

Buffalo Branch Newsletter



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

NYS District 1

November 2003

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



November Programs

Saturday, November 15,
Transitions Conference

Tuesday, November 18,
Lifelong Digital Learning Service



December Programs

Holiday Dinner and Entertainment at the
Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site

Friday, December 12, 2003

Theodore Inaugural Site

641 Delaware Avenue

Buffalo New York



See page 3, 4, 8 and last month's issue for more information.

See page 9 for reservation forms.

President's Message

As we approach this season of Thanksgiving, I would like to take a moment to express my thanks to all the many members and friends of our branch who work so hard in making this branch the success that it is today. I am inspired by your kindness, generosity, and how you give so selflessly of your time and talents in creating and presenting programs that support the mission of AAUW. The study/interest groups, action committees, events, and activities enlighten and inspire our membership and the community at large, promoting gender equity, providing opportunities for life-long learning and igniting positive societal change. I know there are many of you who quietly enrich our lives, without needing a word of thanks or recognition, and I sincerely appreciate all you do to grow and improve our branch and make a difference in the lives of so many women and girls in Western New York.

Our branch is continuously growing and seeking new challenges due to your ideas and enthusiasm. At the September potluck dinner, we learned of the exciting branch programs planned for the upcoming year and about our interesting and varied Study/Interest Groups. Many of you brought friends and coworkers to this event, and we now have several new members thanks to your efforts. I invite you to continue to share your enthusiasm for our branch with others. We always welcome guests at our monthly meetings and programs and

Deadline for the December issue is November 10. 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 December issue.

look forward to the opportunity to showcase our branch.

This month, Betty Krist and Joan Eschner have provided a unique opportunity for us to jump "ahead of the curve" in learning about the transformation in television, as we know it. Lifelong Digital Learning will change our lives and opens doors to new experiences and opportunities for growth. Please join us on Tuesday, November 18th for this exciting glimpse into the future. For information, call Betty at (716) 675-4059.

Voter education is an important facet of our mission. Instilling a sense of civic responsibility in our youth through Kids Voting is one method of fostering a life-long understanding and appreciation of this right. Election Day is fast approaching on Tuesday, November 4th, and our branch is proud again to be participating in Kids Voting. Members of our branch will be staffing the polls at School 81 on Tacoma Street in Buffalo. If interested in volunteering, please call Judy Weidemann at (716) 655-3649.



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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(823-4154)

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Publisher: Joan Eschner (655-1322)

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6935 East Quaker Road
Orchard Park, NY 14127

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

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WNED Lifelong Digital Learning Service

If public television piques your curiosity the Lifelong Digital Learning Service will satisfy it! Learn about advances in High Definition Television (HDTV), Multicasting and Enhanced Television. By 2003 all broadcasts must be transmitted digitally. WNED is on the cutting edge of using these new technologies to provide truly amazing services. Through the vast resources of the Internet, WNED's Online Site will not only extend the educational value of programs on the Lifelong Learning Channel, but will provide other informational content.

Come to our **Tuesday, November 18** program at WNED (Horizon's Plaza across the street from the Adam's Mark Hotel downtown) to learn more about this all. Free parking is available in the WNED parking lot. A receptionist will lift the barrier arm so you can gain access, if you press the button at the gate and announce your participation in this event. At 5:30 pm we'll have a light dinner (speciality sandwiches, assorted drinks and dessert) followed by a demonstration and discussion of these new technologies. You'll also have a chance to learn about local content initiatives, collaborations, and outreach.

Betty Krist

In Memoriam

AAUW members mourn the loss of Rita W. Green who was a former school librarian and friend of AAUW. She died September 27, 2003 in her Williamsville home after a brief illness. She was 76.




Holiday Event

Once again the branch Holiday Event will be at the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site. Before dinner, guests will have the opportunity to view the beautiful Holiday Decorations in the Mansion created by area Garden Clubs. There will also be the opportunity to visit the Gift Shop and Boutique. A glass of champagne will be served before dinner. Entertainers at the dinner will be **The Hutchinson Family Revival** singing **Old Fashioned Melodies**.

We have purchased 35 seats for the dinner. This means that seats are limited. It also means that we are committed to those 35 seats. Please send your reservation in early to insure that you have a place and to insure that the branch does not lose money on the event. This will be a special Holiday event and it will be a chance to support one of our cultural institutions. Guests are welcome.

Janet Morgan, volunteer at the Inaugural Site, arranged this event for us. Thank you Janet.



Friday, December 12, 2003
Theodore Inaugural Site
641 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo New York

5:30 Glass of Champagne
*Opportunity to Browse through the House
 and Visit Shops*

6:30 Dinner and Entertainment
**"Hutchinson Family Revival
 Old Fashioned Melodies"**

Back to the Future

by Dodie Stoneburner

Remember when we had to fight for the vote? When a woman couldn't own property in her own right, and when colleges were closed to her? Well, of course you don't. Those fights were fought by generations no longer alive. But perhaps you do recall when *Rowe versus Wade* was debated in the streets, as well as, in the courts, or when girls' sports teams were items on our wish lists rather than realities on our playing fields or in our gyms, courts, and pools? Maybe you have a relative or friend who wasn't admitted to her chosen field or denied a promotion of influence in a corporation or university in spite of being highly qualified.

Hey, everyone knows those days are over. I mean, women have come a long way, can now do or be anything they want, just like men. No problem. No obstacles left, right?

If you believe that, then it will surprise you to know that as we speak, Congress and state legislatures are passing bills and riders to bills obstructing your right to personal choice of certain medical procedures and your fundamental right of free speech in discussing available options with your personal doctor. Equity? Fairness? Both businesses and universities instruct their people to report infractions of EEOC standards and institutional policies against sexual harassment, then retaliate against the women who actually do so. Mutual respect among men and women? What about gender discrimination in general? Unfortunately it is still firmly entrenched in too many corporate and scholastic cultures. The problem is actually increasing as businesses and universities discover more sophisticated and covert methods to achieve the same ends. Of course you know that LAF supports those women who have to fight the battle in court, but it will probably come as a shock to you to realize that

some of that discrimination and obstruction comes directly from our AAUW sisters.

Sad to say, it has been reported that some state and branch boards resist or even overtly obstruct activities on behalf of the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund including even the dissemination of information on gender discrimination and sexual harassment. As members of AAUW, where is their adherence to our Mission Statements declaring support for equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change?" And what can the rest of us do about it?

There isn't a branch, a board, a committee that would not benefit from an **AAUW Mission audit** - setting aside a meeting, an hour, or even a few minutes to raise the group's collective consciousness, reminding members that the reason AAUW has been so successful since 1881 in encouraging girls and women toward their educational and personal goals is because we adhere to those ideals that founded our existence, to the original statements espousing diversity, equity, educational excellence, and societal change. We demonstrate these beliefs with our lives by placing our money, our efforts, and our reputations where our hearts are. Laboring toward these goals inspires others to achieve them.

Going back to the future of these fundamental ideals allows those of us who believe wholeheartedly in AAUW and the Legal Advocacy Fund to go forward with renewed pride and determination to root out those pockets of discrimination wherever they exist. As the saying goes, "If not us, then who? And if not now, then when?"

Submitted for September issue by Jayne Harnisch

(Nominations continued from page 6)

Foundation Vice President. Candidates should have some experience in working with the NYS Board to be considered for these three offices. Nominations are also being accepted for several appointed positions on the NYS Board of Directors, including Communications, Education and Equity Initiative, College/University Relations, Branch Council, Public Policy, Diversity, Convention, Cultural Interests, International Relations, NYS Focus Editor, and Voter Education. NYS Board experience is not required to nominate an individual for an appointed position.

The Buffalo Branch has many qualified candidates and I challenge all our members to take a leadership role on the New York State board of AAUW.

I especially encourage you to send suggestions for Program Vice President to Jann Mirchandani, the Nominations Team Chair at 914-245-8568 or

["mailto:mirchman@ix.netcom.com"](mailto:mirchman@ix.netcom.com) The person who holds the position of Program VP leads the state in setting the program areas to be emphasized by the state and branches for 2 years. She also leads the AAUW NYS Board in planning the AAUW Convention program. This is an outstanding opportunity to share your enthusiasm for AAUW's mission across the state.

Please take the time to submit your name and qualifications and/or nominate someone from our Branch for these important positions. Nomination forms can be submitted online at www.northnet.org/nysaauw/nominate.htm. These are all two-year terms beginning in July 2004. If you would like additional information, please contact either Jayne Harnisch at

jayneharn@adelphia.net or 565-2076 or Nancy Mion at myown@mycidco.com.

Linda Suchocki

Public Policy Meeting

On November 3, 2003, Amy White, Marketing and Public Relations Director of Planned Parenthood and Co-chair of the YWCA Public Policy Committee will speak on *Recent Cutbacks in Funding for Child Care*.

The branch Public Policy committee has followed the issues associated with Child Care for some time. Please consider coming to this meeting to learn about recent developments and to learn how we can influence improvement in Child Care funding. Guests are welcome.

Recent Cutbacks in Child Care Funding

November 3, 2003

7:00 PM

Clearfield Library

Community Room

770 Hopkins Road

Williamsville, New York

Cathy Weiss and Judy Weidemann

Boxes for the Book Sale

We continue to receive new books for our Book Sale. Each month members of the Book Sale committee gather these books. Cardboard boxes are needed to pack and store the books. Liquor size boxes are best. The committee gets these boxes, but more are needed. Does any member know of a good source for boxes? Are there any members willing to find and secure boxes for the Book Sale? If so contact Book Sale Steering Committee members - Marguerite Collesano (853-6480), Mary Kellner (741-8127), Jan Vine (636-6182), Judy Weidemann (655-3649), or Cathy Weiss (688-6181).

TRANSITIONS

A Conference for Women Returning to
School

Saturday, November 15, 2003
8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Cost \$15

Registration deadline is November 1, 2003

Student Center (Wehrle Drive entrance)
Erie Community College North Campus
6205 Main Street
Williamsville, New York 14221

For information call (716) 559-3037

Books Make Great Christmas Presents

The Book Sale Committee will acquire new books each month for next year's sale. We would like to sell many of them throughout the year. We will be publishing a list of the latest books in the *Newsletter* as we acquire them. Feel free to circulate the lists at any groups you attend, to the neighbors or around at work. The prices are certainly right and a lot less than folks would pay at Barnes & Noble. Perhaps you have some readers on your Christmas list. You could do your Christmas shopping from AAUW.

Should you need some of these books, e-mail me at mkellner39@aol.com or call me at 741-8127 and I will bring them to the next AAUW meeting for you. All checks should be made out to AAUW Educational Foundation.

AAUW - NEW BOOKS - November

Cook, Robin - *Seizure* - \$3

Coulter, Catherine - *Blind Side* - \$3

Delinsky, Barbara - *Flirting With Pete* - \$3

Gerrit sen, Tess - *The Sinner* - \$3

Harris, E. Lynn - *What Becomes of the Broken Hearted* - \$3

Kindsvatter, Peter - *American Soldiers* - \$3

Kirkpatrick, Jane - *Every Fixed Star* - \$3

Lucado, Max - *Next Door Savior* - \$2

Moore, Beth - *A Woman and Her God* - \$2

Muller, Marcia - *Cyanide Wells* - \$3

Omartian, Stormie - *The Power of Praying Together* - \$2

Robards, Karen - *Beachcomber* - \$3

Schneider, Russ - *Siege* - \$3

Snelling, Lauraine - *Ruby* - \$3

Steel, Danielle - *Johnny Angel* - \$2

Turnipseed, Erica - *A Love Noire* - \$3

Better Homes & Gardens - *100 Crafts Under \$10* - \$4

Address Changes

Bunny Blackstone
750 Twining Way
Collegeville, Pennsylvania 19426

Lynn McClive
5953 Broadway St, Apt. 231
Lancaster 14086-9576.

Lonaura Albright
60 Middle Rd #101A
Dover, NH 03820-4146

Reservation Form for November Program, WNED Lifelong Digital Learning Service

Light Dinner (speciality sandwiches, assorted beverages, desserts) 5:30 pm
 WNED, One Horizons Plaza (across from Adam's Mark Hotel downtown)

Name _____ Phone _____

Guest(s) _____

Cost \$14.00 per person Total included _____

Return reservations by November 10 to

Betty Krist, 116 Iris Avenue, West Seneca, NY 14224-2747

Make checks payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch.
 Contact Betty at 675-4059 if you need assistance.

**Holiday Dinner and Entertainment at the
 Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site**

Name _____ Phone _____

Guest (s) _____

Send check for \$35 for each dinner to:

Judy Weidemann, 21 Nye Hill Road, EastAurora, New York 14052, Phone 655-3649

Must be received by **November 30, 2003**. Make checks payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch

An Important Message from the Secretary

Each time I get a newsletter back it costs us 27 cents to send it to me, 27 cents to re-send it to the person and this is all on top of the original cost of the bulk mail.

Please be sure to notify me of any change in your address as soon as you know what it will be. The money saved by eliminating the extra cost to AAUW can be used much more wisely.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Betty Preble

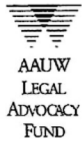
In principle and in practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.



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

**Monday, November 3-
Public Policy Meeting**

**Tuesday, November 4-
Kids Voting**

**Wednesday, November 5-
Board Meeting**

**Saturday, November 15, -
Transitions Conference**

**Tuesday, November 18, -
Lifelong Digital Learning
Service**

**Wednesday, November 3-
Board Meeting**

**Friday, December 12, -
Holiday Event**

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 October 22, 2003.



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

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