



NYS District 1

Buffalo Branch Advocate

March 2007
<http://aauw.buffalo.edu>
716-559-3037



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Deadline for the April issue is March 10. Please send articles to Betty Preble via e-mail: betty6935@adelphia.net. Articles received after that date will not appear in the next issue.



The American Association of University Women Buffalo Branch

presents

The Sixth Annual International Women's Day Celebration and Discussion **Economic Self Sufficiency for Women in East Africa**

Micro Financing Based on the model created by Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Laureate

Samuel's Grande Manor

8750 Main Street
Clarence, NY

Thursday, March 8, 2007, 6 p.m.

Speakers will be:

Arthur and Alison Hyde

Founders of Crossroads School in Kenya

Deb Naybor

Founder of BothYourHands

Helping Women and Children Worldwide

Winner of the AAUW "Catalyst for Change" Scholarship

Katherine Mang-Haag

Mother's Clubs of Tanzania

The meeting is open to the public and we encourage you to bring guests and friends.



Name(s) _____

Telephone # _____

Cost: \$35/person (Checks made payable to AAUW/EF)

Dinner choices (number of each):

Chicken Supreme _____ Poached Salmon _____ Pasta Primavera _____

Total enclosed _____

RESERVATIONS and CHECKS TO: **Judy Weidemann,**
21 Nye Hill Road, East Aurora, NY 14052 by March 1st

Questions - contact Judy (655-3649 or JWeide7170@aol.com)



Congratulations to Susan Clements upon receiving the 2007 AAUW - NYS Emerging Leader Award for the Buffalo Branch!

Presidents' Message

Dear Members,

It is January 29th and I have just read the February issue of the Advocate that arrived in the mail today. I am starting to think about my message for the March issue that has to be sent to our editor by February 10th. Sometimes I find it a bit confusing, but that is the world of publishing!

I would like you to think about the word advocacy. My Merriam-Webster's Dictionary defines advocacy as "the act or process of advocating or supporting a cause or proposal." The word advocacy is an important one for AAUW members. If you turn to the back of the Advocate, you will find it used twice in our mission statement. "AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy..." "The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding...." What are we an advocate for? I believe, put very simply, we support women and girls in their pursuit to become all they can be with as little "hassle" as possible. How do we do this? Through our Educational Foundation that, as Leona Barback explained so well in the February issue under the heading Book Sale Funds Spending, distributes monies from our book sale through grants and scholarships. We also do this through our Legal Advocacy Fund that helps fund and support women fighting sexual discrimination.

Ursula Goodenough, a Professor of Biology at Washington University, a leading cell biologist and author of a best-selling textbook on genetics, writes, "I went to college with 50's expectations: find a husband, raise two children, and continue to read novels. But everything changed when I took Zoology 1 as a distribution requirement. Nothing in my girls-school training had led me to understand that creatures are made up of cells and genes and enzymes, that life evolves, that kidneys control blood electrolytes. I was astonished. Better still, I was good at it. And Dad was quite as excited about my unexpected calling as I was. "Ursula a scientist! How splendid!" What a father. Ursula did meet those 50's expectations. She married, had five children and read novels. But she became so much more as well. Lucky for Ursula that she had a very supportive family and a dad who was Professor of the History of Religion at Yale.

I would like to think that the Buffalo Branch of AAUW helps fill the gap in the lives of those

"Ursulas" who do not have advocates as Ursula Goodenough did. What part of the advocacy mission can you be a part of? No matter what activity you choose, you are directly or indirectly helping one of those Ursulas. Whether you write a check or volunteer for one of our many activities, you are helping us fulfill our mission of advocacy for women and girls, and in turn helping yourself.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the International Women's Day Dinner on March 8th and Tech Savvy² on March 17th.

Judy

Mary Kellner and Judy Malamas
(kellneraauw@yahoo.com
and tsagewood@aol.com)



Special Notes:



The wine-tasting which was scheduled for April to benefit LAF has been cancelled. Please note the information on page 11 regarding a sponsored program -*The Best Woman* - which was not included in the roster listing.

Clarification—The 'Book Sale Funds Spending' article in the February newsletter indicated donations which included previously contributed and allocated (but unused) funds in addition to contributions from the current fiscal year. The article was meant to give an idea of the scope of programs funded by the booksale. We apologize for any confusion.



MEET THE BOARD:



Pat Swift MacClennan is chair of the Chamberlin Loan Fund and Funds for Education Committee. She works closely with the funds' treasurer and committee to distribute interest free loans and grants to Western New Yorkers attending colleges and universities. Money for the programs comes from a bequest

made by a member, Sarah A. Chamberlin, in the late 1930s, a portion of proceeds from the annual book sale and money dedicated to honoring or memorializing Branch members. Applications for loans and grants are received twice a year. Chamberlin funds are restricted to female students while Funds for Education can be given to men or women.

A former, reporter, editor and columnist for The Buffalo News, Pat has been a Branch member since her retirement in 2001 and has worked on every book sale since. This is her first board position. Her familiarity with the Branch comes from having written about its activities for more than 30 years. As the author of the Womanscope column for two decades, she supported most of the issues that concern AAUW. She and her husband, Paul, also retired, remain active in community affairs but do enjoy traveling, especially to visit two grandchildren.

Janet Fowler –Nominating Committee Chair and Budget and Finance Chair.

Janet Fowler, Past President of the Buffalo Branch, is a retired Financial Controller who devotes many volunteer hours to various organizations serving the community. She has been a member of the AAUW Buffalo for the past 12 years and has held various Board positions for the past 9 years. She is also actively involved in many of the Branch's Scholarship and Funds for Education Programs and is on the Book Sale Committee. Last year she formed, and now leads, the Green Thumbs Gardening Special Interest Group.



Outside of AAUW, Janet is President-elect of the Master Gardeners of Erie County Co-operative Extension, and is a volunteer with the consumer Horticulture Hotline, public space gardens, soil test clinics and conducts garden lectures. She is also the Co-Chair for Buffalo in Bloom. Janet is a graduate of Medaille College with a BS in Business Administration.



Tech Savvy² is coming up!

Don't get lost! The Student Union on the north campus of UB is the place to be on Saturday, March 17!

Please note that a map of the UB north campus is available online at <http://www.buffalo.edu/buildings/maps/NorthCampus.pdf>. Park in the Furnas lot, off White Road. School will not be in session so parking should not be difficult.



THE BUFFALO BRANCH ADVOCATE is published monthly as a bulletin of events for members and as an update on AAUW issues and programs.

Co-Presidents: Mary Kellner and Judy Malamas

Publisher/Editor: Betty Preble

Assistants: Judy Weidemann, Betty Krist, Adrienne Kotler

Send address changes to:

Freddie Cheek
406 Maynard Drive
Amherst, NY 14226-2929



For prospective or new member questions, contact VP Membership Recruitment, Bev Schwiegerling, (schwieg@adelphia.net, 652-7182)

For renewal questions, contact VP Membership Retention, Freddie Cheek (fscheek@adelphia.net, 835-6945) or Michele Maddox (maddoxm@adelphia.net, 882-2925)

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

March 2007

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Buffalo Branch Study/Interest Groups—March Schedules

Study groups are an excellent way to form friendships, network, educate and have fun. If you are interested in forming a new study group, please contact Janice Barber, study group coordinator (837-4558 or 849-6500) jbarber@btattys.com

Group: ¡Adelante! diversity book/discussion

Women's History Month

When: March 14, 6 p.m.

Where: Talking Leaves Bookstore, 3158 Main Street, Buffalo

Book: *Lighting the Way: Nine Women Who Changed Modern America*, by Karenna Gore Schiff

Facilitator: Clotilde Perez-Bode Dedecker, Ed.M. SUNYAB 2000, board member of the National Women's Hall of Fame

Book for April: *Money, a Memoir: Women, Emotions, and Cash* by Liz Perle

Contact: Sylvia P. Volk (881-1424 or Artisans_company@yahoo.com)

Group: American Biographies

When: March 13, 1:30 p.m.

Where: Eggertsville Snyder Library, 4622 Main Street, off Burroughs

Note: Accessible by Metro Bus Routes 48, 49 and 30

Book: *The Innocent Man: Murder and Injustice in a Small Town*, by John Grisham

Discussion Leader: Lillis McLean

Next: Your choice of a biography of Gen. Robert E. Lee, General of the Confederate Armies during the American Civil War.

Contact: Mary Fiore (886-6727)

Group: Clueless Mystery Book Club

When: March 28, 6 p.m.

Where: The Plaka Restaurant, 2904 Delaware Avenue, Kenmore

Book: *On Beulah Height*, by Reginald Hill

Discussion Leader: Barbara Libby

May Book: *Chamomile Mourning* by Laura Childs (or any in the Tea Shop mysteries series)

Reserve: Suzanne Grossman (837-8769)

Group: Current Events

When: March 1, 1:30 p.m.

Where: Unitarian Universalist Church, Main Street, east of Youngs Road

Topics: United for Peace and Justice National Advocacy Day, De-funding the War, national and local current news, Iran and U.S. policy.

Facilitator: Suzanne Grossman

Contact: Suzanne Grossman (837-8769)

Group: Dinner by the Book

When: March 21, 5:30 p.m.

Where: My Tomato Pie, Northtown Plaza, Sheridan Drive, Tonawanda

NOTE: If there is bad weather, check with restaurant to see if the event is proceeding.

Book: *Sunflower & The Secret Fan*, by Lisa See

Reviewer: Sandy Ihlefeld

May Book: *Beyond the Sky & The Earth: A Journey into Bhutan*, by Jamie Zeppa

Reserve: Fran Witnauer (837-5887 or Grandmafran44@yahoo.com)

Group: Education and Equity

Contact: Stacey Johnson (885-2486 or Jhnsn@buffalo.edu)

Group: Gourmet Food

Various locations and Times

Contact: Sylvia P. Volk (881-1424 or Artisans_company@yahoo.com)

Group: Green Thumbs Gardening

When: March 8, 7 p.m.

Where: Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library, 2580 Harlem Road, Cheektowaga, across from St. Joseph Hospital

Topic: The Beauty and Ease of Summer Bulbs

Contact: Janet Fowler (884-8698 or Janalanf@aol.com)

Group: Knitting Group

When: 4th Thursday, 2-4 p.m.

Where: Higher Grounds, Sheridan Drive, west of Millersport

Contact: Adrienne Kotler (688-0740)

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

AAUW Buffalo Branch's standing Committee on Public Policy will hold monthly meetings ON the FIRST MONDAY of each month at NOON.

The next meeting will be on Monday, **March 5 at 12:00, at the Family Tree Restaurant**, 4346 Bailey Ave. Eggertsville, NY 14226 (between Main and Sheridan; two blocks south of the Bailey Ave / Eggert Rd. intersection).

For more **information and lunch reservations** please call or e-mail: Teresa Gessner (716-634-5053 / tgessner@acsu.buffalo.edu).

VELMA COBB UPDATE

Meetings to review applications for the Velma Cobb scholarship will be held on Monday, March 5 and Monday, March 12 at 5:30 pm at the Pancake House on Main St in Williamsville. Volunteers needed! Please contact Susan McClary at eeyore123@verizon.net or 636-2854 if you are willing to serve on this committee. Obligations involve attendance at the two meetings and finalist interviews on Saturday, March 24 and Saturday, March 31, 10am-3pm at the Williamsville Library, but please e-mail even if you can only help with one part of the process.

Susan McClary

DIVERSITY REPORT

See page 4 for a summary of the March meeting arrangements.

March's book is *Lighting the Way: Nine Women Who Changed Modern America*. Author Karena Gore Schiff, who is most notably Al Gore's oldest daughter and a lawyer and journalist, has put together a collective biography of nine outstanding American women of the 20th century—some unjustly little known. The more celebrated are Ida B. Wells-Barnett (1862–1931), an African-American journalist who brought the horrors of lynching to public attention; Mother Jones (c. 1837–1930), an Irish immigrant and lifelong crusader for workers' rights; and Frances Perkins

(1882–1965), the first woman Cabinet member, appointed by FDR. Schiff also illuminates less renowned but highly influential figures, including Alice Hamilton (1869–1970) a physician and pioneer in calling attention to the dangers of industrial poisons, and Septima Poinsette Clark (1898–1987), child of a former slave, who became a teacher and tireless advocate for racial equality. Several of the subjects are still alive, like Dolores Huerta, cofounder with César Chávez of the United Farm Workers, and Gretchen Buchenholz, who established the Association to Benefit Children. Schiff has done excellent research, and though her prose isn't especially stylish, she shows her heroines as fully rounded figures. From Publishers Weekly

Clotilde Perez-Bode Dedecker, Ed.M. SUNYAB 2000 will facilitate the discussion. Dedecker has served as president of the Association of Junior Leagues International, is past president of Buffalo Prep and past chair of the Mayoral Council on Hispanic Issues. She has also been a trustee of the Buffalo Fine Arts Academy and the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo. Currently, Dedecker is cochair of the U.S. National Committee for the United Nations' International Year of the Volunteer, and serves on the Board of Directors of the NCCJ and the board of the National Association of Commissions for Women. Dedecker is a founding member of the Western New York Women's Fund and Women's Volunteer Roundtable, and has recently been elected to the board of the National Women's Hall of Fame. Additionally, Dedecker has worked as a teacher and freelance translator. She lives in Buffalo, NY, with her husband, Adrian, and their two children. She was also named the Buffalo Branch "Woman of Achievement" in 2005.

A facilitator is needed for April's book: *Money, A Memoir: Women, Emotions and Cash* by Liz Perle, Henry Holt and Co., 2006. Contact: Sylvia Volk 881-1424 or artisans_company@yahoo.com

The Diversity Committee is currently accepting names from everyone for consideration as a member of the AAUW Buffalo Diversity Advisory Group. If you know anyone who would fit this role, please submit their name (s) and a little information about them to Chair, Sylvia Volk.

Welcome to our New Members!

Mrs. Perryann L. Hoffman
20 Northwood Drive
Buffalo NY 14223
Home: 875 8443
Perryhoff@aol.com
B.S. Science
Cornell University

Ms Carlyn Yearley
1 Fox Chapel Rd
Williamsville, NY 14221
Home: 634-7283
B.A., English
SUNY at Buffalo

Miss Bridgette Antoinette Tojek
10240 County Rd #15
Fillmore, NY 14735
Home 585-567-8187
Cell: 716-200-2322
Email bat26@cornell.edu
Email 2tojeba31@mail.buffalostate.edu

Member updates - please note the following changes to roster information:

- Grace (Bunny) Blackstone's e-mail address is now bjblackstone@gmail.com
- Paula Hartman's e-mail address is now paula7hartman@earthlink.net

Welcome!

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

2007 JUNIOR LEAGUE DECORATOR SHOW-CASE

AAUW Buffalo Branch has agreed once again to participate as docents in the 2007 Junior League Decorator Show House. We have requested the dates below as our first and second choices. If you wish to be a volunteer on the AAUW shift (1st



date), please advise Sylvia Volk (artisans_company@yahoo.com or 881-1424). We need a minimum of 10 volunteers for a group, but would like to guarantee 20, which would garner more PR for us. You could also volunteer for the 2nd date, as some already have.

9:30 am-1:45 pm - Sat, May 12th OR Sat, May 19th

The Silverthorne Mansion, 877 Delaware Ave

(On the East side of Delaware, between Barker and Bryant, across from the International Institute)

Volunteers are able to tour the house FREE before or after their shift. If you are unable to volunteer on the Branch day/time, you may sign up for other shifts on other days as an individual volunteer: You may contact Nancy Stock at 662-4170 or Pam McCormack at 662-3073.

This is extremely good exposure for our Branch, as well as our joining the Greater Buffalo Community in working towards a good cause.

Sylvia P. Volk

Tech Savvy² Reception

The AAUW Buffalo Branch and the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences of the University at Buffalo will welcome Catherine Dee, author of inspirational books for girls, Christi Corbett of the national AAUW Educational Foundation, and other Tech Savvy workshop leaders on Friday evening, March 16 at 6 pm at the Buffalo Niagara Marriott in Amherst. Please contact Tamara Brown by March 7 at 949-2413 or tbforaauw@cs.com if you would like to attend the reception.

Women and Girls... Working together to get the Tech Savvy² Job Done!

SAVE THE DATE!

Remember to mark your calendars to reserve Saturday, May 5th for our branch's Annual Achievement Awards Luncheon and Annual Meeting.

Join us at the historic Roycroft Inn for a delicious meal and celebration of our branch members, election of officers, and recognition of this year's Woman of Achievement: JoAnn Falletta, Music Director of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

More information will follow in next month's newsletter. If you are interested in helping with the luncheon, please call Linda Suchocki at 716 823-4154.

AAUW LAF Plaintiff Awarded \$725,000 in Title IX Suit

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund-supported plaintiff, Michael Burch, reached a final settlement agreement with the University of California Regents on Jan. 19, 2007 after a nearly four-year struggle with the school system.

Burch filed suit in 2003 for Title IX violations, claiming that UC-Davis barred female participation in the wrestling program and terminated his contract after he showed support for the female wrestlers in 2001. He sued the Regents of the University of California and four university administrators for retaliation in violation of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the law that prohibits sex discrimination in education, and other federal programs. Since 2001, no women have participated in varsity wrestling at UC-Davis, despite the fact that two former female wrestlers won world championship medals. Burch's case is supported by the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, the nation's largest legal fund focused solely on sex discrimination in higher education. AAUW also supports the female wrestlers in a separate Title IX suit against the school.

The settlement awards Burch \$725,000 for damages and attorney fees. He will not be reinstated as head wrestling coach at UC-Davis and is not permitted to pursue employment at any school in the University of California system. Burch is now the assistant wrestling coach at Brown University and a religious studies lecturer at Rhode Island College and the Rhode Island School of Design.

"AAUW is very pleased with Mike's settlement," said AAUW LAF Interim Director Lisa Maatz. "Mike stood up against discrimination – even when it cost him his job – and today, justice has been served. Mike should be applauded for his courage in standing firm to the very end of this difficult saga," Maatz said. "It's regrettable that the university didn't do right by him – and the female wrestlers – from the very beginning."

Ms Maatz and Mr. Burch were both speakers at the AAUW New York State Convention in April, 2006.

Mary Kellner

January Branch Board Highlights

Buffalo Branch Meeting

Nominations were requested for the 2007 Emerging Leader award.

VP Program, Susan Clements, updated the board on the number of members who attended each of the fall events.

The board will purchase two half-page ads for the NY State Convention program for \$100 each. One will highlight Branch activities and the other, the 2007 Scholarship Book Sale.

Maestra JoAnn Falletta, Music Director of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, will be honored as the 2007 Woman of Achievement at the May luncheon. It will be held Saturday, May 5, 2007 at the Roycroft Inn in East Aurora.

AAUW NYS is compiling a book including "Women Making a Difference" in the state. Judy Malamas will submit an article about Mary Talbot. Each branch has been asked to submit articles about distinguished

women from their area.

Educational Accounts and Charitable Projects Meeting

Leona Barback, VP EF, reported that \$15,000 was sent to the Educational Foundation, requesting that it be used for Community Action grants. \$5,000 was sent to Dr. Don Sabo to fund his Title IX research.

Tamara Brown shared the plans for Tech Savvy² to be held Saturday, March 17. Board members were asked to distribute flyers and sign-up to help at the event. A reception will be held on Friday, March 16 from 6:00 -7:30 pm.

NY state LAF has credited the branch with donations of \$1,282 this year. Another \$607 will be sent from donations received when members renewed their 2006-7 branch memberships.

Priorities for the 110th Congress

The following is an article from the national AAUW Public Policy Committee. Remember, you can contact your own Congressmen easily through the AAUW website, www.aauw.org, with the Two Minute Activist.

"As our elected officials head to the nation's capital to convene the 110th Congress, it is important to look at the issues currently facing them and the American people. As AAUW continues to lead the fight for equity in education, civil rights, economic security and reproductive rights, we feel there are several issues that need to be made a priority during this upcoming session. Send a letter to the editor of your local paper emphasizing priorities for the upcoming Congressional session, including some of the ideas below. Be sure to sign it as an AAUW member. Congress has still not acted to pass a Fiscal Year 2007 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations (Labor-HHS-Education) bill. Despite this unfinished business, the new Congress will soon begin work on the Fiscal Year 2008 budget, and they should be reminded that it should reflect the values and priorities of the American people by maintaining a commitment to key education programs. During the next two years, Congress could be considering reauthorization for the Higher Education Act and the No Child Left Behind Act. This provides them the opportunity to improve these measures to help all Americans. The minimum wage is a working woman's issue. Nearly 12 million workers, 58 percent of whom are women, would receive a pay raise if the current proposed legislation to increase the federal minimum wage is enacted. This measure has passed in the House, but not in the Senate. Social Security is of particular importance to the economic security of women, as many depend on Social Security as their primary source of income at retirement. More than half of older women would fall into poverty without Social Security benefits. By sending a letter to the editor of your local paper, you are working to keep these issues fresh on the minds of your elected officials and in the community, so that the significance of these crucial programs is not forgotten."

BUFFALO BRANCH POSITIONS FOR THE 2007 - 2008 YEAR

The Nominating Committee is looking for candidates to fill the following positions for the 2007 – 2008 Board of Directors. If you, or anyone you know, is interested in holding one of these positions please advise one of the committee members (below) as soon as possible. If you would like more information on any of these positions, also please feel free to contact one of the committee members.

Positions to be filled:

- President – Elect – one year term
- Program VP – two year term
- Membership Retention VP – two year term
- Treasurer (Branch) – two year term
- Chamberlin Loan Funds & Funds for Education Treasurer – two year term
- Nominating Committee Chair – one year term

Committee members:

Janet Fowler – JANALANF@aol.com 884-8698
Judy Clare – clare273@cs.com 633-1294
Diane Sina – dsina4188@aol.com 851-1567
Cherie St. Pierre – cherstpier@adelphia.net 837-7679
Marilyn Todd – mariltodd@aol.com 691-4423

Single Women Rely on Job Status

The following is an article from the AAUW Government Relations Department:

A commentary published on the women's e-news website pointed to the increased opportunity of higher-level, well-paying jobs to explain, in part, the increasing trend of women choosing to remain single. A study done by the authors found single women noted the importance of a good job to their overall well-being more so than married women did. According to the article, "A single woman in a high-prestige job had a good chance of achieving high well-being, while a single woman in a low-level job had the cards stacked against her." AAUW continues to promote education as the gateway to women's economic security.

CHAMBERLIN LOAN FUND AND FUNDS FOR EDUCATION UPDATE

Chamberlin Loan Fund and Funds for Education will dispense \$13,000 in interest-free loans and grants to six Western New York college students this spring. The Buffalo Branch board approved the allocations at its Feb. 7 meeting.

The six students included one male who received Funds for Education loans and grants and one woman who was given a grant from Funds for Education. Other recipients were awarded Chamberlin loans and grants.

Michael Peacock, a junior in University at Buffalo majoring in business administration, was awarded a \$1,500 loan and \$500 grant; Bridgette A. Tojek, a Buffalo State College graduate student, was given a \$2,500 grant from Funds for Education, a portion of which was taken from the fund named for Ruthe Sicherman.

Chamberlin loans and grants were awarded to the following:

Stephanie Calhoun, University at Buffalo Law School, \$1,500 grant and \$500 loan; Madelyn Henry, University at Buffalo nursing student, a \$1,000 loan and \$1,500 grant; Kathie L. Aspass, University at

Buffalo graduate student in art history, a \$1,500 loan; Piyali Chatterjee, a University at Buffalo graduate student in economics, a \$1,200 loan and \$1,300 grant.

Four of the six applicants have previously received loans and grants.

The Chamberlin Loan Fund Committee will be accepting applicants again this spring. Members interested in serving on the interviewing committee may contact Pat Swift MacClennan, chair, at 837-2298 or at Swiftscope@aol.com.

Applications are available at www.aauw.buffalo.edu or by writing to the Chamberlin Loan-Funds for Education chair, American Association of University Women, Buffalo Branch, and PO Box 397, Amherst, N.Y. 14226-0397. Prospective applicants may also direct inquiries to the e-mail address Chamberlinfund@yahoo.com. or by calling 559-3037. Applications must be received by June 1, 2006.

Pat MacClennan

Book Sale News

For the 2006 AAUW Buffalo Branch Scholarship Book Sale, a Volunteer Empowerment committee was formed. It was headed by Gretchen Stringer and Judy Weidemann. All Buffalo Branch members were sent a "Blue Packet" with information on the Sale. Opportunities for volunteering were offered. Tabulating the number of volunteers and the number of volunteer hours for the 2006 Sale showed an increase in both over previous years. The "Blue Packet" will be used again this year. Expect to receive it in late March. It will be your opportunity to be part of the 2007 Scholarship Book Sale. We will need help as soon as we move into the site and through the Sale which takes place from May 30 - June 3, 2007.

Volunteer opportunities are available now. There is sorting every Tuesday at the Kensington Bailey

Neighborhood Housing Services, 995 Kensington Ave. in Buffalo from 9:30 - 12:30. There will be sorting at The Waters in East Aurora on March 23, 2007 from 9:30 - 12:30. Call or e-mail Judy Weidemann at (655-3649 or JWeide7170@aol.com) for further information.



Nora DeVoe,

Book Sale Publicity Chair

Judy Weidemann,

Volunteer Empowerment Coordinator

International Institute Invites AAUW Members to Attend Programs

The International Institute's Great Decisions program is offering a reduced rate for AAUW members to participate in presentations by leading experts on foreign policy issues. South Africa will be discussed on February 26, the Middle East on March 5, and Mexico on March 12. If you would like to attend, contact IIB Director of Development, Bruce Acker, 883-1900 x 320, or Ivv@iibuff.org. The cost of \$10 is payable at the door.

Top Ten Reasons to Serve your AAUW Organization

As I was contemplating why a member would wish to serve on a branch, state or national board, or lead a committee or study group, I thought of the following benefits:

10. An excuse to purchase a new outfit and all the accessories
9. Time with adults - other than your significant other
8. Perhaps a chance to travel and see new places
7. Use the degree you so diligently worked to obtain
6. An opportunity to share your particular gifts and talents
5. Engage in life-long learning, stretching your horizons
4. Get better acquainted with other members
3. Share in the decision making process of the organization
2. Advance the mission of AAUW for future generations
1. Fill your heart with the benefit of service to others

Mary Kellner

858-8526

"If you don't remember anything else, remember this phone # 858-8526." That was the opening to the presentation by Pam Krawczyk, commissioner of the Erie County Department of Senior Services at our January program. I am a woman "of a certain age", that is a senior citizen, and I was unaware of the huge list of services available to seniors in Erie County.

Everyone of the more than twenty attendees received a folder full of information including a handy Guide to Services for Older People. I randomly opened the guide to page 5 and the headings include: Socialization and Recreation, Recreation Permits and Discounts, Transportation, Health Care in Your Home, Handicapped Parking, Educational Opportunities and Volunteer Opportunities. And that was only one page! If you were unable to come to the program, I would suggest calling the above number and requesting this guide or the answer to any question you might have concerning services the county provides seniors.

You say you are definitely not a senior and do not need that type of service at this time? Think again! Do you know a senior or might you become a caregiver at some time? Of course. And no matter how many veggies you eat every day, you too will become a senior hopefully some day. I think it's good to be aware of what is available, so that when the time comes when you might need help, you will be knowledgeable of what is out there, who is eligible, and how to get it.

Kudos go out to Bertha Boston and her committee: Lois Dabney, Peggy Meinel, Marguerite Collesano and Sylvia Volk for putting together this fine program. Thank you, ladies.

Judy Malamas

And an additional note:

For those of you who might have missed the January Program on services to seniors in WNY or for those who might want careful notes, Pamela Krawczyk, our presenter, has made her PowerPoint presentation available for us. You can download it from the homepage of our website <http://aauw.buffalo.edu> What makes this especially attractive is that all the services she lists are hotlinks so it's really convenient. Thanks, Pamela, for all that GREAT information.

Betty Krist

We Know That Sometimes the Best Man for the Job is a Woman!

End your celebration of Women's History Month with a play that reminds us of today's political climate.



In the not too distant future, in an America divided by war and cultural conflict, Dr. Nea Gilchrist, former Secretary of State, is the first African-American woman to serve as Vice President of the United States. She is the conservative Republican nominee for the presidency. Senator Amanda Dean Styles, a northeastern liberal and the widow of a former presidential candidate, is the Democratic nominee.

Tonight is their first debate.

AAUW is pleased to support The Ujima's Theatre's production of "The Best Woman". The play runs through March until the first week of April. We encourage members to see the play on Sunday, March 18, at 6pm as AAUW will be recognized for our sponsorship at that performance. AAUW members will also receive the AAUW group rate for any performance.

The Ujima theatre is located at 545 Elmwood Avenue in Buffalo. Performances are every Friday and Saturday at 8pm and Sundays at 6pm. Tickets may be obtained by calling the Ujima box office at 883-0380. The AAUW group rate is \$18 for general admission (\$15 for students and adults over the age of 55).

Call Tamara Brown at 649-9871 with questions.

Women Making a Difference

April 27-29, 2007

Dear Members and Friends,

You are cordially invited to attend the 2007 New York State Convention of AAUW where we join together under the theme, "Women Making a Difference." This is a water-shed time for AAUW in New York State. Last year we dedicated our convention to the celebration of AAUW's first 125 years. This year we look to the next 125 years. It will also be our first convention using the new Association theme, "AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research."

A wonderful convention has been planned in a beautiful location. I have heard our key-note speaker, Sally Chamberlain, and you are in for a treat. The workshops expand our exploration of the AAUW mission and will inspire us all. We will have these special events: Public Policy on Sunday morning, EF gala and walk and LAF luncheon and baskets, among others. Should things AAUW become a little intense, there is a lovely town to explore and that spa to enjoy.

Convention is energizing, it is inspiring, it is one of the truly nice things you can do for yourself. We have worked hard to keep the price to you the same as last year even though costs are up. Come and enjoy!

Looking forward to seeing you there,

Diane Haney, AAUW-NYS President

And a special note from Mary Kellner:

Please consider a trip to Saratoga Springs in April. You will learn so much about the AAUW organization. It is a beautiful hotel and we are in for a real treat this year judging from the list of workshops and speakers. You may also take an art gallery and shopping tour in Saratoga Springs. The Buffalo Branch may send 6 voting delegates and we also need a few names as alternates. You will find the application and list of workshops on the state website, www.aauw-nys.org, or call Mary Kellner, 741-8127 for further information. March 28, 2007 is the deadline for hotel registration.

In principle and 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 advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research .



AAUW
EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION

The AAUW Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.



AAUW
LEGAL
ADVOCACY
FUND

The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

Upcoming Events

March - Celebrating Women's History Month

Wed, Mar 7 - Board Meeting 6 pm, Daemen College, Duns Scotus Hall, Room 221

Thurs, Mar 8 - International Women's Day Dinner 6pm, Samuel's Grande Manor

Fri, Mar 16 - Reception for Tech Savvy², 6-7:30 pm, Buffalo Marriott

Sat, Mar 17 - Tech Savvy², 8:45 am-3 pm, SUNY Buffalo North Campus

Sun, Mar 18 - Ujima Theatre production of *The Best Woman*, 6 pm

Sat, Mar 31 - Sister to Sister Summit, 8:15 am-3:30 pm SUNY College at Buffalo

Wed, Apr 4 - Board Meeting 6 pm, Daemen College, Duns Scotus Hall, Room 221

Fri-Sun, Apr 27-29 - NYS Convention, Saratoga Springs

This newsletter was delivered to the William Street Post Office, Buffalo, NY on February 23, 2007.
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