

*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 August 20, 2005  
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## Upcoming Events

**September 7:** Board Meeting

**September 12:** Potluck Program

**October 5:** Board Meeting

**October 8:** National Women's Hall of  
Fame Induction - Seneca Falls

**October 15:** AAUW District Conference,  
White Inn, Fredonia.

**October 29:** Tour Frank Lloyd Wright's  
Darwin Martin House



# Buffalo Branch Newsletter

NYS District 1



September 2005

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

September Branch Program

## POTLUCK DINNER SEPTEMBER 12 - 5:30

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

**Speakers:**

**Dr. James Williams, Superintendent  
Buffalo Public Schools  
and  
Jacqueline Paone, Executive Director  
Erie County Association of  
School Boards**

Reservation deadline is September 7.

(See page 3 for more information and page 15 for reservation form)



# President's Message

Happy New Year!

The beginning of a new year is always an exciting time. We can reflect on what we have done well (for the last 115 years!), embrace new approaches, and challenge paradigms.

Both the national and New York state themes give us additional reasons for enthusiasm. Here are three perspectives on how all of us can work together to facilitate the New York State theme: Sharing the Vision.

### Membership

We all have something we love about AAUW. Every once in a while, we get the chance to discuss that "thing." Riding back from Delta Lake last year, Teresa Gessner and I agreed that what makes AAUW special for us is meeting and working with others who share a passion for education. Whatever your own reason, I invite you to share your thoughts about AAUW with others. Our branch needs the constant flow of new, committed members. I ask each member to invite one guest to a program this year and tell one new person about AAUW each month.

### Diversity

A key to growth and energy is diversity in all forms. Practically, this means more than concentrating on numbers; it means a spirit of inclusion. Our program team has worked hard making sure our annual calendar includes events attractive to all members. Looking forward, we are building linkages with other

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 October issue.

organizations. I am very happy to announce that AAUW-Buffalo Branch will have a feature column in *The Criterion*, an inner-city weekly newspaper. We hope to do the same within the Native-American community, Jewish community, and others. Our efforts are visible. At the May luncheon, Ruthe Sicherman commented to me about how our program audiences are more reflective of the diversity that exists within our community. I am proud to be a part of an organization whose members support inclusive thinking. Please continue to share your thoughts and ideas on how we can work together to nourish this vital force.

### And finally, Visibility

There is a scripture I remember from childhood: One doesn't light a candle and hide it under a bushel. How many times have you been asked, "What is the UAW?" (My reply is that we're not the auto workers!) Our board is committed to finding appropriate avenues for communicating AAUW's works to the community. Each of us is an ambassador for

(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  
Freddie Cheek  
406 Maynard Drive  
Amherst, NY 14226-2929

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September 2005  
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## PotLuck Dinner Reservation Form

September 12, 2005, 5:30 p.m. Deadline for reservations is September 7th

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

Number of reservations \_\_\_\_\_ Guest's Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_ \$9.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$3.00 and a desert  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$3.00 and a salad \_\_\_\_\_ \$3.00 and a vegetable or meat casserole

*Each dish, equivalent to a 8 x 13 baking dish, should feed 8 to 10 people.*

**Make reservations payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch and mail to  
Karen Noonan, 123 Main Street, Youngstown, NY 14174-1010 Phone # 745-1283  
e-mail [knoonan@buffalo.edu](mailto:knoonan@buffalo.edu)**

## Reservation Form District Fall Conference October 15, 2005

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

**\$12 per person**

Make reservations payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch and mail to  
Diane Silvestro, 6 Belvoir Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221-3614

## SENECA FALLS, NY WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME BUS TRIP

October 8, 2005 Mary B. Talbert and Hillary Rodman Clinton Induction

Ticket price: Adults is \$155. No. of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_  
Seniors (65 and over)/Students: \$135.00 No. of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_  
Down payment of one-half must be made by August 31; (Balance when reservations are confirmed.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tele #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_

*Make check(s) payable to: Uncrowned Queens Inst.  
and mail to Uncrowned Queens, 984 Parkside Ave., Buffalo, NY 14216*

## LAF, Voice of Women Challenging Discrimination

In 1980, pursuing our objectives and mission, it came to AAUW's attention that women in academia were having tremendous difficulty receiving equity. At Cornell University 11 women filed a class action suit for sex discrimination in hiring and promotion. AAUW learned about the situation, and realized there was a definite need for providing funding and a support system for women seeking redress for sex discrimination. VOILA! In 1981, 24 years ago, the Legal Advocacy Fund was born. Women in academia today are still facing discrimination!

I joined AAUW for its mission to promote lifelong education and I have needed to educate myself! Always donating to EF to provide educational equity for women and girls is insufficient. Now I see the importance of also contributing to LAF in their support of achieving equal job opportunities and pay in academia. Our job is far from finished!

New York State came in second in the entire nation in LAF giving with a total contribution of \$26,880.45. We can be extremely proud of that.

LAF has become the leading voice on behalf of women challenging sex discrimination in higher education. Let's dig deeper. Can we increase our total branch contribution by 5%? Can we increase the number of people receiving donor pins for contributing \$100.00? Can our branch reach 100% donor level? If Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton inspires us, we can. Receiving the 2005 Speaking Out for Justice Award, she said, "Injustice thrives on silence. What LAF does is support those who break the silence. Women cannot be denied if we use our collective voices

for change." Let's keep up our support and prevent injustice from thriving.

PLEASE make checks payable to AAUW LAF and note Buffalo Branch. Send your check to our treasurer, Adrienne Kotler, P O Box 46 Amherst, NY 14226

LAF has changed. As with many volunteer groups facing declining membership, AAUW needed to streamline its structure in order to save money. Thus, LAF was merged into the Education Foundation operating under the EF Program Committee.

*Sharon Pilarski*

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## Welcome New Members

**Joni Jason** -  
3841 Sweet Home Road,  
Amherst, NY 14228  
Home: 691 8090

**Susan D McClary** -  
21 French Oaks,  
East Amherst NY 1451  
Home: 636 2854

**Barbara A. Nevergold** -  
984 Parkside  
Buffalo, NY 14216  
Home: 834 7302

**Robin A. Winslow** -  
50 Coronet Dr.  
Tonawanda, NY 14150  
Home: 693 5169

**Arlene Wandel Zawadzki** -  
80 Sweet Briar Road  
Tonawanda, NY 14150  
Home 833-7451.

*(President's Message Continued from Page 2)*

AAUW. Notify our publicity chair, Kristin Bojanowski, if you have an organization to add to the list for information and press releases.

Those-- simply-- are our goals, and we are working to put a strategic plan in place to govern this year's work and assess our attainment.

So, again, "Happy New Year." It is quite an exciting time. I thank you again for entrusting the branch to my leadership. I am delighted for chances to work with each of you throughout this new year.

*Tamara*

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## September Potluck Equitable Education for Girls in Our Local Schools

Our Annual Potluck Dinner is **Monday, September 12, 2005**, 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.

Dr. James Williams, the new Superintendent of the Buffalo Public Schools, and Jacqueline Paone, Executive Director of the Erie County Association of School Boards, will lead the after dinner discussion, "Equitable Education for Girls in Our Local Schools."

After their opening comments, potluck

attendees can engage these leaders in a conversation of our community's educational system.

Research studies have shown that equitable education for girls remains a viable issue both in terms of exploring possibilities and academic achievement. According to an AAUW report, boys represent more than 90% of students enrolling in computing, electronics, design, and engineering. In contrast, girls represent more than 90% of the students enrolled in fashion design, marketing, early childcare, practical nursing, and cosmetology. Further, in areas such as computer science, girls score much lower on AP exams than their male counterparts. Most disturbing, is that studies suggest parents and teachers--and girls themselves--are more tolerant of low academic performance by females than by males.

The result of a girl's education is carried throughout her life. Men now earn 35% more than women. Over the course of her career, the average woman loses approximately \$250,000 to the wage gap.

As our national theme suggests, education is the pathway for self-empowerment of women and girls. Please join us to welcome Dr. Williams and Ms. Paone, and the potluck discussion to better understand education for girls in our community.

The reservation form on page 15 must be returned by September 7.

## Condolences

AAUW Buffalo Branch offers condolences to the family and friends of Marilyn Ruth (Berglas) Rebeck. She passed away on August 2. An obituary was published in the Buffalo News on August 8, 2005

## District 1 Fall Conference

Please register now for the District 1 Fall Conference. Plan to get away for the day at the historic White Inn in Fredonia New York (just one hour away). This is a great opportunity to meet members of the Dunkirk-Fredonia and Jamestown branches and to discuss current issues for AAUW.

*Charting our Course: Navigating through Change to foster Education & Equity for Women & Girls* is the theme for the District 1 Fall Conference which will be held on Saturday, October 15, 2005. The morning session will begin at 9:15 a.m., and the conference is scheduled to end at 3:00 p.m.

Economic factors, the erosion of Title IX, and new AAUW membership requirements are but three of the external and internal issues that necessitate addressing change in our branches. During this forum, each branch will offer information on pertinent issues of change and strategies for AAUW to navigate through these issues. At the conclusion of the session, District 1 attendees will create specific follow up actions. An interactive lunchtime activity is also planned.

Lunch includes soup, salad, chicken entree, a starch, vegetable medley, rolls, light dessert, and beverage. The conference fee of \$12.00 includes continental breakfast, full luncheon, and materials. Reservations may be made by contacting Diane Silvestro at 631-3349 or by returning the enclosed form. (Please make checks payable to AAUW-Buffalo Branch.)

Please note that the Buffalo branch is helping to plan conference activities. If you are interested in working on the committee, please call Tamara Brown at 649-9871.

## Dues Notice

Several members have yet to pay their dues or have decided to drop their membership. To help you consider your membership in the Buffalo Branch, you are receiving this issue of the *Buffalo Branch Newsletter*. It has many important and interesting articles that indicate the direction our branch is taking as well as a list of the proposed programs for the year. We are sure you will find your membership fulfilling.

If you have any questions, please contact either Adrienne Kotler (688-0740, [aikotler@earthlink.net](mailto:aikotler@earthlink.net)) or Freddie Cheek, 834-6945 or [fscheek@adelphia.net](mailto:fscheek@adelphia.net)

Thank you to those who have already sent in your dues. For those who haven't, the following information lists the cost of membership in various categories.

Membership Type (please indicate on your check):

Member of Branch (\$68 or \$73\*)

Association Paid Life Member (\$25 or \$30\*)

Dual Member, Buffalo Primary (\$68 or \$73\*)

Dual Member, Buffalo Secondary (\$15 or \$20\*)

Student Affiliate (\$24.50 or \$27\*)

Grad Student (\$50.50 or \$55.50\*)

Friend of Branch (\$42)

Honorary Life Member (\$0)

Please mail your dues check payable to "AAUW Buffalo Branch" to Freddie Cheek, 406 Maynard Drive, Amherst, NY 14226-2929

\* Indicates Optional \$5 donation to LAF

## Welcome From The Buffalo Branch AAUW Diversity Committee

Sylvia Volk, newly appointed Chair of the branch Diversity Committee, is pleased to announce these September and October events.

September 26, 2005 Diversity Event: On September 26<sup>th</sup>, at noon (exact time TBA) the Uncrowned Queens Institute will sponsor a re-dedication ceremony of Talbert Hall on the North campus of the University at Buffalo. UB's President, John Simpson, will welcome the participants in this fitting tribute to Mrs. Talbert and emphasize the role she played in advocacy for the rights of all African Americans, especially women.

October 8, 2005 AAUW Co-Sponsored Diversity Event: "GET ON THE BUS TO THE WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME". Join members of the Uncrowned Queens Institute and the Mary B. Talbert Civic and Cultural Club in a bus trip to Seneca Falls, NY, where Mary B. Talbert, Hillary Rodman Clinton, Maya Lin and 7 others will be inducted into the Women's Hall of Fame. You can reserve your ticket now to attend the Induction Ceremonies and luncheon. Space is limited, so we encourage you to make your reservations now! We will leave at approximately 9:00a.m. - returning to Buffalo at 9:00 p.m. Ticket price includes round-trip bus fare and tickets to the luncheon and Induction Ceremony: Seniors(age 65+)/Students:\$135, Adults:\$155. One-half deposit is required with your reservation. Send your check, payable to the Uncrowned Queens Institute, to Uncrowned Queens Institute,

984 Parkside Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14216. Additional information is available at [wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens/files\\_2005/womens\\_hof/talbert\\_bus\\_trip.doc](http://wings.buffalo.edu/uncrownedqueens/files_2005/womens_hof/talbert_bus_trip.doc) or from Barbara Nevergold at 834-7302(h) or 849-6727 ext.159(o).

"These ten women embody the fulfillment of the 1848 conventioner's vision of women's potential. Each of the inductees represents her own version of the American dream. None of their achievements would have been possible without the work of the brave women and men who convened the first women's rights convention. We are honored to share their stories of perseverance and accomplishment with the nation and the world," said the Hall's President, [Buffalonian] Clotilde Perez-Bode Dedecker.

The 2005 Inductees are, Mary Burnett Talbert, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Maya Lin, Florence Ellinwood Allen, Ruth Fulton Benedict, Betty Bumpers, Rita Colwell, Mother Marianne Cope, Patricia Locke, and Blanche Stuart Scott. For complete bios see [www.greatwomen.org](http://www.greatwomen.org) which also contains information about the Hall of Fame and its activities.

We are pleased to announce the upcoming publication, *Uncrowned Queens III: African American Community Builders*, which will commemorate the Niagara Movement Centennial, 1905-2005. See also the ¡Adelante! 2005-2006 book list.

If you are interested in joining our group, please contact Sylvia at home, evenings, 716-881-1424 or at her e-mail: [artisans\\_company@yahoo.com](mailto:artisans_company@yahoo.com). Look for her at the September 12<sup>th</sup> Potluck for even more information.

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We needed their "know-how" and muscle badly. They are: Wally Barback, Larry Clare, Dick Emer, Don Engler, Ed Eschner, Alan Fowler, David Keating, Ron Kellner, Calvin LaMar, Mark Norris, George Oliver, Vince Tarzia, Charlie Weiss, and Ted Wetherbee.

Volunteers from the Town of Tonawanda, and Girl Scouts and Leaders from Troop 1990 in Holland helped to put the books on the tables.

A committee took care of the Potluck. This worked well. Members enjoyed being able to "borrow" the carpenter aprons so that members could be identified at the Sale.

There were two Raffles. One was for a Barbie Doll with an accompanying story about how Barbie and her little sister, Skipper, helped Susan B. Anthony. It was won by our own Jan Vine. The other item raffled was a beautiful afghan knit by the Branch Knitting Group. The raffles brought in \$120. The unused bags for the Title IX Conference brought in \$91 and \$200 was made on the sale of shirts and aprons.

We thank our community sponsors and volunteers for their assistance. The Benderson Company has donated sites to us for many years. Able Table and Party Rental provided us with tables again at a reduced cost. Advanced Graphics and Printing has donated our Book Marks - well over 10,000 this year. The Buffalo and Erie County Public Library distributed packets to all the libraries in Erie County.

On June 5, 2005, the Friends of the Reed Library form Fredonia come to take reference books for developing a library in Cambodia. The Friends

of the Aurora Town Library and the Lewiston Public Library come to take free books. Some new books were donated to charitable fund raisers. They were donated to the Aurora Adult Day Services, Daemen College Alumni Buffalo Chapter, and to the Greater Buffalo Alumnae Panhellenic Association.

The Book Sale Committee worked effectively. The Co-Chairs wish to thank the committee members: Anne Allan, Mary Allan, Ruth Auer, Leona Barback, Jill Brown, Pat Baker, Judy Clare, Barbara Emer, Barbara Engler, Donna Fitzgerald, Janet Fowler, Suzanne Grossman, Margaret Haas, Jean Hubbard, Elaine Johnson, Adrienne Kotler, Betty Loucks, Pat MacClennan, Judy Malamus, Karen Noonan, Michelle Norris, Suzanne Oliver, Roberta Ross, Maryalice Seagrave, Mary Stanton, Linda Suchocki, Rose Tarzia, Janet Trinkwalder, Jan Vine, Ingrid Wetherbee, and Angie Yelich.

Suggestions for next year include having people sign up for definite times to sort as well as work at the Sale. The Finance Committee has suggested that one person be designated to go to the bank and make more frequent trips. We should have a security guard for at least the first day of the Sale since we have advertised the amount of money we make on the Sale. Perhaps some member could volunteer a relative or friend for that position.

*Book Sale Co-Chairs: Mary Kellner, Cathy Weiss and Judy Weidemann*

## Buffalo Branch Study/ Interest Groups

Study Group Leaders: Please send study group information to Janice Barber, 139 Woodward Ave., Buffalo 14214, 837-4558 (H) or 849-6500 (W), or E mail to jbarber@btattys.com or JanBfflo@cs.com

**Note:** If anyone has an interest in forming a new study group, please contact Study Group Coordinator Janice Barber 837-4558.

Group: American Biographies  
When: September 13, 2005 at 1:30 p.m.  
Topic: *Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer* by Tracy Kidder.

Discussion Leader: TBA  
Where: Eggertsville Library, 4622 Main St. at Burroughs, parking off Burroughs.  
Contact: Suzanne Oliver 652-1230  
GSOLIVER@worldnet.att.net  
Next Book: *James Madison* by Garry Wills.

Group: Great Decisions Discussion Group  
When: September 1, 2005 at 1:30 p.m.  
Topic: "The U.S. and Global Poverty"  
Where: Unitarian Universalist Church, Main Street, east of Youngs Rd.  
Contact: Suzanne Grossman (837-8769)

Group: Dinner by the Book  
When: Wednesday, September 21, 2005 5:30 p.m.  
Where: Plaka Restaurant, 2904 Delaware Ave. Kenmore  
Topic: *The Red Hat Club* by Haywood Smith

Discussion Leader: Suzanne Grossman  
Contact: Fran Witnauer (837-5887 or 856-3150w)  
fwitnauer@buffaloplac.com  
Next Book: *Inside the Kingdom* by Carmen Bin Laden

Group: Knitting Group  
When: 4th Tuesday, 7-9 p.m.  
Where: Clubhouse, 4100 Stonegate Ln., on Wehrle Drive, Williamsville  
Contact: Adrienne Kotler (688-0740)  
aikotler@earthlink.net

Group: Clueless Mystery Book Club  
When: September 28, 2005 at 6 p.m.  
Where: Loughran's, Main St. near Harlem  
Topic: *The Trouble with Harriet* by Dorothy Cannell  
Reviewer: Margaret Fisher  
Contact: Sue Grossman (837-8769)  
Next Book: *The Sunday Philosophy Club* by Alexander McCall Smith

Group: AAUW Past Presidents Club  
September 21, 2005 at 7:15 p.m.  
295 Lakewood Parkway, Snyder  
Contact: Barb Carier (839-0933)  
bcarier@adelphia.net

## Formation of a Publicity Committee

Publicity Chair Kristin Bojanowski is forming a publicity committee to help promote AAUW Buffalo Branch events in the local media and community. If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact Kristin via e-mail at jadwiga77@att.net or by phone at 716-873-7387.



## Interested in Forming a New Study/ Interest Group?

**The branch is interested in forming new study/ interest groups. Please see Janice Barber, Study Group Coordinator, at the September 12 potluck in order to form new groups.**

Study Groups are in many ways the backbone of our branch. They foster opportunities for personal growth and education, are a great way to network with other members having similar interests, and help attract new members and retain current members. We already have many outstanding study groups, but are always welcome to new ideas and invite you to consider creating new study groups if interested.

Study groups may have as few as five members, but must meet certain guidelines and be approved by the Board. However, it is a very simple process and if you are interested in forming a new study group, please contact Janice Barber, the Study Group Coordinator.

Below are a few of the many different study groups found at other AAUW branches. I invite you to consider these or other ideas you may have.

**NEW HORIZONS** - focuses on issues affecting the lives of women today, whether in society, the workplace, or home.

**ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES** - this might be especially fun for our bibliophile members.

**GARDEN CLUB** - although we have a short summer, here in WNY we value our gardens. Share ideas and even plants, discuss gardening tips, even visit local gardens.

**DOWNTOWNERS** - here's an opportunity for those of us who work downtown and have trouble

getting out after work. Members could meet downtown during lunch to discuss issues facing women in the workplace today.

**FRENCH** - or any other language. This group could meet to keep their language skills sharp, by meeting and conversing in a different language, and at the same time learn about other cultures, sample international cuisine, travel.

**A to Z CRAFT GROUP** - We are always looking for creative members to help with table decorations, theme baskets and door prizes. Perhaps form a group to do crafts throughout the year, making something to enjoy and take home, sharing your talents with others in the group.

**PEN POWER** - Following our public policy guidelines, perhaps meet to spearhead a letter writing campaign about legislative and other issues of concern to women.

**WRITERS** - Many of our members are authors of fiction and prose. Meet with other members to read your work, and to give support and suggestions for publishing and improving your technique.

**ART APPRECIATION** - WNY has a plethora of museums and galleries and a huge artist community. Explore the cultural gifts our city has to offer, visit museums and gallery openings. Perhaps help sponsor a local show of women artists.

**PLAYING MUSIC FOR PLEASURE** - Share your musical expertise with others, join in a musical group, perform at branch events.

**DAYTIME BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*(Continued on page 7)*

*(Continued from page 10)*

Linda Suchocki arranged for two sale days at the Federal Building, Carol Griffith was responsible for having us a sell new books one day at the VA Hospital, and Betty Preble arranged for two sale days at Rich Products. Jean Hubbard arranged for us to go to the Cheetowaga Hockey Rink, Lynn McClive arranged for us to go to Greenfields and many books were sold at the International Women's Day Celebration. It is sad for us to think that the "Suitcase Brigade" will no longer exist once our current supply of new books runs out.

Linda Suchocki's work as Publicity Chair of the Sale was exemplary. There were two big articles in the Buffalo News, one with a picture of Mary Kellner and Judy Clare. There was also a follow up article in the News giving our grand total. All three TV stations came to the site and did promotion for us. Susan Banks accepted the position of Honorary Chair and visited the site. There was also publicity on Channel 7 in connection with this visit. Jacquie Walker, last year's honorary Chair visited the site and there was TV publicity connected with this visit. The "Why Guy" visited once again. A group of members were at the "Weather Outside" on Channel 7 to promote the Sale.

The site was decorated with blow-ups once again from past Book Sales. Publicity photos from last year and this year were added to the collection. Ruth Auer spent time replacing worn out signs and adding new ones to facilitate finding and buying of the books. Ron Kellner with his tall self and very tall ladder was once again the official hanger of signs. Ron was an invaluable help in so many other

ways too. Judy Clare's son, Terry Clare and her son-in-law, David Slemmer helped hang the signs.

Having storage at the Waters Corporate Headquarters in East Aurora was excellent. Members also did some sorting at that facility. Members Kathy Basher, Marian Fay, Jean Hubbard, Elaine Johnson, and Judy Weidemann donated storage space in their homes.

Eleven members and friends donated money for tables. They are: Leona Barback, Marie Barker, Carol Brasure, Carolyn Day, Suzanne Grossman, Peg O'Brien, Florence Rembold, Ruth Seitz, Barb Smith, Joan Trinchera, Sylvia Volk, and Mary Ellen Walsh.

112 members worked at sorting and during the Sale. This was a smaller number than workers for last year. More members must participate in the future. We were fortunate to have some non-member friends to help. Here are the hours recorded when people signed "in" and "out". Bear in mind that sometimes people did not sign "in" and "out" and much of the work previous to coming to the site (anonymous donor pick-up, picking up books from other donors, traveling around town to sell books, and looking up collectibles) was not recorded.

44 members worked 1-5 hours  
27 members worked 6-10 hours  
26 members worked 11-25 hours  
8 members worked 26-50 hours  
12 members worked 51-100 hours  
4 members worked 100+ hours  
1 member worked 300+ hours

Once again we had our group of "Good Guys".

*(Continued on page 12)*

## MUSE & MINERVA

By Marguerite Collesano

Apollo was the God of Poetry and Song; the nine muses, goddesses of music and the arts, were his attendants. Do you understand what women have been dealing with since time began? (You must read *The Wife* by Meg Wolitzer to understand how deeply these ideas have influenced our culture.)

However, these are myths, for from the earliest of time, throughout the world, women's poetry, song and writings have been documented. Thus we can enjoy their creativity and their experiences, not as attendants, but as originators of ideas and observers of the human condition.

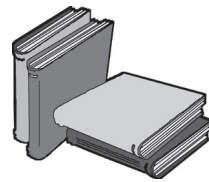
I was encouraged to write this column by President Tamara Brown who expressed an interest in knowing more about women's contribution to the arts and literature. Happily I take the idea and go with it to see where it will take me.

I'll begin with some books I've read this summer. *Out* by Natsuo Kirino is the author's first novel published in English. Kirino is one of Japan's most successful mystery writers. *Out* won the Naoki Prize and Japan's top mystery award. The setting is present-day Japan, of sympathetic criminals on the run, and ordinary, blue-collar women caught up in events. This black comedy may not suit everyone's taste, but it is truly a page turner.

By now, I'm sure many of you have read *Reading Lolita in Tehran* by Azar Nafisi. This past spring I was visiting in the Washington, DC area and happened to attend the Annual Book Fair set on the green grounds between The Capitol Building and the Washington Monument. Azar Nafisi was a guest presenter.

A powerful and passionate teacher, she implored we Americans to read the literature of Islamic and other cultures to understand more fully other peoples' way of life. Her argument was compelling with examples of what foreigners might think of the United States culture if they only read about the sensational witch trials in 17<sup>th</sup> century Salem and not read Emerson and Thoreau, or if they only read about slavery and not Faulkner, Phillis Wheatley, Eudora Welty or Abraham Lincoln.

Luckily I was sitting right up front, for at the end of her talk I had the honor to shake her hand!



## Book Sale Report 2005

The 51st Annual AAUW Buffalo Branch Book Sale was truly fabulous. It was fabulous because we achieved a new high in money taken in and fabulous because our reach to the community continued to increase. The gross collected was \$77,150. We also were paid \$150 for the left over books. (Good marketing!) All expenses are not in yet, but we surely made well over \$70,000.

The presale total was \$16,994.97. Those books came primarily from the Anonymous Donor. We have come to terms with the unfortunate news that the new books from this source will not be available to us in the future. Members did a fantastic job selling those new books at AAUW meetings, to members through the "Newsletter", and to friends and other contacts.

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LO-CAL GOURMET - Share recipes for heart healthy foods. Develop, prepare, and share low calorie meals.

THE COUPLES GOURMET - Prepare and enjoy gourmet meals with other couples, perhaps explore food from other cultures.

Reprinted from an article by Linda Suchocki in the December 2003 *Buffalo Branch Newsletter*

## Sharing the Vision

### A VERY SPECIAL WEEKEND

*Would you like to: share ideas with interesting women?*

*Play golf on a championship golf course?*

*Relax with a mineral bath and massage?*

*Learn what AAUW can do for you?*

If you answer is YES to any of these questions, mark your calendar for April 28-30, 2006. All this and much more awaits you at the AAUW NYS Convention at the Gideon Putnam Resort in Saratoga Springs.

## Thank you.

Having concluded my term of service on the Board of Directors of AAUW Buffalo Branch, first as the International Relations Representative and then as Program Vice President, I wish to thank the Branch presidents, my colleagues on the Board of Directors and many Branch members for the privilege of their support and help with the work that the mission of these positions called for.

I am very touched and feel very honored by the special recognition I received for my contributions to the Branch; I shall cherish the certificate. I also thank you for the very poignant gifts – a lovely Buffalo lantern (candlestick holder), and a packet of seeds with the instruction: "Plant seeds and plant truth - because equity is still an issue". I shall. Thank you very much.

*Teresa Gessner*

## Saving Title IX in a Few Clicks: Your Help Requested

As a part of the recent efforts to erode Title IX, a policy directive from the Department of Education threatens to water down the effectiveness in facilitating gender equity in athletics. A national coalition for Title IX is struggling to raise awareness around this issue.

The coalition is requesting support from Buffalo Branch AAUW members. Specifically, the coalition has asked members to contact their political representatives. The coalition has also

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requested that members visit and register at a new web site, <http://www.savetitleix.com>

By visiting this web site AAUW members can:

- Find the latest publications on the current Title IX struggle.
- With a few clicks, send a message to Secretary Spellings and congressional representatives.
- Watch a video of a recent Save Title IX press conference in Washington, DC.
- View a brief, 30-second, inspiring video message from Billie Jean King.

The Save Title IX Coalition needs our support. Every e-mail message sent to government officials makes a difference, and every log-on to the web site will be logged.

For further clarification or information on ways you can help in other ways, please phone branch member Don Sabo at 937-7522.

## Call to Committee

This year we are looking to enhance our relationship with the numerous colleges in Western New York and to establish some activities for new members, as well as members who may have just graduated, entered the work force or are starting a family. To further this goal I have been given the position of Education/College Liaison. I am hoping to get a group together to discuss the many issues of the women in the areas listed above and to set up a couple of networking functions throughout the year.

As a second year member of AAUW-Buffalo

Branch I would like to share my enthusiasm with you about the exciting things that we can do and learn from one another. I am sure you will find that getting involved, even if it is sharing an idea by e-mail, will enrich your experience with AAUW and will help us to meet another goal for this year, diversity.

Please send e-mail to [mgutrie@mandtbank.com](mailto:mgutrie@mandtbank.com) and let me know if you would like to join this fledgling group or if you have any ideas.

*Michelle Norris- Education/College Liaison*

## 2005-2006 Programs Have Something for Everyone

The Program Committee has put together a schedule of programs for the upcoming year that is sure to have something to please every AAUW member. While you will find some events that have become a tradition, such as the annual International Women's Day Dinner, others will be new ventures. We've tried to include a variety of topics, and a mix of educational offerings with plain old fun. Here then is the lineup AAUW Programs for 2005-2006:

September 12: Potluck Program, 5:30, Christ United Methodist Church. See details on page 3 in this newsletter.

October 8: Join the Uncrowned Queens for a Bus tour to Seneca Falls to attend the ceremony

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inducting Mary Talbert into the National Women's Halls of Fame. \$155 adult \$135 seniors and students. Includes bus trip, luncheon and ticket to induction ceremony.

October 15: AAUW District Conference, White Inn, Fredonia. Join our sister branches for a day of exchanging ideas and networking.

October 29: Tour Frank Lloyd Wright's Darwin Martin House, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., \$9.00. Parking is free at the Buffalo Zoo with special coupon. Can accommodate up to 100 people. Please note the facility is not handicap accessible due to the construction.

November 14: Women of the Americas Dinner, in conjunction with the Friends of Women's Rights National Park, WNY Chapter. Time and location will be announced.

December 10: Ho, Ho, Ho, a Humorous Holiday Luncheon, 12:00 noon, Salvatore's Italian Gardens.

Saturday, January 14: Brunch Program – Equity for the Whole Woman. Panel discussion on equity in health care, education, career advancement, reproductive rights, and pay equity.

February 7: Hoops! Group outing to see the UB Women's Basketball team face off against Michigan in recognition of Girls & Women in Sports Day.

February 9: More Than a Game, a breakfast/panel discussion hosted by the UB Athletics Department and the Institute for Education on Women & Gender, featuring student/athletes and coaches speaking about women in sports.

February: Attend a performance of "From the Souls of Black Folks" at the Langston Hughes Institute. Sponsored by the Diversity Committee.

March 8, 2005: International Women's Day Dinner, 6:00 p.m., sponsored by the Public Policy Committee, Samuel's Grande Manor.

March 19: Sister to Sister Summit, a speak out program for teen girls, 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Buffalo State College.

Saturday, April 8: Tech Savvy Women & Girls. Invited Speaker, Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson, President of Rochester Polytechnic Institute.

April 28-30: AAUW State Conference Gideon Putnam Resort and Spa in Saratoga Springs

May 6, 2005: Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon.

Other programs in formation include a winter Saturday morning program on osteoporosis and joint health. Also stay tuned for information about a computer tips and tricks workshop. The program schedule with contact information will be distributed at the September 12 Potluck – another great reason to attend! We are looking forward to an exciting and fulfilling year.

*Susan Clements  
Vice President, Program*