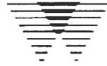


# BUFFALO BRANCH NEWSLETTER



AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY  
WOMEN

NYS District 1

September 2002

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

## ***POT LUCK DINNER***

September 18, 2002, 5:30 p.m.  
Christ United Methodist Church  
350 Saratoga Road, Snyder, NY 14226

**Speaker: Janet Fowler**

**Topic: WNY Transitions Conference**

**Other members will speak on Buffalo Branch  
Special Projects**

Members attending are requested to contribute one of the following:  
\$8.00, \$2.00 and a dessert, \$2.00 and a salad, or \$2.00 and a vegetable or  
meat casserole

**Each dish should feed 8-10 people.**

**See pages 2 and 3 for more information and page 9 for reservation form.  
Deadline is September 12th.**

## President's Message

September is fast approaching, the start of a new year of programs and events! I hope you had a pleasant summer.

September 18 is the annual Potluck Dinner. Contact Bunny Blackstone to make your reservation. Bring your favorite food to share. Invite a friend to attend with you to acquaint them with the Buffalo Branch members and to learn about our activities and goals.

Plan to attend the AAUW District One Conference on Saturday, October 5, 2002. This year the Buffalo Branch will serve as the Host Group. The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn, Hamburg, N.Y. I am very excited about the Transitions Conference set for Thursday, November 14, 2002, on the campus of Erie County Community College, North. This is a new national AAUW program designed to encourage women to return to college to pursue higher educational goals. Please contact Janet Fowler at 884-8698 or Linda Suchocki at 823-4154 if you are interested in working on this committee.

Marguerite Collesano

Deadline for the October issue is September 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.

## Annual Potluck Dinner

Our Annual Potluck Dinner is Wednesday, September 18, 2002, at Christ United Methodist Church, 350 Saratoga Road, (corner of Harlem) Snyder. Beginning at 5:30 p.m. members and friends can survey exhibits created by Buffalo Branch Study Groups and find out more about how these popular interest groups operate and what they do. Members will be able to answer your questions and tell you how you might participate and expand your enjoyment in AAUW.

After a tasty repast, we will focus on some of the special projects our branch has scheduled for this year. We will hear from Theresa Gessner about the International Women's Day Celebration and Suzanne Oliver about the Sister-to-Sister Summit both scheduled for March, 2003. Our main speaker will be (our own) Janet Fowler co-chair of the first WNY Transitions Conference on Thursday, November 14, 2002 at Erie Community College.

*(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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(853-6480)  
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Publisher: Joan Eschner (655-1322)

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

September 2002  
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*(Potluck Dinner continued from page 2)*

Women comprise the majority of college students today, with students over age 40 representing the fastest growing age group in post secondary education. However, completing or even beginning a course of study can be challenging at best. Many women face significant barriers to their educational success, often having to balance job and family responsibilities against their academic work.

To address the needs of women returning to school girls who are not on the "college track," and to provide many of the tools needed to begin or complete a course of study, the conference will present a series of workshops on such topics as financing your education; non-traditional careers; how to cope with being a non-traditional student; the college application process; course selection; and managing work, family and school. In addition, campus reps from the 16 accredited colleges and universities in Erie and Niagara counties will be attending the conference to provide information about their schools and degree programs offered.

Co-chairs for the conference are Janet Fowler and Linda Suchocki. If you are interested in participating or know of someone who might want to attend this conference, please call Janet at (716) 884-8698 or Linda at (716) 551-3053. Participant cost for registering at the conference is \$10 and registration deadline is November 7, 2002.

Invite a friend to attend the Potluck Dinner with you as we kick-off the new year.

Betty Krist

## International Relations Committee's Report on Its Activities, Award, and Upcoming Events

The activities of the International Relations Committee (IRC) included several talks organized for its "Human Rights for Women – Global Issues" interest/study group and a grand celebration of the International Women's Day on March 8. These activities earned for the Branch the newly instituted Platinum Award of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Recognition at this year's New York State AAUW convention.

The program of the "Human Rights for Women – Global Issues" interest group between October 2001 and May 2002 focused on the status of women and girls in various countries. Discussions delved into consideration of women's legal and economic status, family roles, religious influences, social changes, opportunities and barriers to education and advancement.

The following topics were presented and discussed:

- 1) "Syrian Women" by Sawsan Tabbaa, Post Doctoral Associate at UB;
- 2) "Women of Poland and the Ukraine in Post-Soviet Europe" by Agata Dybel, a visiting student from Poland, presented the Polish topic and Dr. Anastasia Johnson spoke on the Ukrainian topic;
- 3) "Using Economic Empowerment to Improve the Status of Women - Examples from Benin and other African Countries" by Tamara Brown;
- 4) "Women of Italy" by Marguerite Collesano;

*(continued on page 4)*

*(International Relations Continued from page 3)*

5) "Women of the Netherlands" by Joyce Bol.

Attendance at these programs ranged from 14 to 33 members and guests. At each meeting some new faces could be seen.

A special celebratory dinner event was organized for March 8, International Women's Day. It was attended by 140 members and guests. Four panelists spoke on the theme "Portrayal of Women in Mass Media."

Dr. Elayne Rapping of UB spoke on "Images of Women in Media in a Changing World";

Dr. Rafika Merini of BSC talked about "Stereotypical Images of Women of French-speaking Africa and Middle East in International Media";

Faye Lone-Knapp, author and poet, presented "Portrayal of Native-American Females in Mainstream Children's Literature";

Dr. Bernadette Wegenstein of UB talked about "Bellissima Pasta—Femininity and Italianita in Pasta Advertisements."

The event was cosponsored by 11 women's organizations, notably by AAUW Amherst and Jamestown branches, Business and Professional Women of Western New York, Erie County Commission on the Status of Women and the Women's Action Coalition, Federal Women's Program Network, National Organization for Women (NYS), The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., U.S. Small Business Administration, YWCA of Western New York, and Zonta International.

The Organizing Committee worked very hard to put together the above event. The following IRC\* and Branch members served on the International Women's Day Celebration Organizing Committee: Chair - Teresa Gessner\*, Vice-Chair - Judy

Weidemann\* (also reservations chair), Ann Bish\* (decor and display chair), Bertha Boston\*, Norine Borkowski (hospitality co-chair), Tamara Brown\* (hospitality co-chair), Maria Ceraulo (publicity co-chair), Rita Clement\* (Buffalo Branch president, ex-officio), Marguerite Collesano\* (Buffalo Branch president-elect, ex-officio), Analine Hicks\* (publicity co-chair), Anastasia Johnson\*, Betty Krist (Buffalo Branch program vice president, ex-officio), Clarine Radt, Margit Spector, Linda Suchocki, Anne Szczesny (program brochure designer), and Catharine Weiss\* (public relations chair).

In May the IRC organized a dinner-chat with an international visitor from Yemen, Ms. Najat Al-Sakaf, Program Officer for Social Fund for Development, who was visiting Buffalo under the auspices of the U.S. Department of State. Twenty-one members and guests participated in the dinner-chat.

Starting this Fall semester, the "Human Rights for Women – Global Issues" discussion series, about women of various countries, will take place at Buffalo State College campus with co-sponsorship of the Women's Studies Program of the College. These sessions will be "brown bag" lunch talks open to students, AAUW members and invited guests. The first talk will be about "Women of Morocco" on Tuesday, September 17 (see details in the Groups' announcements page); more will follow on October 15, November 19 and in the Spring semester (contact: [tguessner@acsu.buffalo.edu](mailto:tguessner@acsu.buffalo.edu)).

Congratulations fellow IRC\* members and all who worked with us on our projects!  
A million thanks!

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: **American Biographies**

When: Friday, September 27 at 1:30 PM

Where: Amherst Audubon Library  
350 Audubon Pkwy, Getzville

Topic: *A Clearing in the Distance*  
Biography of Frederick Law Olmstead  
by Witold Rybcynski

Facilitator: Jean Sylvester

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, September 25 at 6:00 PM

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

Topic: *Buried Bones* by Caroline Haines

Reviewer: Margaret Haas

Contact: Margaret (839-3701) for reservations



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

When: Tuesday, September 17 at 5:30 PM

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

Topic: *In Sunlight In a Beautiful Garden*



by Kathleen Cambor

Reviewer: Patricia Keller

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

*Space is limited. Call early!*

### Group: **Film Group**

When: Tuesday, September 3

Contact: Maria Ceraulo (881-0729)



**(See center fold for more information and reservation form)**

### Group: **Great Decisions**

When: Thursday, September 5 at 1:30 PM

Where: Unitarian Universalist Church  
6320 Main St. near ECC North

Topic: *Aids in Africa* by Salih Booker &  
William Minter

Contact: Suzanne Grossman (837-8769)

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

When: Tuesday, September 17 at 12:10-1:20 PM

Where: *Buffalo State College, 1300 Elmwood Ave.*  
Butler Library Room 210 on Iroquois Dr-  
2<sup>nd</sup> bldg. behind Rockwell Hall close to  
Rte. 198

Topic: Women of Morocco

*(first talk of international series co-  
sponsored by Women's Studies at BSC)*

Presenter: Dr. Rafika Merini

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

All are welcome!

### Group: **Travel Group**

When: Thursday, September 19 at 5:30 PM  
for dinner

Where: To be decided

Topic: Discuss ideas for a spring trip.

Contact: Bunny Blackstone (655-4519)

Call if interested in attending.



## Diversity Resource Team Update

The Diversity Resource Team met on August 13<sup>th</sup> to continue finalizing the details for the February 23<sup>rd</sup> program and to discuss efforts for the coming year. This year's team consists of Norine Borkowski, Tamara Brown, Marguerite Collesano, Rita Clement, Lois Dabney and Ellen Trautman.

The team was initiated last year and focused its efforts on identifying short term goals. Although our recommendation for a chapter assessment was not accepted by the Board, the ensuing discussion served the purpose of raising awareness of the issue.

This year's efforts will include involvement in identifying goals and objectives for the Strategic Plan as well as assisting specific interest groups in becoming more inclusive.

Book groups might like to review and include selections from the Adelante! Books of the Month 2002-2003. Check the AAUW website. Printed copies of the brochure will be available at the September Potluck dinner. These selections are representative of diverse perspectives not limited to only race and ethnicity.

*September's selection:*

*In the Name of Salome* by Julia Alvarez for Hispanic Heritage Month.

*October's selection:*

*Venus on Wheels: Two Decades of Dialogue on Disability, Biography and Being Female in America* by Gelya Frank for Disability Awareness month.

The Westchester Branch is presently a film and discussion series, Courageous Conversations: ending racism and promoting social justice, that might provide topic areas of interest to other groups in our chapter

The next meeting of the Diversity Resource Team will be in late October. Anyone wanting to join the group is welcome. We would also welcome comments and suggestions for the long term plan even though you may be unable at this time to join us. Please contact Norine at 688-0612.

Norine Borkowski

### BOARD NOTES May 1, 2002

- Buffalo Branch, with the help of the UB Law School, has applied for a corporation 501C3 tax exempt status, in order to accept tax deductible funds.
- Treasurer's Report: Karen Noonan reported expenses of \$2814.39, and an income of \$4951.19, to date. Mutual Funds: \$25,462.00 and Educational Foundation has \$3282,00.
- Chamberlin Loan: Janet Fowler reported a balance of \$43,531.00 and the Funds for Education has \$10,750.00. One loan was paid in full. The loan committee will make a 5-year review of the Loan Fund.
- Women's Walkway: Cathy Weiss reported a paving stone would be inscribed with AAUW, and the local founding date.
- AAUW Web Site is being revised and will be maintained for one year at the cost of \$300.00.

Clarine Radt

## USED BOOK SALE 2002

### WHAT A FANTASTIC BOOK SALE!

We outdid ourselves again. Our sales were up \$4,000.00 over last year; our total hours working at the site increased by 354, and the number of people working at the site increased by 50. Many thanks to our members working together to achieve such a success—working at the sale, donating space for storing books, making book deliveries, researching our collectibles, making phone calls, donating money for tables, typing labels, publicity, informing friends about our sale and donating books to our cause. Each part of the puzzle has to be in place to create a finished product. The breakdown of this year's 2200 hours at the site is:

79 members worked 1-5 hours  
 32 worked 5-10 hours  
 20 worked 10-25 hours  
 10 worked 25-50 hours  
 6 worked 50-100 hours  
 4 worked 100+ hours.

This year we received a donation of a few hundred new books, which, with our excellent collection of collectible books, increased our sales.

Our dedicated committee worked during the summer and early fall sorting books at some depots and researching our collectibles. Many

*(continued on page 8)*

worked despite health problems—they can't stay away from the books.

Many thanks to Anne Allan, Ruth Auer, Jill Brown, Maria Ceraulo, Rita Clement, Marguerite Collesano, Barbara Engler, Janet Fowler, Suzanne Grossman, Ann Hicks, Jean Hubbard, Mary Kellner, Marilyn Kihl, Betty Loucks, Judy Malamus, Karen Noonan, Chris O'Connor, Suzanne Oliver, Roberta Ross, Maryalice Seagrave, Barbara Smith, Mary Stanton, Joyce Swartney, Rose Tarzia, Janet Trinkwalder, Janet Vine, Judy Weidemann, Cathy Weiss, Angeline Yelich. **Congratulations to your success!**

Our depots and members who pick up books are an integral part of our "book sale puzzle". Many thanks to our Collection Chairs: Barbara Engler and Marguerite Collesano, who traveled many miles collecting books, and the committee: Marilyn Kihl, Mary Kellner, Cathy Weiss, Leslie McCain, Judy Weidemann, Ann Hicks, Ann Allan, Ruth Auer, Ann Montes, Kathy Basher, Rita Clement, Chris O'Connor, Claudia Kania, Alice Glace, Angeline Yelich, Betty Krist, Janet Fowler, Marion Fay, Beverly Mooney, Jean Hubbard, Barbara Smith, Betty Loucks, Karen Noonan.

We are looking for more depots and pick-ups (especially in the city). If you have a dry basement or garage, and room to store at least 20 or more boxes, please call Barbara Engler (674-3462) or Marguerite Collesano (881-3436). If you can pick up books in your area and deliver them to a depot, please call to volunteer.

*(Book sale continued from page 7)*

This year we had additional volunteers from Amherst High School who helped with sorting. We also had help from the members of the "YES" (Youth Engaged in Service) Organization from Tonawanda, Cheektowaga and Amherst. They assisted with delivering books to the site and during the set-up days. Once again our old "stand-bys" saved us many thousands of dollars—the Benderson Corporation donated our store space; Advanced Graphics and Printing donated the book marks; and Able Table Party Rental gave us reduced prices for the tables and truck rental. We are extremely grateful for this assistance.

A big thank you to all our husbands who helped us in deliveries, set-up, sorting, the sale, and clean-up—it helped to save our backs! Our assistants were Stanley Collesano, Don Engler, Ed Eschner, Allan Fowler, Charles Jamieson, Ron Kellner, Tom Malamus, Doug McClive, Jim Stephenson, Vince Tarzia, Charles Weiss, Joe Yelich.

Thanks to the following who donated money to help defray the cost of table rental: Cathy Weiss, Ruth Geiger, Norine Borkowski, Ruth Seitz, Carol Paskuly, Beverly Mooney, Jeanne McKown, Yvette Goodloe, and Jacqueline Trace.

Every sale has many stories to tell and this one is no exception. While sorting our books during the summer, we researched many books we believed to be collectible. Two books in an incomplete set were looked at by our Collectible Committee.

The books themselves were valued at a few hundred dollars and then we discovered the name plates in the book belonging to Frederick Remington. Our "Sherlock Holmes" (Jan Vine) went to the main library searching for Remington's signature. She then called the Remington Museum and spoke to them about the books donated to us. The curator told Jan that Remington's collection of books had been held by the local library until the museum was built. During that time the library had a book sale and unfortunately some of Remington's books were sold. They had a few volumes of the set identical to ours. The books went back to the Remington Museum, where we felt they belonged. One never knows what we will find sorting books, or the story behind it.

Proceeds from the sale are designated for the Association's Educational Foundation (used for educational, research, and community grants); Loans for Education (local scholarships, grants and interest-free loans for education); and Branch Special Projects. Last year Buffalo Branch placed first in the amount of money donated to the Association's Educational Foundation and in the top ten for the country. **Be proud, Buffalo Branch!**

If you are interested in meeting people, having fun while working for a worthy cause, join our committee. Call Bunny (655-4519).

**See complete Financial Report on page 9**



## Financial Report from the 2002 Book Sale

<b>INCOME:</b>		<b>EXPENSES:</b>	
Admissions	1635.00	Van rental, gas	88.74
Presale	734.36	Able Table Rental	1490.00
Collectibles/specially priced	13112.95	Sponsor gift certificates	100.00
General sales	10382.15	Supplies	305.53
Post sale	75.50	Postage and postcards	227.33
		Niagara Mohawk	424.25
<b>Gross Income</b>	<b>26099.96</b>	Site insurance	25.00
		Branch roster (1/2 cost)	96.75
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>23342.36</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2757.60</b>

**Bunny Blackstone, Book Sale Coordinator**

### POTLUCK DINNER

**September 18, 2002, 5:30 p.m.**

Christ United Methodist Church, 350 Saratoga Road, Snyder, NY 14226

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

Number of reservations \_\_\_\_\_ Guest/s names \_\_\_\_\_

I will contribute one of the following for myself: (guests are free)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$8.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$2.00 and a dessert

\_\_\_\_\_ \$2.00 and a salad \_\_\_\_\_ \$2.00 and a vegetable or meat casserole

**Each dish should feed 8-10 people.**

Send this reservation form and check to:  
Bunny Blackstone, 11478 Tomarsue Dr., Marilla, NY 14102.  
Checks are payable to AAUW, Buffalo Branch.

**Deadline is September 12th.**

*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

Saturday, October 5 - District One Conference

Friday, October 11 - Women in American Film

Thursday, October 24 - Toytown and More

Saturday, November 2 - Dinner By the Book Anniversary Luncheon

**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 August 26, 2002.



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

**Return Service Requested**

Barbara Carier  
295 Lakewood Parkway  
Amherst, NY 14226-4072

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Buffalo, NY  
Permit No. 1078

**American Association of University Women (AAUW) Buffalo Branch Travel Study Group  
Stratford, Ontario Trip  
Saturday, October 26, 2002**

Enjoy an autumn day in Stratford, Ontario with a choice of three plays. Upon arriving in Stratford you may shop, take a walking tour or participate in the Costume Warehouse Tour. On the Costume Warehouse Tour (~45 minutes), look at the work of the Festival's world-class designers, wardrobe staff and prop makers. Thousands of costumes and props are stored at the warehouse. Watch a seamstress adjust or re-design costumes; and you may even try on a costume. There is a charge of \$3.00. Lunch is on your own. After the plays we will board the bus and head to the Plainsman Restaurant for a scrumptious smorgasbord.

<http://www.stratfordfestival.ca>

*My Fair Lady* (only B seats are available) (Buffalo News rating: four stars )

What's the difference between a flower girl and a duchess? To Professor Henry Higgins, it's all a question of how you pronounce your vowels. But for Eliza Doolittle, the spirited young subject of his experiment in personal transformation through phonetics, the key to who you are lies not in your accent but in your heart.

*The Scarlet Pimpernel*

Only a trusted band of followers know that the elegant Sir Percy Blakeney, baronet, is far from the ineffectual fop he seems to be: that he is, in fact, the mysterious and dashing hero who risks his life to save French aristocrats from the guillotine. Not even Sir Percy's wife knows his secret - and therein lies his greatest danger.

*The Swanee: George III The Death of Cupid*

Young Victoria, future Queen of England, writes a fiction for her empire in an attempt to understand the implications of her impending coronation. This first installment in a projected three-part epic romance offers a speculative insight into the mind of a monarch-to-be and paints a vivid portrait of a society fraught with bondage, barter and blackmail.

**Itinerary:**

6:15 a.m.-- board bus at the East Aurora Plaza, bus leaves promptly at 6:30  
6:45 a.m.--board bus at the Boulevard Mall, near the large "B" sign, bus leaves at 7:00  
~8:30 a.m.-- (stop for a 15 minute break for coffee, restrooms)  
8:45 a.m.-- board bus for Stratford  
10:30 a.m.-- arrive at Stratford  
11:00-11:45 a.m.-- first tour of the costume warehouse  
11:30-12:15 p.m.-- second tour of the costume warehouse  
12:15-1:30 p.m. --lunch, shop, etc. (those not taking the tour will have from 10:30-1:30)  
1:30 p.m.-- arrive at theatre  
5:00 p.m.-- depart Stratford  
6:30 p.m.--arrive at the Plainsman Restaurant  
7:30 p.m.--depart for Buffalo  
9:30 p.m.--arrive at the Boulevard Mall  
10:00 p.m.-- arrive at the East Aurora Plaza

**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 our 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.

**Our 'seating on the bus' policy:**

To assure fairness and comfort for all, seats will be assigned by the date you register for the trip. If you want to sit with friends on the bus, please register together. For a group, seats will be assigned in front of or in back of each other.

**Please**

Make checks payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch Travel Group  
Mail check to Bunny Blackstone, 11478 Tomarsue Drive, Marilla, NY 14102. (655-4519)  
Registration is due September 15, 2002.  
Detach and send the form below with your check.

**Please circle one of the following six choices**