

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 January 20, 2005
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Upcoming Events

February 1: Board meeting

February 1: Diversity Meeting

February 1: Velma Cobb applications due

February 4: Mentoring Program Session

February 8: Hoops

February 11: *From the Souls of Black Folk* - Celebrate Black History Month

February 13: Education and Equity

March 8: International Women's Day

March 18: Mentor Mrogram Session



American
Association of
University
Women

Buffalo Branch Newsletter

NYS District 1

Buffalo Branch Home Page
<http://aauw.buffalo.edu>
716-559-3037

February 2006

February Program

**Hoops! Celebrate Girls & Women
in Sports Day with AAUW!**



**Wednesday,
February 8, 2006**

4 p.m. Women's Expo & Reception - UB Center For the Arts

5 p.m. Panel Discussion: "Count Me In: Current Perspectives on Female Health, Research and Performance"

7 p.m. Game: UB Women's Basketball vs. Central Michigan - Alumni Arena.

February Program information on page 3 reservation form on page 15

President's Message

Far away there in the sunshine are my highest aspirations. I may not reach them, but I can look up and see their beauty, believe in them, and try to follow where they lead.

Helen Keller

Most of us have an interest in leaving a legacy-- our own mark, proof that we were here. I never cease to be inspired by the personal stories and accomplishments of women, and I am often intrigued by how the meanders of life both create and hone personal aspirations.

Take Alma Thomas, for example. After fulfilling a career in teaching, Ms. Thomas decided to pursue her first passion: art. At the age of fifty-five, she entered American University to begin her studies. Her work evolved, departing from still-lives and realism to geometric abstraction. Twenty years later, she was recognized as being significant in the field of American abstract art. According to one critic, Thomas brought joy to the paintings of the 1970s. Her brushstrokes left an indelible mark on the field of abstract art. Today, Alma Thomas' work can be found in

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

numerous collections in museums across America. The start of the second half of her life ushered in the prime. Her story tells us that everyone has her own season-- that there is always the time and opportunity to paint your mark, to contribute, and to make a difference. It is a reminder that age and time are not boundaries to fulfillment nor to contribution.

Our branch is filled with women who continue to refresh and renew-- whose lives and aspirations are constant inspirations to me and to many. It is in the spirit of this month that I salute you all.

Tamara



BUFFALO BRANCH NEWSLETTER
is published monthly as a bulletin of events for members and as an update on AAUW issues and programs.
President: Tamara Brown (649-9871)
Editors: B. Krist & J. Weidemann
Publisher: Joan Eschner (655-1322)

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Amherst, NY 14226-2929

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Reservation Form for Hoops & Sports Expo

Please reserve ___ FREE tickets for the UB Basketball game

___ I/We will attend the Women's Expo (no charge)

___ I/We will attend the Panel discussion (no charge)

Name _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

Name(s) of guests: _____

Please return by January 30 to: Susan Clements, 285 LaSalle Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14215 or email susanjcllements@aol.com

International Women's Day Dinner & Celebration

Name(s) _____

Telephone # _____

Cost: \$35/person (Checks may be made out to AAUW/Buffalo Branch EF)

Dinner Choices:

Chicken Marsala _____

Roasted Salmon _____

Pasta Primavera _____

Total enclosed _____

RESERVATIONS and CHECKS TO: Judy Weidemann (655-3649),
21 Nye Hill Road, East Aurora, New York, 14052 by March 1, 2006

**The Book Sale is coming.
THE BOOK SALE IS COMING.
THE BOOK SALE IS
COMING!**

And everyone can be a part of it.

What does the Annual Book Sale mean to our AAUW?

- It is our sole money raiser. It helps pay for the scholarships we give.
- It helps pay for the grants we give. It helps pay for the loans we give.
- It is the largest book sale in town. People look forward to it.
- Working at it builds Esprit de Corps - members get to know each other better.

Here are some facts and figures that tell the story:

Last year we handled 130,000 books.
Last year we cleared \$72,000.

The volunteer positions that need to be filled Wednesday – Sunday are:

3-4 shifts per day about 3 hours each

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Cashiers | 2 each shift. (seated) |
| Checkers | 4 each shift |
| Exit Door Hosts | 1 each shift (seated) |
| Floor Workers | 4 each shift |
| Greeters | 1 each shift (seated) |
| Hostesses | 1 each shift (seated) |
| Interviewers | 1 each shift (seated) |

Relief Staff 2-3 each shift
Specially Priced Area

Entrance Hosts 1 each shift
Cashiers... 2-4 each shift (seated)
Watchers..... 2-4 each shift

Wednesday, there are 125 positions to fill.
Thursday, there are 106 positions to fill.
Friday & Saturday there are 75 positions to fill.
Sunday there are 42 positions to fill.

So, dear members, in order to fill all the positions, be thinking about when you can staff at least three shifts during the sale. Sign up will begin next month.

The above statistics just concern the actual book sale, May 31-June 4, 2006. After we are given a location for the sale, we will inform you of the days and hours the site is open for sorting all the books into 30 + categories and arranging them on the tables. We need all to join in the “pre-sale fun” also. Currently books are being sorted on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at the Waters in East Aurora. We gather at 9:30 am and sort until we leave for lunch together in town. Call Judy Weidemann (655-3649) with your luncheon reservations. If you would like to carpool, contact Adrienne Kotler (688-0740). We have a lot of fun working together and getting to know other members.

Mary Kellner

**Hoops! Celebrate Girls
& Women in Sports Day
with AAUW!**



**Wednesday,
February 8, 2006**

What better way to dispel those winter blues than to cheer for the UB Women’s Basketball team as they play Central Michigan? Tickets to this game are free. Yes, that’s right, FREE! Participate in some or all of these activities:

4 p.m. Women’s Expo & Reception - UB Center For the Arts

5 p.m. Panel Discussion: “Count Me In: Current Perspectives on Female Health, Research and Performance”

7 p.m. UB Women’s Basketball vs. Central Michigan - Alumni Arena.

The Expo, Reception, Panel and Basketball Game are FREE for AAUW members and their guests. To reserve your seat please contact Susan Clements at 835-1738 or email her at susanjclements@aol.com. For information on additional NATIONAL GIRLS AND WOMEN IN SPORTS DAY events at UB, visit www.buffalobulls.com/women. Tickets will be available for pickup at the door. Just mention you are with AAUW!

But you still must RSVP.

Come to one or both events, and show your support for Title IX and women’s athletics!

**AAUW Launches New
Mentoring Program**

AAUW’s Buffalo Branch will hold the first session of its new mentoring program on Saturday February 4, at 11 a.m. at Kensington-Bailey NHS, 995 Kensington Ave., Buffalo. The session, titled “Kickoff: Your Road to Success,” is designed to start participants thinking about long-term goals.

The mentor program is aimed at middle-school girls, ages 11 to 14. It is designed to reinforce the importance of education, staying in school, the benefits of a college education, and to expose the girls to new experiences. Four sessions will be held during 2006. A “Just for Moms” program will also be held at each session for the girls’ parents/guardians.

While we have enough mentors for the girls, the program could still use members to talk to parents and to help with set-up and clean-up. We also encourage any members who want to learn more about the program to come and observe. If you are interested in helping out or just want to know more, contact Kristin Bojanowski at 879-2116 or at jadwiga77@att.net.

Mark Your Calendar Now

**WOMEN'S RIGHTS
at an
International Women's Day Celebration
Reception and Dinner
Samuel's Grande Manor
8750 Main Street
Clarence, NY - 6:00 PM
Wednesday, March 8, 2006**

**In Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the
Founding
of
The United Nations**

**A speaker from the United Nations will discuss Women's Right's
and the United Nations' efforts in that direction.**

**Jonathan Powers, Head of War Kids Relief, will speak about the
efforts of his organization to help
war orphans in Iraq.**

You will enjoy our outstanding and knowledgeable speakers. The meeting is open to the public and we encourage you to bring guests and friends.

LAF Corner

As we ponder the New Year, one is filled with anticipation and hope. In reflecting upon the Legal Advocacy Fund, I hope that this year will see many successes in our support of individuals challenging sex discrimination, harassment, or enforcement of Title IX. While we have made a great deal of progress over the years, we still have a long way to go.

Women are still finding it extremely difficult to find promotion to tenure in the field of science. The case of Professor Russell at Princeton University is an example of that. She believes that if the University had investigated her charges of discrimination after they found a serious problem in the way her case was treated by two administrators, a lawsuit could have been avoided.

Women have difficulty achieving equality in sports programs at all levels. The case of the four women wrestlers at the University of California at Davis exemplifies the difficulty women have in attempting to compete in a nontraditional sport. They were no longer allowed to participate in the school's varsity wrestling program. They sued for alleged violation of the Title IX Education Amendments of 1972. When their coach, Michael Burch supported them,

his contract as wrestling coach was not renewed. Thus, he sued alleging retaliation for his support of the female wrestlers.

This case is most important because UC Davis ELIMINATED men's opportunities in order to comply with Title IX. In 2003, the US Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights clarified that eliminating men's opportunities is not the same as adding women's opportunities. Schools should not be able to hurt men claiming they are helping women. This case has the potential to establish a precedent to define what it means for a school to have a history and continuing practice of adding women's teams in order to comply with Title IX's mandate to provide equal opportunities. This case has the potential to make clear that schools must continue to ADD women's teams until they reach equity.

Thus, we find that 2006 continues to bring us more challenges. These people depend on the Legal Advocacy Fund to aid in their pursuit of justice. The Legal Advocacy Fund depends upon your contributions. Perhaps you could consider putting aside a small amount monthly to reach a higher goal. Please be generous. We are the forefront of creating systemic change in our society. I am confident, that with your help, we will be successful.

Cheryl Papa, NYS LAF VP

Highlights from the December 7th, 2005 Board Meeting

2005-2006 Programs: Susan Clements informed us of upcoming events: First she congratulated the committee of the Friends of the Women's Rights National Park where 125 people attended. New collaborations were formed with the Hispanic Women's League. 80 people have signed up to attend the Holiday Party. In January, the Joint Health Program will take place. On February 8th our event as a UB Women's Basketball Game. The Lady Bulls play Central Michigan. Tickets are free; all are also invited to attend a panel discussion prior to the game regarding "Athletes with Physical Disabilities."

Membership Recruitment: Bev Schwiegerling has updated the programs brochure and distributed them to the Board. She is setting up a Networking function for February 9th at J.P. Bullfeathers. The Retention Committee is working on ways to engage more people. If your committee is not receiving information on new members, please contact Beverly.

Branch By-Laws: Joan Trinchera announced that the by-laws revision for the Branch will be presented at the January meeting for comment. They will also be distributed via e-mail. The vote on the by-laws will take place at the February Board meeting.

Website Update: Tamara Brown presented a list of website corrections and told us this is our opportunity to make other corrections. Please review the web page and submit corrections to Reema at pb28@buffalo.edu. Website updates should contain the exact text and format when sent to Reema. The accuracy of information takes precedent over overall design changes; design changes, if desired, can be considered after accuracy updates. (There are security and logistic issues; several people cannot work on line on design changes.) It is hoped that update will be completed by the end of the year. It was also suggested that the site be updated with a visible count of the hits that the site receives.

Welcome New Members

Ms. Kathleen Collins
296 Girard Avenue
East Aurora, NY 14052
Home: 655 1166

Ms. Nancy Hanavan
71 Rand Ave
Buffalo NY 14216
Home: 876 6106

Sue Connelly
90 Waterview Pkwy.
Hamburg, NY 14075
Home: 627 7191

Diversity Committee

We cordially invite all AAUW members, their families and friends to attend the *free* presentation of ***From The Souls of Black Folk*** on Saturday, February 11th, 2:30 p.m. in the downtown Buffalo and Erie County Public Library Auditorium. We are honored to be able to present this fine performance, directed by Paulette Harris, featuring six actors/singers of the Paul Robeson Theater. This co-sponsorship with the library and other organizations in Greater Buffalo offer this opportunity to all families and friends, young and old alike as a celebration of Black History Month. Consider for yourself what relevance the contents of this production have on our current day life in Buffalo, N.Y.

The Souls of Black Folk by W. E. B. Du Bois is probably the most influential or, at least, most discussed book published by a black American intellectual in the twentieth century. *The Crisis of the Negro Intellectual* by the late Harold Cruse and a few other volumes rate closely behind this masterwork. It is not strictly a history of African-Americans; indeed, it is almost a synthesis of forms: biography, fiction, historical and economic analysis, and autobiography. One might think of some other Du Bois books that are more strictly historical, like *The Suppression of African Slave-Trade in the United States of America, 1638-1870* and *Black*

Reconstruction, but none seem to have captured the major issues facing the black masses and the black elite as this work did, and none of his other books are widely read. This is Du Bois's analysis of the New South and race.

Sylvia Volk

Educational Foundation

Each year a portion of our funds from our Annual Book Sale, go to the AAUW Educational Foundation. In 2004-2005 year in honor of our 50th anniversary, we contributed \$25,000. This funding has been awarded to several candidates.

One of the several fine candidates is Amy Chilcote a PhD Candidate attending Cornell University's school of Anthropology.

Per the AAUW website; "Amy Chilcote applies anthropological ideas to the understanding of mental illness, particularly in industrialized societies. She is focusing on Morita Therapy, an indigenous Japanese psychotherapy. She plans a nontraditional academic career as a clinician, teacher, researcher, and writer in the field of women's psychosocial health." I will be following up in later newsletters on other candidates.

This year we were able to contribute \$15,000 to the Foundation. \$10,000 will be for Selected Professions and \$5,000 will be for Career Development grants.

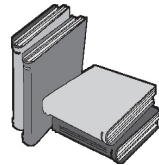
Buffalo Branch Study/ Interest Groups

Group Leaders: Please send study group information to Jan Barber, 139 Woodward Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14214-2311 or contact her at h (837-4558) or w (849-6500) or jbarber@btattys.com

Note: If you are interested in forming a new study group, please contact the study group coordinator

Group: American Biographies

When: February 14, 1:30 p.m.
Where: Eggertsville Library, 4622 Main St. at Burroughs, parking off Burroughs
Book: *Tuxedo Park*
By Jennet Conant and discussion of books for rest of the year.
Facilitator: TBA
Contact: Nancy Ryther (884-8324)



Group: Clueless Mystery Book Club

When: February 22, 6 p.m.
Where: Loughran's Restaurant
Book: *Burglars Can't be Choosers*
By Lawrence Bloch
Facilitator: Jean Hubbard
Next: *Slow Dollar*
By Margaret Maron
Contact: Suzanne Grossman (837-8769)



Group: Dinner by the Book

When: February 15 at 5:30 p.m.
Where: Plaka's Restaurant, 2904 Delaware Ave., Kenmore
Book: *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*



By Carson McCullers
Facilitator: Sharon Doerr
Reserve: Fran Witnauer (837-5887 h.) or (856-3150 w)

Fwitnauer@buffaloplace.com

Next: *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini

NOTE: *In the event of bad weather, please call Plaka's and ask if the meeting has been cancelled.*

Group: Great Decisions Discussion Group

Contact: Suzanne Grossman (837-8729)

Group: The Green Thumbs (gardening)

When: February 9, at 7 p.m.
Where: Julia B. Reinstein Library, 1030 Losson Road, Cheektowaga
Contact: Janet Fowler (884-8698)



Janalanf@aol.com

Group: Knitting Group

When: February 27, 7-9 p.m.
Where: Stonegate Clubhouse, Wherle Drive, Williamsville
Contact: Adrienne Kotler (688-0740)

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! The convention is coming!

Plans are being completed for fun, informative and peripatetic workshops at the spring 2006 convention. Peripatetic? That would be the EF walk to town, which will, as usual, raise money for EF but NOT be at dawn. Joan Monk will discuss modern fairy tales in "Girls Just Want to Have Fun." Trudy Renwick will address the elephant in the room of educational funding reform when she asks, "Where is the Money?" Other sessions will focus on mentoring girls, getting onto college campuses, Susan B. Anthony's hundredth anniversary, and AAUW's 125th anniversary. In addition, keynoter Lisa Maatz will lead two workshops - one on economic security for women and one on doing successful public education programs.

These workshops were chosen as the result of feedback from last year's convention and the suggestions of those at the summer leadership conference. Come and be delighted, informed and energized.

The convention registration packet is on the website (www.aauw-nys.org). Packets have also been sent to each branch president. Look through the special events. Check out the wide variety of workshops. Imagine yourself in the

beautiful Saratoga State Park – and register today!

Applications are still being accepted for convention travelships. Preference will be given to members from branches which haven't participated recently in the convention. The guidelines and a brief application form are also on the website.

See you April 28-30!

Mary Kelner

Condolences

We send our sympathy to Dr. Barbara Seals Nevergold on the death of her mother, Clara Seals who passed away on December 24, 2005. Dr. Nevergold's book, *Uncrowned Queens, Volume 1* is dedicated to Clara Seals, her mother.

We send our sympathy to Diane Sina on the death of her husband, Richard on January 6, 2006.

We also send our sympathy to Bertha Boston and her family on the sudden loss of her sister.

From the Souls of Black Folk in Song and Spoken Word

Featuring six performers of the Buffalo African American Cultural Center's Paul Robeson Theater directed by Paulette Harris

Saturday, February 11, 2:30 p.m.

Buffalo and Erie County Central Library Auditorium

FREE - family oriented and open to all
Contact 881-1424 for further information.

Presented by the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Buffalo Branch and co-sponsored by the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library System



ALL ARE WELCOME! PLEASE JOIN US!

Conceived by the Paul Robeson Theater Director Paulette Harris, this one-hour production includes selected text from W.E.B. Du Bois's influential book, *The Souls of Black Folk* interspersed with historical African-American spirituals.

A "talk-back" with performers follows the presentation.

The Souls of Black Folk is probably the most influential or, at least, most discussed book published by a black American intellectual in the twentieth century.

A statement found in the American Legacy Magazine reads, "It is not strictly a history of African-Americans; indeed, it is almost a synthesis of forms: biography, fiction, historical and economic analysis, and biography,"

February ¡Adelante! Book Club Selection Discussion Black History Month

Join us on Wed., February 1st, at 7:30 p.m. (following board meeting) at the Town Restaurant, on the Corner of Allen and Elmwood. We will meet in the back room. Our discussion Leaders will be Peggy Brooks-Bertram, Dr. P.H., Ph.D. and Barbara Seals Nevergold, Ph.D.
Note: You do not have to be a board member or come to the board meeting to join us...see you at the Town

Uncrowned Queens: African American Women: Community Builders of Western New York: Volume III Written and Edited by Peggy Brooks-Bertram, Dr. P.H., Ph.D. and Barbara Seals Nevergold, Ph.D.

ALSO... *The DuBois* (1903; many editions) which is a brief overview by a member of the Paul Robeson Theater, who will be appearing on Feb. 11th at the Erie County Public Library.

FREE COPIES of *SULA* by Toni Morrison will be given out as a *Thank You* for attending.

UPCOMING: MARCH (Women's History Month) *Founding Mothers* by Cokie Roberts (2004)

Discussion Group: Tues., March 7, 6:15 p.m., Wegman's Food Court (Upstairs), Sheridan Drive near Evans. Discussion Leader: TBA.

Sylvia Volk

Request for Candidates

The Buffalo Branch nominating committee is beginning its search for qualified candidates for the 2006 slate of officers for the Board of Directors. Positions that will be elected at the May luncheon for 2006 are:

President – one year (generally filled by current president-elect(s))
President-elect – one year term
Second Vice-President – Membership (new members) – two year term
VP Educational Foundation – two year term
VP LAF (Legal Advocacy Fund) – two year term
Recording Secretary – two year term
Corresponding Secretary – two year term
Public Policy Chair – two year term
Five-member Nominating Committee with designated Chair – one year term

If you are interested in a position, or know of a member who is, please contact one of the nominating committee members. Committee members are: Janet Fowler, chair (884-8698); Barb Engler 674-3462), Suzanne Grossman (839-8769), Jean Hubbard (832-0349) and Janet Trinkwalder (688-4676).

AAUW Buffalo Branch Scholarship, Loan, and Grant Programs Created January 2006

| <u>Education Program</u> | <u>Audience</u> | <u>Criteria</u> | <u>How Much</u> | <u>Method of application.</u> | <u>Date awarded</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| Chamberlin Loans | Sophomore college and beyond | Financial need Progress to degree Pref to Cornell | \$2000 max renewable up to 4 times | Application/Interview w/ Financial Review | Dec 1 + Jul 1 | endowment Sarah Chamberlin several awards per year |
| Chamberlin Grants | Sophomore college and beyond | Financial need Progress to degree Pref to Cornell | \$2000 max renewable up to 4 times | Application/Interview w/ Financial Review | Dec 1 + Jul 1 | endowment Sarah Chamberlin several awards per year |
| Funds for Education Loans (men may apply) | Sophomore college and beyond | Financial need Progress to degree | \$2000 max renewable up to 4 times | Application/Interview w/ Financial Review | Dec 1 + Jul 1 | Funded annually by Board from EF (Booksale) funds several awards per year |
| Funds for Education Grants (men may apply) | Sophomore college and beyond | Financial need Progress to degree | \$2000 max renewable up to 4 times | Application/Interview w/ Financial Review | Dec 1 + Jul 1 | Funded annually by Board from EF (Booksale) funds several awards per year |
| Funds for Education Named Grants/Scholarships | Sophomore college and beyond | Financial need Progress to degree area of study depends on type of indiv. fund | generally smaller \$100-\$500 | Application/Interview w/ Financial Review | Dec 1 + Jul 1 | Funded through private don. awarded as candidates meeting criteria appear |
| Velma Cobb | Graduating High School Seniors | scholastic and extra curricular excellence | \$1,000 given 2 a year | Application Essay Interview | Dec-apply Jan- due May award | Bequest of Velma Cobb + past donations from branch normally 2 per year |
| Catalyst for Change | High School Senior Undergrad Junior Grad/Non Traditional | grassroots effort promoting change (women and girls) | 3 a year given 1 per category \$3000-\$5000 | Application Essay | April due May award luncheon | Funded annually by Board from EF (Booksale) funds established 2004-2005 |
| College Bound | 7th-8th grade Buffalo PS girls | goal attainment | 8-10 given \$50 each | Essay, poem, poster etc | apply Feb. award by end of school yr | Funded annually by Board from EF (Booksale) funds established 2004-2005 |
| Community Grants Program | High School Students Individuals Community Orgs | project or research benefiting girls/women | 5-10 given up to \$1500 each | application proposal Follow up report | apply spring award late summer fall | Funded annually by Board from EF (Booksale) funds established 2004-2005 |
| Emergency Funds | Students, preferably college | committee review dire emergency educational related need | as needed up to \$500 avail | Branch member recommend | year round | \$500 orig. Board allocation rolled over annually per Board Decision established 2004-2005 |