE brought the audience up to date on the court case pending between CFE 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 part of the state. The case is now in the Appellate Division of the State Supreme Court.

A reading of the Buffalo News on almost any day gives us a sobering picture of the precarious financial position of the Buffalo Public Schools.

In 2002 and 2001 at the state AAUW Convention, the Buffalo Branch initiated resolutions calling for support of efforts toward fiscal equity for schools in New York State. These resolutions were passed. We must continue to focus on this effort and support efforts of groups like CFE.

The Public Policy Committee will keep you informed on further progress of the CFE case and suggest ways of supporting fiscal equity for our schools.

Cathy Weiss and Judy Weidemann

## Board Minutes - January 8

The branch received over \$1600 for work with the Voter News Service. Although there were

technical problems this year, it was still a relatively painless fundraiser.

Since the branch is contributing \$10,000 to the Association Education Foundation, we are entitled to name up to 20 honorees. Bunny Blackstone and Cathy Weiss were designated to choose these people and/or organizations.

Buffalo State has chosen to contribute \$750 towards the International Women s Day conference to be held on the campus on March 8. A flyer on the conference was included in last month s newsletter.

Donna Fitzgerald is working on updating the archives, held at UB. They are sadly out of date. Various people had suggestions for contacts to get information collected since 1980, when they were last really the focus of attention.

## Annual Award Luncheon to be held in Niagara Falls

This year s Annual Achievement and Award Luncheon will take place on Saturday, May 3 at Tiddledybinks restaurant located in the lovely Niagara Club on Buffalo Avenue. The Achievement Award selection committee is already hard at work reviewing nominations. Be certain to reserve May 3 for this special AAUW luncheon for presentation of our annual award, celebration of our honorary and long-time members and election of new officers. Details and a reservation form will be in next month s newsletter.

Any questions please feel free to call me at any time. Thanks!

Joan Trinchera  
Luncheon Committee Chair  
Home: 649-1944  
Work: 551-4306



**BUFFALO BRANCH**  
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 Orchard Park, NY 14127

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*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 February 5 - Board Meeting**

**Sunday February 23- Reading, Coffee and Dessert**

**Thursday February 25 - Mae Jemison**

**Wednesday March 5 - Board Meeting**

**Saturday March 8 - International Women's Day - Conference on Equity**


**Saturday March 29 - Sister to Sister**

**Saturday April 12 - Brunch, Longterm Health Care, Estate Planning and Elder Law**

**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 February 20, 2002.**



## Calendar for Book Sale June 2003

Sun.		Mon.		Tues.		Wed.		Thurs.		Fri.		Sat.	
1	Table set-up 12-3, 3-6	2	Table set-up 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	3	Table set-up 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	4	Sale 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	5	Sale 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	6	Sale 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	7	Sale 9-1, 1-5, 5-8
8	Sale 12-3, 3-6	9	Clean-up 9-12, 12-3,	10	Clean-up 9-12, 12-3,								
									<i>Signed up</i>				
													

## Calendar for Book Sale May 2003

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
27 April Closed	28 April Set Up for Sale	29 April Move books 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	30 April Sort 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	1 Sort 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	2 Sort 9-1, 1-5,	3 Sort Closed
4 Closed	5 Closed	6 Sort 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	7 Sort 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	8 Sort 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	9 Sort 9-1, 1-5	10 Sort 9-12, 12-3
11 Closed	12 Closed	13 Sort 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	14 Sort 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	15 Sort 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	16 Sort 9-1, 1-5 5-8	17 Sort 9-12, 12-3
18 Closed	19 Closed	20 Sort 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	21 Sort 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	22 Sort 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	23 Sort 9-1, 1-5 5-8	24 Closed
25 Closed	26 Closed	27 Table set-up 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	28 Table set-up 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	29 Table set-up 9-1, 1-5, 5-8	30 Table set-up 9-1, 1-5	31 Table set-up 9-12, 12-3