





*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.

**This newsletter was delivered to the William Street Post Office, Buffalo, NY on November 22, 2004.  
Moving? Please contact Betty Preble at 662-0608**

  
American Association of University Women  
Buffalo Branch  
Betty Preble  
6935 East Quaker Road  
Orchard Park, NY 14127

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## ***Upcoming Events***

Wednesday December 1  
Board Meeting

Thursday December 9, 6:00 p.m.  
Holiday Dinner Program

Saturday, January 15, 10:30 a.m.  
Medicinal Herbalism & brunch

Sunday, February 13, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
Native American Program  
and desserts

Tuesday, March 8, 6:00 p.m.  
International Women's Day  
program & dinner

# Buffalo Branch Newsletter

  
AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY  
WOMEN



NYS District 1

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

December 2004



## December Holiday Program

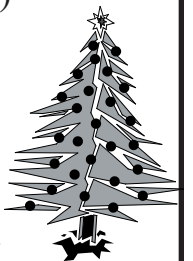
**December 9, 2004**

**Celebrate International Traditions  
of the Season**

At Friar's Table (beautifully decorated for the Holidays)  
301 Cleveland Drive, Cheektowaga, New York.

6:00 p.m. Networking and Cocktails 6:30 Dinner

A Holiday Celebration with music, poetry, and stories .  
Featuring Hanukkah, and Hindu Festival traditions,  
English, Polish, and Italian Christmas Traditions



## President's Message

**Leader** – a person that leads, a person followed by others. **Leadership** – guidance, the office of position of a leader, the act of leading.

Our national and local elections are over. We went out and we voted. Whether we are joyous or not of the leadership outcome, we as Americans, must abide by it. However, we need not be silent if we feel strongly about an issue or proposal. We can write to our leaders and representatives to state our concerns. We can ask them to support or not support an issue. In a democracy, we need not be silent, we should not be silent, and we can make a difference.

Leadership in the Branch was a focal point in the Branch Leadership Conference held on November 6th. For those who attended, learning about board governance was only a portion of the learning they experienced. The stimulating workshop also focused on team members - their roles and responsibilities, the ground rules for conducting business (Roberts Rules in five simple bullet points), and the fiduciary responsibilities of monitoring and oversight of financial matters with the need to have quarterly financial reviews to ensure legal and ethical integrity in our policies. An orientation handbook was discussed and we felt proud that one is in the works. The

Deadline for the January issue is December 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 January issue.

importance of strategic plans, by-laws, committees and committee work, the role of the nominating committee and how they benefit the organization were stressed as significant essentials of a healthy and strong board and organization.

All 24 members attending took home a new, refreshed feeling about their participating role in our branch as board member, committee member or new member. Kristina Young, our energetic facilitator, drew in everyone there. Each attendee participated in some manner. The conference was a huge success. We have homework to do to bring our branch up to the standard it should be at in order to be in compliance with all the laws governing not-for-profit organizations, and we went home with a new willingness to address these issues. The Buffalo Branch is a large branch with a dedicated leadership that is looked upon by others as a role model. We want to retain that position.

(Continued on page 3)



### BUFFALO BRANCH NEWSLETTER

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

President: Janet Fowler (884-8698)  
Editors: B. Krist & J. Weidemann  
Publisher: Joan Eschner (655-1322)

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

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December 2004  
Vol. CXIII No. 10  
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## Holiday Meeting Reservation Form Due December 4, 2004

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner \$30.00 each. Choice: Salmon \_\_\_\_\_ Prime Rib \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch and sent to Marguerite Collesano,  
C/O Stanley J. Collesano, 2430 North Forest Road, Suite 106 Getzville, N.Y. 14068

## AAUW – NEW BOOKS

### New Books for Sale in December

The following **new** books are currently available from the Book Sale Committee. If you would like a copy, email Mary Kellner at [mkellner39@aol.com](mailto:mkellner39@aol.com) or call 741-8127. Checks may be made out to the AAUW Educational Foundation.

Binchy, Maeve – *Nights of Rain & Stars*  
\$4

Blackstock, Terri – *River's Edge* \$4

Brooks, Terry – *High Druid of Shannara*  
\$4

Dodd, Christina – *Some Enchanted Evening* \$3

Flynn, Stephen - *America the Vulnerable*  
\$4

Garwood, Julie – *Murder List* \$4  
Grimes, Martha – *The Winds of Change* \$4  
Isaacs, Susan – *Any Place I Hang My Hat* \$3  
Keyes, Greg – *The Charnel Prince* \$3  
Madden, Chris – *Haven* \$4  
Maron, Margaret – *High Country Fall* \$4  
McBain, Ed – *Hark* \$3  
Palmer, Michael – *The Society* \$4  
Sheldon, Sidney – *Are you Afraid of the Dark?*  
\$4

**Remember, books make great holiday gifts.** Mary will have copies of new books on display for purchase at her home, 8470 Lakemont Drive, East Amherst, NY, during the month of December. The Book Sale Committee has over 250 titles of new books. Stop in to shop.

## Buffalo Branch Study/ Interest Groups

**Group Leaders:** Please send study group information to Barbara Carier, 295 Lakewood Pkwy, Amherst 14226, 839-0933 (h), 858-2884 (w), or bcarier@adelphia.net

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

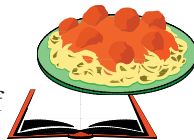
Group: **American Biographies**  
When: No December Meeting  
Topic: January – *Alexander Hamilton*  
by Ron Chernow  
Contact: Nancy Ryther (884-8324)



Group: **Bridge Biddies**  
When: Thursday, Dec. 9th at 7:30 p.m.  
Where: 181 Patricia Dr., Tonawanda.  
Topic: Casual bridge playing  
Contact: Norma Millar (743-1571) or  
maggieb@peoplepc.com



Group: **Dinner by the Book** Discussion  
Group  
When: Wednesday, Dec. 15 at 5:30 p.m.  
Where: Plaka Restaurant,  
2904 Delaware Ave. in  
Kenmore  
Topic: *Plainsong* by Ken Haruf  
Reviewer: Judy Malamas  
Reservations: Fran Witnauer (837-5887 or  
856-3150)  
fwitnauer@buffaloplace.com



Group: **Clueless Mystery Book Club**  
When: No December Meeting  
Contact: Fran Witnauer (837-5887  
or 856-3150)  
mcarmichael145@aol.com



Group: **Knitting Group**  
When: No December Meeting.  
Contact: Adrienne Kotler (688-0740)  
aikotler@earthlink.net

Group: **Travel Group**  
Mission: To organize 1 or 2 trips per year that  
interest existing and prospective  
members of AAUW Buffalo  
Contact: Bev Schwiegerling (652-7182) and  
watch Newsletter for announcements  
schwieg@adelphia.net



## Support a Study Group

### Condolences

The Buffalo Branch extends its sympathy to Sally Moehlau whose husband Harry, died at home under hospice care on October 23rd - he was 78.

The branch also extends its sympathy to Mickey Hice whose father Harold, died on October 26th after a long illness - he was 90.

(President's Message continued from page 2)

I wish everyone a holiday season filled with peace, joy, camaraderie of family and friends, and wonderful moments and memories to cherish. To add to the festivities of the season, plan on attending our December branch meeting at the Friars Table on December 9<sup>th</sup> featuring various Holiday Customs (Details below).

Be proud of your Branch and the AAUW mission. Promote both as often as you can.

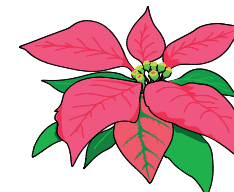
Janet Fowler

## Holiday Celebration

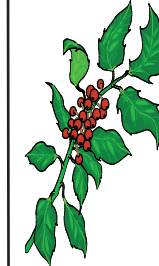
This year the AAUW Buffalo Branch begins the Holiday Season with a dinner meeting at Friar's Table at 301 Cleveland Dr. Cheektowaga, N.Y. Those attending will hear Adrienne Kotler, Krystyna C.Pienkowski, Padma Subbanna, Teresa Gessner and Marguerite Collesano share their knowledge about European, Indian, Polish Christmas, and Jewish Hanukkah traditions.

The committee welcomes participation from members who wish to share their special ethnic, family or cultural traditions at the December 9th meeting. The entrée choices are Salmon or Prime Rib each costing \$30.00.

Reservations made out to AAUW Buffalo Branch, are due December 4th and should be sent to Marguerite Collesano, C/O Stanley J. Collesano 2430 North Forest Road, Suite 106 Getzville, N.Y



## Victorian Christmas at the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site



This Holiday season once again AAUW Buffalo Branch is one of the organizations co-sponsoring the events at the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site. This means we need volunteers from our

organization to help with the lunches, dinner and the boutiques from December 3 to 11, 2004.

The site is decorated beautifully for the holidays and volunteering is an enjoyable task. Call Judy Weidemann at 655-3649 if interested.

## Last Chance

This will be the last  
newsletter you will receive  
if you have not paid  
your dues.

If you are unsure of your  
membership status, contact  
Adrienne Kotler at 688-0740 or  
by e-mail at  
aikotler@earthlink.net

## Diversity News Update

I'm excited to announce that eight women replied to the Diversity Team invitation. Unfortunately, the bad news is; that we all seem to have very different competing commitments. With the holidays coming and full schedules already in place, the first meeting of the Diversity Resource Team will be held during the week of January 17, 2005 at a location to be determined.

The good news is that the delay will give more time for other women to consider joining this group. The first agenda will include reviewing the specific duties as outlined by the state office and identifying the priorities for the Buffalo Branch group. An initial focus must be on membership and developing strategies to assist the Vice President of membership in attracting younger members. In addition, emphasis must also be placed on keeping current members informed of Erie County problems and their effect on local educational and business systems.

Thank you again for your response. I can be reached at 699-0612 or [ndborkowsk@juno.com](mailto:ndborkowsk@juno.com).

Norine Borkowski

## Kids Voting Thank You

A thank you goes to Mary Fiore, Donna Fitzgerald, Janet Fowler, Cathy Piertrzak, Jane Riga, and Ruth Seitz for volunteering to help with **Kids Voting** at School 81 in Buffalo on Election Day.

## Transitions 2005

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Transitions Conference for women and girls beginning or returning to college will be held March 18, 2005 at Bryant & Stratton College, 40 Hazelwood Dr. in Amherst. This year's program will be a half-day program with many interesting workshops. Bryant & Stratton is very excited about hosting this year. The committee is looking for new members to work on this exciting event. Help is needed for a variety of committee jobs. If you are interested in helping girls and women overcome the obstacles facing them and preventing them from attending college, come to help the committee make this program a success. Contact Janet Fowler at 884-8698 or email her at [JANALANF@aol.com](mailto:JANALANF@aol.com).

### January Program – On Health

*“MEDICINAL HERBALISM – A FEMININE POINT OFVIEW”*

Saturday, January 15, 2005

Holiday Inn – Airport  
(Genesee St., Cheektowaga)

**10:30 am registration**

**11:00 am – 1:00 p.m. Breakfast Buffet and Program**



## AAUW at TOSCA

32 AAUW members enjoyed the ambience of the opera house last month. We helped to keep opera alive in Buffalo, because we were part of the enthusiastic audience for Stanislavky Opera's production of Tosca, presented by Opera Niagara LTD. Tosca, Mario and Scarpia were true to their characters, and were wonderful singers, and actors. Many of us enjoyed dinner before the opera with the OperaBuffs of WNY. We hope to do this again next season, as a cultural event, and hope that you all put this on your calendar as soon as we have the date.

Stacey Johnson and Peggy Meinel.

## Roster Changes

**Florence Pearsall** e-mail address  
[fpearsall@adelphia.net](mailto:fpearsall@adelphia.net)

**Mary Fiore** e-mail address  
[fioreme9@hotmail.com](mailto:fioreme9@hotmail.com)

**Jennifer Mikoll** e-mail address  
[jlm7495@rit.edu](mailto:jlm7495@rit.edu)

**Norma Millar** e-mail address  
[millar@wzrd.com](mailto:millar@wzrd.com)

**Leatrice Jordan**, new address  
28 Hickory Hill Rd, Williamsville, 14221

**Louise Sapienza**, new address  
264 Summer Street #7, Buffalo 14222

## Don't Lose Track of Long-time Members

Dr. Ruth Muck, a long time member of the branch, now resides in Beechwood Nursing Home. She is 94, confined, but welcomes visitors. Please contact her husband prior to visiting at 639-2163. Ruth can be reached through the Beechwood switchboard at 504-1000, ext 2121

Dr. Joyce Swartney, also a long time member, has relocated to Florida to a nursing home near family. She invites correspondence via telephone or email from her member friends. Joyce's address in Florida is Heron House East, Room #317, 2290 Cattlemen Road, Sarasota, FL 34232 Her email will be the same as it has been [stella7131@aol.com](mailto:stella7131@aol.com). In case her email is not yet hooked up, you may reach her through her cousin Judy at [balmer2@earthlink.net](mailto:balmer2@earthlink.net). Her phone number is: 941- 343 -1276. The best time to call would be between 9:30 a.m. and noon, between 2:30 and 4:30 p.m. or between 7:30 and 8:30 p.m.

## Dues Reminder

Please check the label on this newsletter. If there are asterisks after your name, it indicates that we HAVE NOT RECEIVED your branch dues for 2004-5. If this is in error, please contact Adrienne Kotler ([aikotler@earthlink.net](mailto:aikotler@earthlink.net) or 688-0740). Dues checks may be sent to her at PO Box 46, Amherst, NY 14226-0046. Thank you very much.