



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

NYS District 1

Buffalo Branch Newsletter

October 2006
<http://aauw.buffalo.edu>
716-559-3037



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District 1 Conference – October 14

You still have a few days to register for the District 1 Conference, October 14, 2006, at the beautiful, historic White Inn in Fredonia, NY. This is a wonderful way to socialize with other AAUW members in the state and learn what they are doing in their branches. Registration is scheduled from 9-9:30 am and you should be headed for home by 2 pm. We will all car pool but Fredonia is a shorter ride than you may think, especially when chatting with friends along the way.

We will be exchanging programs around the theme of “*Initiating Positive Societal Change Through Lifelong Learning.*” Tamara Brown, Susan McClary, and Betty Krist will be making a presentation about our Tech Savvy event. Betty Preble and Connie Pilato (Jamestown Branch) will be showing us how we can utilize the NY State AAUW website more effectively. We will be sharing our program schedules for the coming year and you’ll hear about some inspiring women who have been involved in the history of Western New York. There will be baskets for a raffle with the proceeds going to each branch for LAF. We have been asked to bring books to sell. They were a big hit last year.



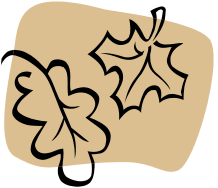
The conference fee of \$14 covers a continental breakfast, lunch and the materials for the day. Lunch includes a chicken entrée, soup and salad bar, dessert, and beverages. Reservations need to be made soon by contacting Mary Kellner (741-8127) or returning the enclosed registration form by **Friday, October 6, 2006.** (Please make checks payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch.)

Note - registration form on page 11 of this newsletter.

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Presidents' Message

Dear Members,

Fall is my favorite time of year. I love nothing more than watching the leaves change color. When I was growing up in Jamestown, NY, we walked to school. Would you believe – NO school buses! I loved to kick the leaves on the sidewalk as I walked along. We actually hurried home to rake leaves into big piles so we could jump into them.

I am looking forward to the NY State District 1 Conference this month in Fredonia. Last year it was a beautiful, sunny day and I could enjoy all the colors on the trees as I drove down the NY State Thruway. I hope you will join us. It will be a fun day. For program and registration information, please see the article about the conference on a later page in this newsletter.

We are off and running with an exciting schedule of events for the 2006-2007 year. The September Potluck Dinner continues to be one of the programs with the best attendance. Tamara Brown and Marguerite Collesano are to be commended as co-chairs of the dinner for all the behind the scenes preparation. We were privileged to have a visitor from the state board, Cheryl Papa, Vice President - Legal Advocacy Fund. It was also exciting to welcome one of our own branch members, Linda Brodsky, to the podium.

Last season, a Strategic Plan was developed for the Buffalo Branch. We are now charged with the task of putting the plan into action. We hope to make membership in our organization so attractive, that we will be constantly welcoming new people. Then the members will be so involved in programming, study groups, reading scholarship and loan applications, or collecting books for the Book Sale that they will never want to go home. No longer will the community think we are members of the United Auto Work-

ers Union. Soon everyone in the area will know what the letters AAUW stand for - the American Association of University Women. We should be "Talking Proud."

Till next month,

Mary

Mary Kellner and Judy Malamas



(kellneraauw@yahoo.com and tsagewood@aol.com)

Deadline for the November issue is October 10. Please send articles to Betty Preble via e-mail, betty6935@adelphia.net. Articles received after that date will not appear in the October issue. Also send her a request if you wish to receive a copy of the newsletter via e-mail.

THE BUFFALO BRANCH NEWSLETTER 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 (fscreek@adelphia.net, 835-6945) or Michele Maddox (maddoxm@adelphia.net, 882-2925)

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

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Vo. CXVII No. 2
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Sister to Sister Summit

Once again the Buffalo Branch has been a prime supporter of the Sister to Sister Summit. We also get donations from individuals and agencies such as Buffalo Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Services, Girl Power, the Coalition on Child Abuse and Neglect, BPLAAN (a coalition of agencies working on issues that concern girls), and many, many in kind donations from all the organizations and agencies that participate in the Summit, particularly Buffalo State College and Project FLIGHT.

The members of the board of directors who are AAUW members, besides myself, are Peggy Meinel (Treasurer), Carol Griffith, Susan Clements, and Brenda Battleson. Other board members represent the National Conference for Community and Justice,

Kaleida Health, Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers, the Federal Women's Program Network, Buffalo State College, and Vanita Evans is a member of the FWPN and also a Community Representative for the FBI. We have several young women on the board who help us with programming and keep us aware of current issues that concern girls.

We are now beginning to work on the 2007 Summit. It will be held at Buffalo State College on Saturday, March 31.

Your continuing support is so important to girls in WNY. Thanks, again,

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THANK YOU

Buffalo in Bloom would like to thank the AAUW Green Thumbs Garden Group and other branch members who volunteered their time to be Buffalo in Bloom garden scouts for the 2006 season. Their participation was greatly appreciated.



Sincerely,

Janet Fowler and Kate Bukowski, Co-chairs of Buffalo in Bloom

Cultural Interests

"To Do List" from Joan Monk, AAUW-NYS Cultural Interests Director

1. Read any good books lately? Please forward the title and author to me with a brief recommendation by November 1st. (ftmaven@bestweb.net)
2. Fill out the Cultural Interest Survey on the AAUW-NYS website or call Joan at 914-245-7704 with your ideas and suggestions).

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Buffalo Branch Study/Interest Groups—October Schedules

Note: If you are interested in forming a new study group, please contact Janice Barber, study group coordinator (837-4558 or 849-6500 or jbarber@btattys.com)

Group: ¡Adelante! Diversity Book/Discussion Group

When: 2nd Wednesday, 6 p.m.

Where: Talking Leaves, 3158 Main at Winspear, Buffalo

Parking behind store and at Wilson Farms

“Disability Awareness Month”

Program Details on Page 8

Guests welcome as well as AAUW members.

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

Group: American Biographies

When: October 10, 1:30 p.m.

Where: Eggertsville Snyder Library, 4622

Main St., parking off Burroughs

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

Book: Continued discussion of “*Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*” by Doris Kearns Goodwin

Facilitator: Pauline Dyson

Contact: Mary Fiore (886-6727)

Group: Knitting Group

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

Where: Higher Grounds, Sheridan Drive, west of Millersport

Note: new time and place

Contact: Adrienne Kotler (688-0740)

Group: Clueless Mystery Book Club

When: October 25, 6 p.m.

Where: Plaka’s Restaurant, Delaware Avenue, Kenmore

Topic: The various *Perry Mason* books by Erle Stanley Garner

Discussion Leader: Karen Howard

Reserve: Suzanne Grossman (837-8769)

Group: Dinner by the Book

When: October 18, 5:30 p.m.

Where: My Tomato Pie, Northtown Plaza,

Sheridan Drive, Tonawanda

Topic: “*Tender at the Bone*” by Ruth Reichl

Reviewer: Suzanne Grossman

Guests welcome, as well as AAUW members

Reserve: Fran Witnauer (837-5887 or

Grandmafran44@yahoo.com)

Group: Education and Equity

The Education and Equity October Meeting

will be announced to those who sign up to

participate, via e-mail and telephone, after the

September meeting of the combined Policy

and Education & Equity Committee meeting.

Contact: Stacey Johnson (885-2486 or

Jhnsn@buffalo.edu)

Group: Great Decisions Discussion Group

When: October 5, 1:30 p.m.

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

Topic: “Turkey: On Europe’s Verge?”

Group Leader for discussion: Ruth Seitz

Contact: Suzanne Grossman (837-8769)

Group: Gourmet Food

Joint meeting with Green Thumbs

When: October 12, 7 p.m.

Where: 33 Linwood Avenue, Buffalo

Topic/Demonstration: Edible Flower Recipes

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

Group: Green Thumbs Gardening

Joint Meeting with Gourmet Food, See above

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

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Chamberlin Loan Fund and Funds for Education (FFE) will dispense \$19,500 in interest-free loans and grants to eight Western New York college students this fall.

The Buffalo Branch board approved the allocations at its Sept. 5 meeting. It is expected that action on a ninth applicant will be taken at the October board meeting.

Students receiving awards include three attending the University of Buffalo's accelerated bachelor of nursing degree program. They are Kelly B. Rockwell of Eden, a Susquehanna University graduate; Marie-Andree Peacock of Lockport, a University of Maryland graduate, and Dawn Collier-Hezel of Buffalo, a Buffalo State College graduate. Each received \$2,500 in combinations of loans and grants. All expect to work in health care in Western New York after completing the program in May 2007.

Amanda E. Ribbeck of Sanborn was awarded a \$2,500 Chamberlin Fund grant. A junior at Cornell University, she is majoring in biology and plans to attend medical school.

An award-winning vocalist and leader of a rock band, Alison A. Pipitone also is doing graduate work in English literature in Buffalo State College. The University of Southern California graduate received a \$1,080 Chamberlin loan and a \$1,420 Jamieson grant. She expects to finish her degree in December and teach in a Western New York college or community college.

Sarah Brown of Williamsville, a senior in Houghton College who expects to graduate in December, wants to teach in an inner city bilingual classroom and will be doing her student teaching this semester in just such a venue. She will be helped with a \$1,500 Chamberlin loan and A \$1,000 Fleysher grant.

Joy Faba of Buffalo is working for certification to teach high school English and completing a master's degree in literacy in Niagara University. She plans to finish her program in December. The Buffalo State College graduate and elementary school teacher was given a \$500 loan and \$2,000 FFE grant.

Lisa McCaffrey of Hamburg is a senior in Messiah College in Pennsylvania and expects to graduate in May of 2007. Her studies are focused on Christian ministries and her goal is to work with young people. She spent the summer as an intern with the Salt 'N Light Ministry in Pennsylvania. She was given a \$1,000 Chamberlin loan and a \$1000 FFE grant.

Applications for Chamberlin Fund interest-free loans and Funds for Education Grants 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, 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 December 1, 2006.

Pat Swift MacClennan,, Chamberlin Fund Chair

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Meet the Board Members - our Membership Retention VPs



Michele Maddox is relatively new to AAUW, having joined in 2005. She was asked to join the Board as VP for Retention and shares this VP position with Freddie Cheek. They have worked to improve the retention of AAUW members. New member networking events, welcoming new members at get togethers held prior to regular events as well as providing greeters have all been initiated. A new member mentoring program is currently being implemented. Additionally, they would like to encourage all AAUW members to welcome and include all new members as they plan to attend AAUW events.

What does she do in the real world? She is the Director of Retention Services at D'Youville College where she works to improve student success by changing the institutional culture to one that is student centered. She has held this position since 1997 when she completed her doctorate in organization, administration and policy from UB. Her position is very interesting, every day different and always a challenge.

Michelle has three children—her two daughters both got married this year and her son started college. She also loves to garden, fish, knit, ski, bike, and walk.

She believes strongly in the AAUW's mission of equity for all women in all areas of life.

Freddie Cheek is Co-VP of Membership Retention for the Buffalo Branch and has been a member of AAUW for 12 years. She has also served as VP for LAF of the Buffalo Branch and Leadership Portfolio Editor for the New York State AAUW. In her present position, she helps organize initiatives to keep members involved in the Branch. Freddie also manages the membership database and produces the Roster.



Freddie operates her own résumé writing and career coaching business, Cheek & Associates, LLC. Her work has been published in more than 16 résumé and job search books and she has received national honors for her résumé writing and dedication to her profession. She holds numerous résumé writing and career certifications. Freddie resides in Amherst with her husband, 2 cats, and a Golden Retriever.

Meet the Board Members - our Membership Retention VPs



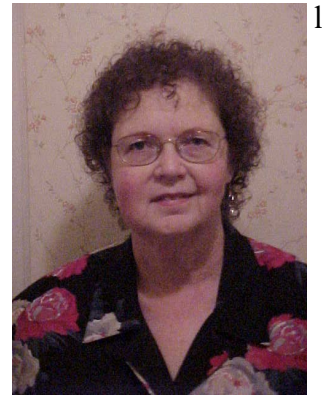
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Book Sale News

We are very fortunate to have a new place to store and sort books since the site on Sheridan Drive proved to be unacceptable. Books for the 2007 Sale are being sorted at the Kensington Bailey Neighborhood Services Center at 995 Kensington Ave. There is ample parking space at the Center. Since the Sale has grown so large it is necessary to sort year round. Each Tuesday morning will be sorting day at the Center. We will sort from 9:30 AM- 12:00 noon starting September 26, 2006. Call Judy at 655-3649 if you are available to sort. This is an opportunity for newer members to become acquainted with the workings of the **Fabulous Buffalo Branch Book Sale**. Of course we are depending upon our faithful sorters from the past years to sort as well.

See you at the sorting site!

Judy Weidemann, Book Sale Committee

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT:

This October instead of holding a committee meeting we support our Branch's designated District 1 Conference in Fredonia, on Saturday morning, October 14, 2006. See you all there.

For information about the Committee, or to receive notices and reminders of its upcoming meetings, please contact one of the chairs by phone or by e-mail - Teresa (634-5053 or tgssner@acsu.buffalo.edu) or Karen (835-6271 or ro99step@adelphia.net).

SAVE THE DATE

New York State
AAUW Convention

April 27-29, 2007

We return to the
Gideon Putnam
Hotel in Saratoga
Springs!

TS²

A committee for **Tech Savvy²** is being created to plan this upcoming program. If you would like to work on planning and/or participate on Saturday, March 17, please call Tamara Brown at 649-9871 or send an e-mail to tbforaauw@cs.com.

Tentative plans are underway. Committees will begin meeting in the next month and will continue to work toward making this an exciting program. We welcome your input and energy as our Branch and UB President Simpson look forward to welcoming up to 300 girls, their parents, and other interested stakeholders to UB. Next spring, more girls from Western New York will be *tech-savvy!*

Tamara Brown, Tech-Savvy Chair

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New York State
AAUW Convention

April 27-29, 2007

We return to the
Gideon Putnam
Hotel in Saratoga
Springs!

TS²

A committee for **Tech Savvy²** is being created to plan this upcoming program. If you would like to work on planning and/or participate on Saturday, March 17, please call Tamara Brown at 649-9871 or send an e-mail to tbforaauw@cs.com.

Tentative plans are underway. Committees will begin meeting in the next month and will continue to work toward making this an exciting program. We welcome your input and energy as our Branch and UB President Simpson look forward to welcoming up to 300 girls, their parents, and other interested stakeholders to UB. Next spring, more girls from Western New York will be *tech-savvy!*

Tamara Brown, Tech-Savvy Chair

Diversity by Sylvia Volk, Chair

¡Adelante! Book/Discussion Group: Disability Awareness Month Don't miss Wednesday, October 11 '06 (See Interest Group Section, pg 4): "*Waist-High in the World: A Life Among the Nondisabled*" by Nancy Mairs, Beacon Press, 1997. Facilitators: *Melinda Saran* and *Lisa Hackett-Tuyn*, SUNY Buffalo.

Author: Nancy Mairs, a gifted essayist who is fierce and funny by turns, landed in a wheelchair years ago due to degenerative multiple sclerosis that has sapped much of her strength. She bends an agile mind and sharp tongue around the daily tasks of seeing eye-to-navel with a world that clearly prefers non-disabled "normals." One candid, pained essay tells of longing to give care, not just accept it. Others describe the shifting line in the sands marking limits she could live with; teeth-grinding frustration at foolish building practices that keep even public bathrooms out of her reach; and a discomfoting adventure as an undercover agent exposing a drug fraud aimed at people with diseases like MS.

Facilitator *Melinda R. Saran* is chair of the Committee on Issues Affecting People with Disabilities. She is Vice Dean for Student Affairs at the University at Buffalo Law School. Ms. Saran continues to teach a course on Disability Law and a colloquium at the Law School. A graduate of the Nichols School, Ms. Saran attended the University of Rochester where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology, *cum laude*, and a Master of Public Health degree. She received her Juris Doctor degree from the University at Buffalo Law School. An active member of the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Legal Education and Admission to the Bar and the Committee on Issues Affecting People with Disabilities, Ms. Saran was appointed to a three year term as chair of the Committee in June 2004.

New AAUW Buffalo Gourmet Food Interest Group and AAUW Buffalo Green Thumb Garden Group

We plan a joint meeting for October at 7:00p.m., Thursday, October 12th at 33 Linwood Ave. (Trinity Tower's Community Room.) Enter through the front entrance.

The Gourmet Food group is in its formulation stage and this will be its first meeting with members and friends. The discussion of Edible Flowers will be facilitated by Janet Fowler and Sylvia Volk. We will sample food using flowers cooked by 3-4 of our members with one or two demonstrations. We ask all attendees to bring with them (to share) a recipe using "Edible Flowers."

We look forward to seeing not only members of the Green Thumb Garden Group but branch members interested in the Gourmet Food Group.

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Opportunity for Board Service

Still Available

The position of **College/ University Relations Representative** is still available on the Buffalo Branch board of directors. The Buffalo area is blessed with many institutions of higher education. Up to now, Bryant and Stratton is the only college that has joined AAUW.

We do need visibility on campus. A new marketing plan was presented at the NY State AAUW Convention last April. It contains information on why and how to go onto the campuses and what to do when we get there. We brought back posters, flyers and bookmarks to distribute to each college or university in the area.

AAUW has programs on equity and sexual harassment. AAUW has done much research in these areas and we need to get the word out. We learned that 2/3 of college students indicate they have experienced some type of sexual harassment. We know that salaries and the treatment of men and women on the job are still not equitable. It is important to let students know where they can look for help. If they are aware of AAUW, they may join as student affiliates, apply for our scholarships or loans, or have the organization in the back of their minds to join after graduation. There are many reasons to increase visibility on the campuses in our area.

The College/ University Relations Representative would act as a liaison between the branch and area schools and between the branch and the state on related matters. He or she would maintain a current listing of eligible schools, along with a list of designated representatives of the institution. Annually, she would also provide a news release to student or college papers giving information on membership with a special appeal to faculty members and graduate students.

If you would be willing to serve as College/ University Relations Representative , or would like further information, call Mary Kellner (741-8127) or Judy Malamas (632-0461.) If you know the correct person to speak with on a particular campus to arrange displaying a poster about AAUW, also let us know. We want to be SEEN and HEARD!



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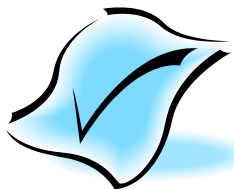
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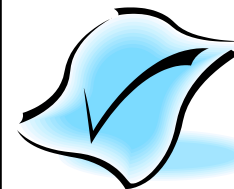
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Kids Voting is an award winning program to encourage civic responsibility in young people. Each year AAUW Buffalo Branch members help. Members can volunteer for 3 hour shifts at School 81, located at 140 Tacoma Avenue in Buffalo on Tuesday, November 7, 2006. Call Judy Weidemann at 655-3649 to volunteer.



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DUES REMINDER

The 2006-7 year is underway and we are looking forward to a year's worth of exciting, informative, and enjoyable programs. AAUW Buffalo Branch also offers terrific study and interest groups and the camaraderie of educated women. We want to alert some past members that they have not yet renewed their membership. If you have double asterisks next to your name on the address label, **it indicates that we had not received your dues** as of the mailing of this newsletter. If you do not renew, this will be your last newsletter. Please mail in your dues. We want you all to keep receiving our newsletters so that you don't miss out on a single event and that you can keep reading about the latest AAUW happenings.



Legal Advocacy Fund

At our Annual Potluck Dinner in September, Linda Brodsky, MD, who is an LAF -supported plaintiff gave an enlightening speech that brought awareness to the plight of plaintiffs. Our NY State LAF Vice President, Cheryl Papa, described to us how LAF started 25 years ago and has grown to support litigants and to work to bring about awareness for *equity for all women*.

These two very dynamic speakers raised awareness of the need for support of our Legal Advocacy endeavors. At the event, we had basket raffles that brought in \$158 that will be earmarked for support of the Brodsky case. Donations totaled \$225 that also will be for the support of Linda Brodsky.

Thank you to all who supported LAF. We hope to reach the Association goal of \$5 per member for contributions for LAF. We are short \$400 to reach our goal for the year. Please consider sending a contribution for this extremely important cause. *Equity for all women*. Checks should be made payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch. You may specify if you want your contribution to go for a particular litigant. Thanks for all your support!

Send to: Sharon Pilarski, 23 Fairway Lane, Depew, NY 14043

UN DAY CO-SPONSORED BY AAUW AND THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

A "Briefing on the Status of Human Trafficking Around the World" will be held on Wednesday, November 15, at United Nations Headquarters in New York City from 9:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.

Registration fee for co-sponsoring organization members	\$55.00
Optional 12:45-1:45 Buffet lunch in Delegates' Dining Room	\$33.00
Optional 2:30-3:30 Tour of UN	\$12.00

Send checks to:

LWVNYS, UN Event, 35 Maiden Lane Albany, NY 12207

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AAUW of New York State is calling for nominations for the officers to be elected at the NYS 2007 convention:

- Membership VP
- Legal Advocacy Fund VP
- Treasurer
- Secretary/Bylaws

If you have suggestions for filling these offices, please contact Laurie Ginnitti by October 15.

Suggestions for NYS bylaws changes are also due to Laurie by October 15.

Detailed information on both these issues is available on the AAUW– NYS website (AAUW-NYS.ORG). Laurie can be contacted at:

Loreen Ginnitti
75 Third St.
Westfield NY 14787
716-326-4270
shyrl@netsync.net

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YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

BE EDUCATED, INFORMED, AND A VOTING CITIZEN!

Look for information on issues at: www.aauw.org/issue_advocacy
and information on getting out the vote at: www.aauw.org/onevote

RESERVATION FORM- DISTRICT 1 CONFERENCE

October 14, 2006

Name _____ Phone _____

\$14 per person Checks are payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch

Mail to: Mary Kellner, 8470 Lakemont Drive, East Amherst, NY 14051

to be received by **October 6, 2006.**



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AAUW promotes education and equity for all women and girls, lifelong 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.



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

Upcoming Events

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Daemen College, Business Bldg. Room 103
- Fri, Oct 6** - Reservations due for District 1 Conference
- Sat, Oct 14** - District Conference 9:00 a.m.
White Inn, Fredonia, NY
- Wed, Nov 1** - Board Meeting 6 p.m.
Daemen College, Business Bldg. Room 103
- Thurs, Nov 2** - New member mixer, 4:30-6:30
J.P Bullfeathers
- Thurs, Nov 9** - Friends of Women's Rights
National Parks reception
- Sat, Nov 18** - Tours at the Buffalo & Erie
County Historical Society

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Education Accounts &
Charitable Projects AAUW
PO Box 311
Buffalo, NY 14201-0311

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