

*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 April 15, 2005  
Moving? Please contact Betty Preble at 662-0608**



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## ***Upcoming Events***

**Wednesday May 4,** Branch Board Meeting

**Saturday, May 7,** - Annual Awards Luncheon

**April & May Book sorting**

**May 20,** - Tables arrive

**May 20 - 31,** Set up for Book Sale

**June 1-5,** - *The Fabulous 51<sup>st</sup> Book Sale*  
Sheridan Plaza  
3248 Sheridan Drive  
(Same location as last year)



American  
Association of  
University  
Women

# **Buffalo Branch Newsletter**

NYS District 1



May 2005

**Buffalo Branch Home Page**  
**<http://aauw.buffalo.edu>**  
**716-5559-3037**

## **You are cordially invited to attend our *Annual Luncheon and Awards Meeting:***

Saturday, May 7, 2005, 12 noon (registration, networking at 11:30)

Shanghai Red's, 2 Templeton Terrace, Buffalo

(on the waterfront, site of the old Crawdaddy's)

*Cost - \$24 per person*

Menu – spring chicken with rice, salad, rolls/butter, dessert and coffee or tea

For more information on May event see pages 3. Reservation form on page 11. Map on page 9

# President's Message

May is the time of year for our Annual Achievement Awards Luncheon where we recognize a WNY woman achiever who has benefited the community and where we elect and install our new officers. It is also a time when we assess our branch accomplishments of the past year, which I will begin in this month's message and conclude next month.

I looked at the past year's programs to understand their impact on the branch. Were they well received? Did they promote membership? Were there any programs to build our leadership? Did they follow the AAUW mission? Did they promote awareness in the community? Visibility and diversity were the focus in this year's planning. We wanted to increase community awareness of what AAUW is and what we stand for.

First of all I must commend the Board of Directors whose tireless energy made this year a success. During 2004-2005 we accomplished many of our goals. The September Pot Luck program on "Women in Appointed Political Positions" was presented by The Erie County Commission on the Status of Women and co-sponsored with ACWA (A Coalition for Women's Appointments). In November we partnered with the Friends of the Women's Rights National Park to present their program "Beyond the Glass Ceiling". We learned about the various cultural holiday traditions at the


Deadline for the June issue is May 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.

December meeting. February, our diversity month, the Native American Community Services were invited as our guests to present a program about the history and traditions of the Haudenosaunee (Seneca Nation Indians). On March 8 we partnered with many of the WNY women's organizations to host an International Women's Day Celebration Dinner with nationally recognized speakers, drawing over 100 attendees. Partnering organizations became more aware of the AAUW Buffalo Branch and we encouraged membership from their attendees. It is a great networking opportunity for the women of WNY.

The need for a Buffalo Branch policy manual was derived out of the 2004 NYS convention. A committee was appointed in September and is diligently working on a complete manual of Branch operations, bylaws and job descriptions.

To address leadership in our branch, a Leadership Training Conference was held in

*(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.

American Association of University Women  
 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

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

May 2005  
 Vol. CXV No.5  
 Circulation 251

## Annual Luncheon and Awards Meeting Registration

Please provide the registration information below:

Name (1): \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a check for \_\_\_\_\_ (\$24 per person)

Names of others included (for nametags):

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ (5) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ (6) \_\_\_\_\_

(4) \_\_\_\_\_ (7) \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary requirements? – Please specify which person (by number) and requirement below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please complete form and send with check made out to AAUW Buffalo Branch to: Betty Preble, 6935 East Quaker, Orchard Park, NY 14127

**by April 25**

## Important Notice

### Change in Slate from the Nominations Committee


The Nominating Committee would like to amend the slate of officers for the Buffalo Branch Board of Directors 2005-2007 by submitting Sharon Pilarski as the nominee for the Legal Advocacy Fund office. Elections will be held at the Annual Luncheon on May 7th. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the time of election provided the consent of the nominee has been previously obtained in writing.


## Buffalo Branch Study/ Interest Groups

Group Leaders: Please send study group information to Barbara Carier, 295 Lakewood Pkwy, Amherst 14226, 839-0933 (h), 858-7040 (w), or [bcarier@adelphia.net](mailto: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. Recent suggestions are being studied.

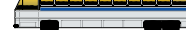
Group: **Great Decisions** Discussion Group  
When: Thursday, April 5, 2005 at 1:30 pm  
Topic: *China*  
Where: Unitarian Universalist Church,  
Main Street, east of Youngs Rd.  
Contact: Suzanne Grossman 837-8769

Group: **American Biographies**  
When: Tuesday, May 10, 2005 at 1:30 p.m.  
Topic: *Woman's Voice, Woman's Place: Lucy Stone and the Birth of the Women's Rights Movement* by Joelle Million   
Where: Eggertsville Library, 4622 Main St.  
Facilitator: TBA  
Contact: Nancy Ryther (884-8324)

Group: **Dinner by the Book** Discussion Group  
When: Wednesday, May 18, 5:30 p.m.  
Where: Marilyn Todd's - Potluck Supper  
Bring a food donation and \$2  
Topic: Planning for 2005-06   
Reservations: Fran Witnauer  
(837-5887 or 856-3150)  
[fwitnauer@buffaloplace.com](mailto:fwitnauer@buffaloplace.com)

Group: **Knitting** Group  
When: Tuesday, May 24 from 7-9 p.m.  
Where: Clubhouse, 4100 Stonegate Ln.,  
Williamsville,  
behind Wehrle Golf Dome  
Contact: Adrienne Kotler (688-0740)  
[aikotler@earthlink.net](mailto:aikotler@earthlink.net)  
Project: Afghan for Haven House

Group: **Clueless Mystery Book Club**   
When: May 25, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.  
Where: Loughran's, Main St. near  
Harlem  
Topic: Planning for 2005-06  
Contact: Fran Witnauer (837-5887 or  
856-3150)  
Sue Grossman (837-8769)

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](mailto:schwieg@adelphia.net)

### Change of address

Marianne Howard  
8235 134<sup>th</sup> St, Apt 1A  
Briarwood, NY 11435-1421

*(President's Message Continued from Page 2)*  
November, inviting those who would like to pursue leadership in the branch. With our branch recently receiving some large endowments, understanding our fiduciary responsibility was a critical area to explore. Some new leaders emerged out of this meeting, including our NYS Emerging Leader, Diane Bishop.

As an outcome of the Leadership Conference in January, Tamara Brown initiated a Board Profile questionnaire to determine the diversity and talents of our board. The profile's purpose is to provide an understanding of our strengths and weaknesses and aid in planning programs to target specific audiences or communities where needed. In another outcome, Leona Barback motioned to form a committee to set up an Advisory Council to include professional members whose expertise we may call on as the need arises.

To be continued next month.

Janet Fowler

## Buffalo Branch Names Woman of Achievement for 2005

We are proud to honor our Woman of Achievement for 2005 - Clotilde Perez-Bode Dedecker, who served as the Executive Director of the Erie County Commission on the Status of Women from 2000 to 2005 and has recently been elected as president of the National Women's Hall of Fame and also appointed by President Bush to The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. She is president emeritus of the

Association of Junior Leagues International, and in 2001 she co-chaired the U.S. National Committee for the United Nations International Year of the Volunteer. Clotilde serves on the regional National Board of Directors of the National Conference for Community and Justice.

Also on the agenda will be the election and installation of the 2005-2006 branch officers, recognition of the 2004 and 2005 Velma Cobb Scholarship winners, and announcement of the "Branch Recognition Award" for the year.

## AAUW Develops Scholarships in the Names of Branch Members

Over the years, several members who have left bequests to establish scholarships and funds for education to support men and women in their post secondary and graduate education have generously remembered our branch. In fact, these legacies are being used to develop many of the new scholarships that were described in last month's newsletter. Newly established scholarships will be made in the names of former branch members Olga Murray Lindberg and Dorothy Payne. For many years, we have provided interest free loans for education, and special needs grants based on the trust left our branch by Sara Chamberlin in the 1930s. Velma Cobb left money for scholarships in her name. Scholarships have been established in names

*(Continued on page 4)*

(Schlorships Continued from Page 3)

of Carol Jamieson, Ruthie Sicherman and Michael Weidemann,

Volunteerism is very important to the success of our branch, but the legacies left our branch are equally important for funding the scholarships and educational programs that support so many from our community. Please consider investing in our future by leaving our branch a charitable bequest. To request information, call 716 559-3037.

## Highlights from the March, 2005 Board Meeting:

• **Book Sale:** Cathy Weiss informed us that a site has been selected for this year's book sale. It is the same site as last year which is on Sheridan Drive in the Hill's/Ames Plaza. The sale is scheduled for June 1-5. It is expected that the committee will have access to the site by April 5<sup>th</sup>. A request was made for additional committee members. The PR chairman, Sue Grossman resigned, a replacement is needed. Cathy also thanked Theckla Mullen, Leona Barback and Ingrid Wetherbee for their assistance at the book sale at the VA Hospital. Thus far, there has already been \$10,000 worth of sales.

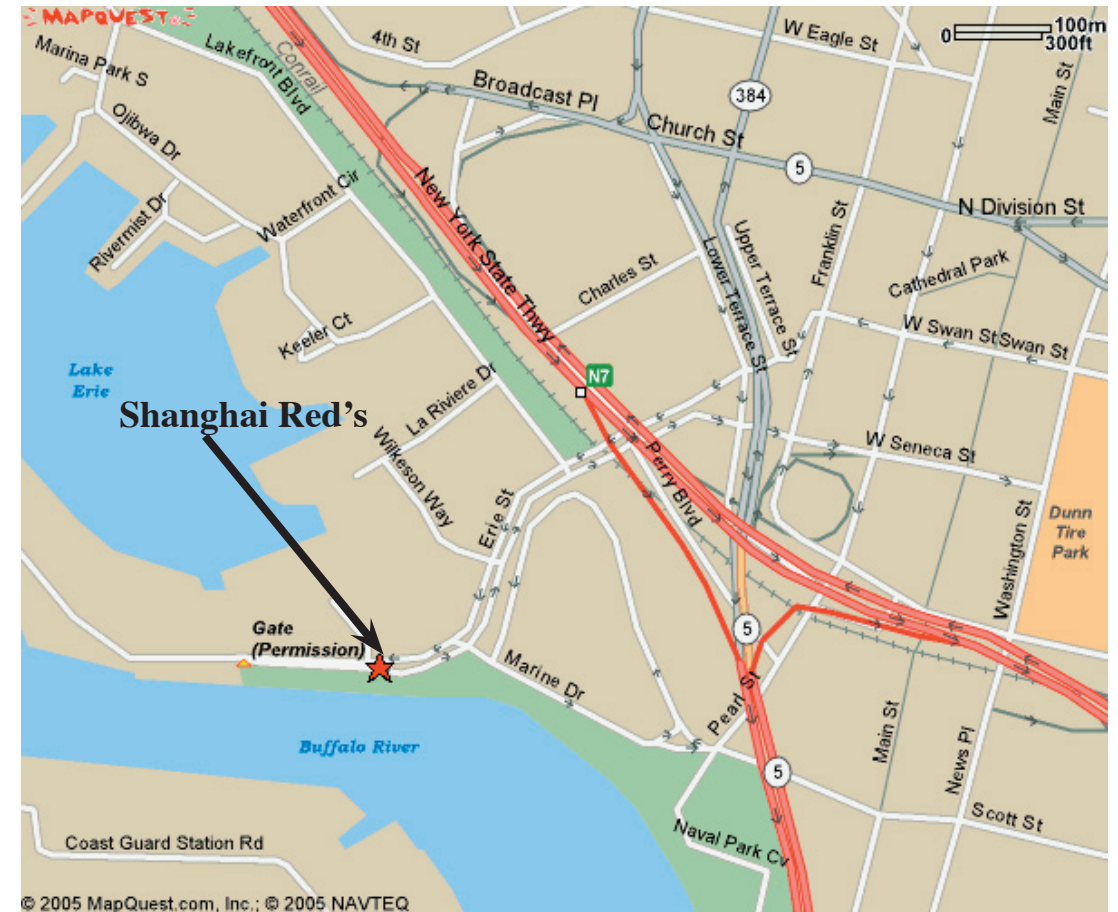
• **Chamberlin Loans Update:** Sandra Williams Bush told us that four candidates have been interviewed. There is a total of \$9,500 requested applicant need. The committee is requesting \$7,500 from the Branch. Report was accepted by the Board.

• **Title IX:** Cathy Weiss notified us that money is being returned to the contributors to the Title IX conference. \$500 of the total \$1,000 is being returned to D'Youville College. Cathy Weiss moved to return the money and Stacey Johnson seconded the motion and it was approved. In addition \$100 will be returned to NOW and \$1,000 to the Wendt Foundation. Expenses totaled approximately \$2,000 with the Branch losing \$1,476.

• **Scholarship Committee:** Tamara Brown told us the four scholarship committees are well underway. Each committee provided an update. **Emergency Fund Summary:** developed criteria and a rotating committee to handle emergency requests of short term and immediate need. Awards can be up to \$500. No application is required. The request will be reviewed by a committee of 3-4 people which will act within 3 days. This fund will not be promoted, other than through the AAUW newsletter. • **Catalyst for Change Award:** committee members include: Stacey Johnson, Betty Kist, Elaine Cusker and Elizabeth Bailey. This scholarship award can be up to \$5,000. There are three applicant categories for a high school senior, a matriculated student and a non-traditional student. The application deadline will be April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Stacey Johnson made a motion to move forward and Theckla Mullen was the second. Motion passed. The **Grants Program** committee headed by Joan Trinchera recommended that the number of grants awarded be revised from 10 awards to 5-7 of up to \$1,000. Draft guidelines were presented and the application will be available by the next Board Meeting. It is expected that they will be distributed in April and returned by July with

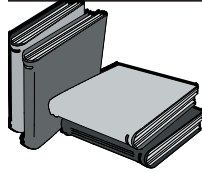
(Continued on page 5)

## Map to Shanghai Red's - on the Waterfront



Directions from the Adams' Mark Hotel on Church St –

- Go south on Rt 5
- Turn right on Erie St.
- Erie St. will end at Templeton Terrace – turn right.
- Shanghai Red's will be on the right.



## BOOK SALE

Work on the Fabulous  
51st Annual Book Sale at  
the Sheridan Plaza, 3248

Sheridan Drive between North Bailey and Sweet Home Road, is in high gear. Help from every member is needed. We hope to exceed the more than \$64,000 earned last year.

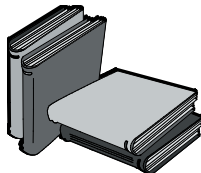
Supervisors for sorting are still needed. We are open 9-5 Monday-Friday and until 8 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We will be open on Saturday 9-12 except for May 7. Just come in during those days and times to help. The tables will arrive on May 20. We need strong volunteers to help lift the books on to the tables. Additional hours will be added after the tables come in.

The sign-up for the sale is being circulated at general meetings and study groups. There is also a calendar on the center pages of this issue. If you don't sign up, you will be called to volunteer for the sale.

Please save paper and plastic bags for the sale. Consider donating \$10 to help defray the cost of a table. If you have use of a computer, help is needed to price collectibles. Call any of the chairs to volunteer.

We look forward to seeing you at the site to help. It is fun and so worthwhile!

The Book Sale Co-Chairs  
Mary Kellner 741-8127  
Cathy Weiss 688-6181  
Judy Weidemann 655-3649



## News from the Diversity Committee

The Diversity Committee has met over the past several months and developed a diversity policy as well as action plan goals for the Buffalo Branch. As outlined in the committee's responsibilities, they were submitted to the Board of Directors at the April 6, 2005 meeting for approval. The Board voted and approved both items. The next step will be to request branch affirmation of this Board-approved policy and goals at the Annual Luncheon to be held on Saturday, May 7, 2005. Once that is completed, the committee will develop objectives and strategies to support each action plan goal during the next program year.

Based on the policy statement and the action plan goals, the following outcomes are expected.

- Increased diversity in membership
- Increased diversity in Board membership
- Increased diversity in Branch programs through partnerships with other community organizations.
- Increased interest and participation in Branch programs due to a wider array of topics.

Our Branch has promoted diversity this past year at the holiday celebration dinner when we had the opportunity to learn about various cultural and religious traditions. The second diversity project focused on our local Native American community and the role of women in the Haudenosaunee Nations. Our third project for the 2004/2005 year will be a Diversity Display at the Book sale. Be sure to stop by the display and give us some feedback.

If anyone is interested in joining the committee and helping to develop projects and programs for the coming year, please call Norine Borkowski at (716) 874-2797 extension 304.

(Board Highlights Continued from Page 4)  
awards announced in September at the Potluck Dinner. Michelle Norris is working on the College Bound Awards for girls in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The committee has recommended a contest that would reflect an inspirational way to achieve educational goals. There will be five categories with 2 awards of \$50. All entrants will receive a \$5 gift certificate for the book sale. Applications will be due by May with the awards announced at the end of the school year.

• Olga Lindberg: Janet Fowler presented a report which recommends HSBC as the manager of the Olga Lindberg Fund. She presented a report of the committee's recommendation. After analyzing the prospects and checking references HSBC was selected with Atlantic Capital – 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Smith Barney rated 3<sup>rd</sup>. After one year, the success of the fund will be assessed.

## Million Dollar Woman Honored

Lubitsa Wojno was honored at the March 8, 2005, International Woman's Day Celebration. In the spring of 2002, Lubitsa was invited to sit in on a Board Meeting of the National League of Pen Women. At the meeting she learned of the Olga Lindberg bequest of almost one half a million dollars. The bequest money was about to be spent for projects at the National Headquarters in Washington. Lubitsa investigated further and found that Olga had bequested the same amount of money to the American Association of University Women. This

money was about to be used by the Association in Washington. According to the will, the money was to be given to Western New York Pen Women and the Buffalo Branch of AAUW. With the help of Stanley and Marguerite Collesano, a million dollars of scholarship money was rightfully returned to Western New York

Thank you to Lubitsa Wojno who fought doggedly and successfully to have the bequest carried out according to Olga Lindberg's wishes.

## A Special Request for Contributions to AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund

Founded in 1981, the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) provides funding and services to women seeking judicial redress for gender based discrimination, with a focus on education. Currently challenges are multiplying and the need to stand for fairness is increasing. Please give generously because equity is still an issue! Individuals who contribute \$100 or more will receive an LAF Pin and recognition for their generosity.

**Please make checks payable to AAUW LAF and note "Buffalo Branch" on your check. Send to our Branch treasurer:**

Adrienne Kotler  
P.O. Box 46  
Amherst, NY 14226

# Calendar for Book Sale May/ June 2005

| Sun.                                   | Mon.                        | Tues.  | Wed.                                 | Thurs.                        | Fri.                          | Sat.                       |
|--|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1<br>Closed                            | 2<br>Sort<br>9-5            | 3<br>Sort<br>9-8   | 4<br>Sort<br>9-5                     | 5<br>Sort<br>9-8              | 6<br>Sort<br>9-5              | 7<br>Closed                |
| 8<br>Closed                            | 9<br>Sort<br>9-5            | 10<br>Sort<br>9-8  | 11<br>Sort<br>9-5                    | 12<br>Sort<br>9-8             | 13<br>Sort<br>9-5             | 14<br>Sort<br>9-12         |
| 15<br>Closed                           | 16<br>Sort<br>9-5           | 17<br>Sort<br>9-8  | 18<br>Sort<br>9-5                    | 19<br>Sort<br>9-8             | 20<br>Table arrive<br>9-8     | 21<br>Sort<br>9-3          |
| 22<br>Closed                           | 23<br>Table set-up<br>9-5   | 24<br>Table set-up<br>9-8  | 25<br>Table set-up<br>9-5,           | 26<br>Table set-up<br>9-8     | 27<br>Table set-up<br>9-5     | 28<br>Table set-up<br>9-3  |
| 29<br>Closed                           | 30<br>Sort<br>9-5           | 31<br>Sort<br>9-5,   | 1<br>Sale Begins<br>9-1, 1-5,<br>5-8 | 2<br>Sale<br>9-1, 1-5,<br>5-8 | 3<br>Sale<br>9-1, 1-5,<br>5-8 | 4<br>Sale<br>9-12,<br>12-3 |
| 5<br>Sale<br>12:00- 3:00,<br>3:00-6:00 | 6<br>Clean-up<br>9:00-<br>? | <p><i>Please plan to arrive 15 minutes early for your voluntary assignment.</i></p> <p>Wed. June 1 Admission Charge<br/>Fri. June 3 Buy 3 Get One Free</p> <p>Sat. June 4 Half Price Day<br/>Sun. June 5 \$3 Bag Day</p> |                                      |                               |                               |                            |

## Tsunami Relief

At the March 8 International Women's Day Celebration Dr. Meredith Sarkees told about the efforts of the Association of War Affected Women (AWAW) to help tsunami victims in Sri Lanka. More information about AWAW can be found on [www.awawsl.org](http://www.awawsl.org).

You may wish to send a donation to AWAW at:

Association of War Affected Women  
No 9 Riverdale Rd.  
Aniwatte, Kandy. Sri Lanka

Money collected will be used to create women's centers that will house vocational training programs and safe spaces for women.

The  
**OLD CHESTNUT FILM SOCIETY**  
THE BUFFALO BRANCH of the A.A.U.W. and  
KEN-TON COMMUNITY EDUCATION

**May 6th**

Cate Blanchett as Elizabeth, stars in

**Elizabeth**

with



Geoffrey Rush, Joseph Fiennes,  
and John Gielgud

in the Community room at  
Hoover Elementary  
Between Colvin and Delaware  
\$5.00 at the door.

All screenings begin at 7:30 p.m.  
door prizes and munchies  
call 836-4757