



NYS District 1

Buffalo Branch Advocate

April 2008
<http://aauw.buffalo.edu>
716-559-3037



DETER·DETECT·DEFEND



HOW TO PREVENT IDENTITY THEFT Buffalo Branch Program, April 8, 2008

Highlights:

- Pg 1 - April Program
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- Pg 8 - Dates to Remember

The deadline for each issue is the 10th of the previous month. Articles received after that will not appear in the next issue.

Please send articles to Betty Preble via e-mail: betty.preble@gmail.com

“Few crimes have made people more anxious more quickly as the sudden onslaught of identity theft. It’s in the newspapers every day and on the news every night. People are worried that someone’s going to run up charges on their credit cards or fleece their bank accounts while their backs are turned. And there’s some reason to worry: All a thief has to do is steal something as basic as a Social Security number to become a real public enemy. And while these crimes are relatively easy to commit, investigating and prosecuting them are complex and time-consuming matters. So it’s up to all of us to be identity-smart and make sure we keep this crime from spreading. It’s up to all of us to prevent identity theft.” *Al Lenhardt, president and CEO, National Crime Prevention Council*

Kim M. Baglio, Senior Special Agent, United States Secret Service coordinates the Identity Theft Task Force with the US Attorney’s Office in the Western District of NY. She is a long-standing member of the International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators and is the current President of the WNY Chapter. Ms. Baglio conducts numerous public education trainings throughout the year to various community groups and to area banks, credit unions and casinos regarding Identity Fraud/Theft and Genuine/Counterfeit Currency.

On April 8, 2008, from 6:30 to 8:30PM, at Christ United Methodist Church, 350 Saratoga (corner Harlem), Snyder NY, Kim will address a meeting on strategies to protect your identity from being stolen. Bring your concerns and questions so all of us can learn ways to deal with this destructive crime. Registration is \$15.00 by March 30, 2008 - a light (catered) meal will be served. For questions, contact Diane Silvestro, 631-3349 or belvoir6@hotmail.com.

REGISTRATION FOR APRIL 8 Buffalo AAUW Program

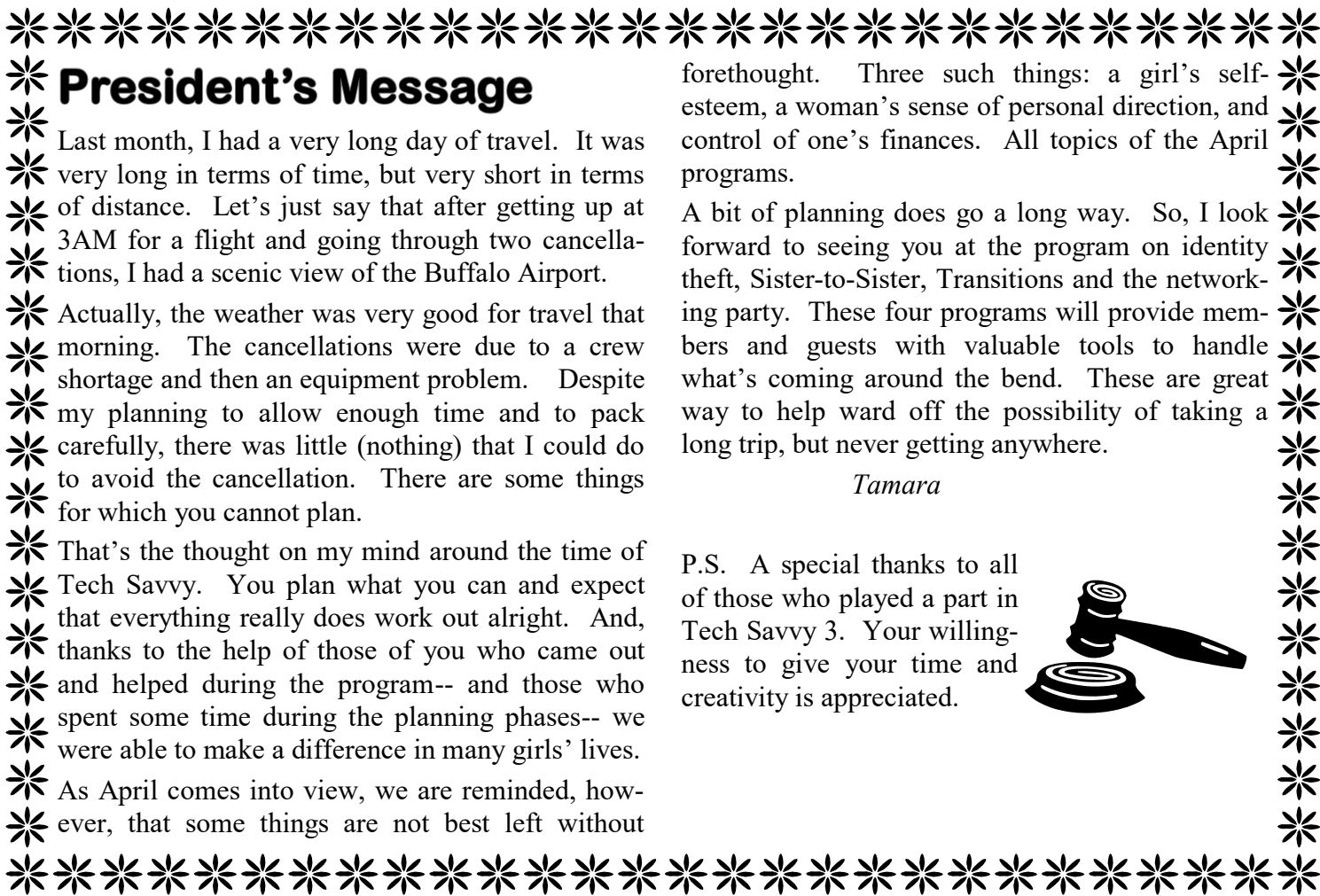
Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone (for use in case of cancellation): _____

Number _____ x \$15.00 = \$ _____ Make check payable to: AAUW – Buffalo Branch

Deadline: March 30, 2008 Mail to: AAUW c/o Diane Silvestro, 6 Belvoir Road, Amherst NY 14221



President's Message

Last month, I had a very long day of travel. It was very long in terms of time, but very short in terms of distance. Let's just say that after getting up at 3AM for a flight and going through two cancellations, I had a scenic view of the Buffalo Airport.

Actually, the weather was very good for travel that morning. The cancellations were due to a crew shortage and then an equipment problem. Despite my planning to allow enough time and to pack carefully, there was little (nothing) that I could do to avoid the cancellation. There are some things for which you cannot plan.

That's the thought on my mind around the time of Tech Savvy. You plan what you can and expect that everything really does work out alright. And, thanks to the help of those of you who came out and helped during the program-- and those who spent some time during the planning phases-- we were able to make a difference in many girls' lives.

As April comes into view, we are reminded, however, that some things are not best left without

forethought. Three such things: a girl's self-esteem, a woman's sense of personal direction, and control of one's finances. All topics of the April programs.

A bit of planning does go a long way. So, I look forward to seeing you at the program on identity theft, Sister-to-Sister, Transitions and the networking party. These four programs will provide members and guests with valuable tools to handle what's coming around the bend. These are great way to help ward off the possibility of taking a long trip, but never getting anywhere.

Tamara

P.S. A special thanks to all of those who played a part in Tech Savvy 3. Your willingness to give your time and creativity is appreciated.



Life is what you make it. Always has been. Always will be.

Grandma Moses

AAUW-NYS Convention Reminder



The convention will be here before we know it! Information and registration forms are available on the AAUW-NYS website (<http://aauw-nys.org/convention.htm>). The Otesaga Resort and Hotel, in Cooperstown, is a beautiful venue and the program and speakers promise to be great!

Come support our own Tamara Brown as she runs for re-election as AAUW-NYS Educational Foundation Vice-President!

April 25-27, 2008!

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

President: Tamara Brown

Publisher/Editor: Betty Preble

Assistant Editors: Judy Weidemann and Betty Krist

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@roadrunner.com, 652-7182)

For renewal questions, contact VP Membership

Retention,

Kristin Bojanowski (kaybee74@gmail.com, 873-7387) or Michelle Norris (mnorris@mtb.com, 877-5484)

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

April 2008
Vol. CXVIII No. 8
Circulation 280

ROSTER CHANGES

CORRECTIONS

- Lillis McLean's correct e-mail address is lillismclean@hotmail.com. (It is correct in the member listing, but incorrect in the board list.)
- Gloria Beutner has changed her email - now ebutner@verizon.net
- Janice Barber prefers that we use her home email - jbarber12@roadrunner.com
- Sue Oliver's email address should be - gsoliver@verizon.net



ADDITIONS - please welcome our New Members:

Mrs. Kathleen Murphy
4 Parkedge Dr.
Lancaster, NY 14086
H: 706 0606
W: 645 6700
kbrown@buffalo.edu

Renee Szarowicz
289 Irving Ter
Buffalo, NY 14223-2336
H: 875-2195
gjscott@roadrunner.com

Mrs. Ellen Niles
4304 Riverwalk South
Youngstown, NY 14174-9623
H: 405 7031
W: 201 8436
rkniles@hotmail.com

Amanda Verrastro
22 Cambridge Avenue
West Seneca, NY 14224
H: 573-6621
verrasta@canisius.edu

AAUW TRANSITIONS CONFERENCE: for women returning to college

Saturday, April 12, 2008 at the Educational Opportunity Center (E.O.C.), 465 Washington St., Buffalo NY.

Time: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

The committee is still looking for help with distribution of flyers, stuffing of tote bags and assistance the day of the conference as workshop moderators, registration personnel, and classroom monitors. Please contact Sandra Williams Bush, Conference Chair if you are able to help us out.

Email: swbush@email.com or telephone at 867-3631.



College/University Member Recruitment

I am recruiting college/university affiliate AAUW members. If you know a senior administrator contact from one of the area colleges, please call me.

I would love help with this, and we all know that knowing the decision makers can improve our chances of gaining college affiliate members.

Michele Maddox

College/University Relations Director

716/882-2925, maddoxm@dyc.edu

Luncheon Volunteers Needed

AAUW Buffalo Branch Annual Awards Luncheon Committee is still looking for members to help with the planning and execution of our May 3, 2008 annual spring luncheon.

If you have worked on the committee in the past or are new and would like to get involved, this is a great opportunity to meet other members and have fun creating a fantastic event. To volunteer or for information please call Judith Anderson, Luncheon Chair at 655-1993.

Scholarship Help Needed

Volunteers are needed to review applications for the Olga Lindberg Scholarships. In addition, a committee is needed to develop a new scholarship program in honor of Lucille and Harold Peterson. Contact Tamara Brown - tbforAAUW@cs.com.

Book Sale Publicity Chair - see pg 5.

Buffalo Branch Study/Interest Groups - Schedule for the Month

Study groups are an excellent way to form friendships, network, educate and have fun. If you are interested in joining any of the groups below, please see the "contact" person associated with that group. For further information please contact Yvonne Curry, study group coordinator: 716-553-3925 - von104@sprynet.com.

Group: American Biographies

When: **Thursday, April 10, 2008, at 1:30 pm**

Where: A room is reserved in the Eggertsville Library, 4622 Main St. Snyder, NY.

Book: *The Nine*, by Jeffrey Toobin

Discussion Leader: Myra Menti

Contact: **Jean Sylvester**: 838-6780

Contact: **Lillis McLean**: 873-7467 or

lillismclean@hotmail.com

Group: Clueless Mystery Book Club

When: **Wednesday, April 23, at 6:00 pm**

Where: The Plaka Restaurant, 2904 Delaware Avenue, Kenmore, NY

Annual book selection for 2008-2009. Please come with at least 2 recommendations for books to be read by the study group for next year.

Contact: **Suzanne Grossman**: 837-8769

Group: Current Events

When: **Thursday, April 3, 2008 1:30 pm**

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

Topics: State and local issues

Facilitator: Members of the group

Contact: **Suzanne Grossman**: 837-8769

Group: Dinner by the Book

When: **Wednesday, April 16, 2008, at 5:30 pm**

Where: Bob Evans Restaurant, 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd. Amherst, NY

Facilitator: Judy Malamas

Annual book selection for 2008-2009. Please come with at least 2 recommendations for books to be read by the study group for next year.

Contact: **Fran Witnauer**: 688-5708 or

grandmafran44@yahoo.com

Group: Green Thumbs Garden Study

When: **Thursday, April 10, 2008, at 7:00 pm**

Where: Anna M. Reinstein Mem. Library, 2580 Harlem Rd, Cheektowaga, NY, across from St. Jo-

seph's Hospital

Topic: Favorite Perennials and the story behind them.

Each member will present their favorite perennial to the group.

Contact: **Janet Fowler**: JANALANF@aol.com or 884-8698.

Group: Gourmet Food Interest Group

When: **TBA**

Contact: **Sylvia Volk**, 881-1424 or

sylviavolk.aauw@yahoo.com

Group: ¡Adelante! Diversity Book/Discussion Club

When: **TBA**

Contact: **Sylvia Volk**, 881-1424 or

sylviavolk.aauw@yahoo.com

Group: Knitting Group

When: **Thursday, April 24, 2008, at 2:00 p.m.**

Where: Wegman's – Sheridan Drive @ International Drive and Evans Rd

Topic: Bring your knitting!!!

Contact: **Karen Howard**, 716-480-3652

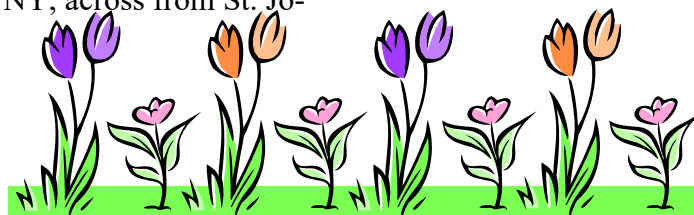
Group: Yoga

When: **Every Saturday at 10:00 a.m.**

Where: Deerhurst Presbyterian Church, in Memorial Hall

Cost: \$5 per session. The group will need a minimum of 8 per session to continue

Contact: **Diane Bishop**, 877-5674 or diane@lbishop.net



Book Sale Corner

BOOK SALE NEWS

Sorting continues each Tuesday from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM at Kensington Bailey Neighborhood Sevices, 995 Kensington Ave.



Books may be dropped off Monday through Thursday from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM. In addition, until April 12 there will be book sorting on Saturdays at the same location. Contact Pat Baker at 634-6640 or PBBaker217@aol.com if you are able to sort on a Saturday.

Book Sale Job Postings

Thanks to the members who have volunteered to take on the important job of handling the Book Sale treasurer position! We are grateful...

Still needed: Person to assist with publicity. No experience necessary. Help provided. Be a part of this dynamic community endeavor!

Contact: Judy Clare, 633-1294 or Pat Baker 634-6640

BRANCH ACTION GROUPS:

PUBLIC POLICY MEETING - APRIL 23, 2008

If you have questions about new voting systems and voting machines selected for Erie County, come to the meeting of the League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara , co-sponsored by our branch.

Dennis Ward,

Commissioner, Erie County Board of Elections,
will speak to members of the League and AAUW

**Wednesday April 23 at 11:30 a.m.
at the League Office, 1272 Delaware Avenue.**

**Bring a sandwich.
Beverages will be provided**

EDUCATION AND EQUITY GROUP - APRIL 12, 2008

The group will be assisting with the Transitions Conference on at the Educational Opportunity Center from 9am to 2pm.

New College/University Member!



UB has joined as a college affiliate member. Laura Barnum, Senior Assistant Vice President Resource Planning & Information Management at UB, an AAUW member, was instrumental in bringing the University on board.

PERSONALS -

- Margaret Fisher has suffered a stroke and is in a nursing home. Cards would be appreciated - Margaret Fisher, Harris Hill Nursing Home, 2699 Wehrle Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221.
- Joan Sillman was hit by a car and has recently returned home. Cards would be appreciated - Joan Sillman, 234 Monroe Dr., Williamsville, NY 14221.
- Nancy Ryther has fallen and broken her hip. She has declined visitors BUT would appreciate cards - McAuley Rehabilitation, Attn: Nancy Rhythier, 1503 Military Rd, Kenmore, NY 14217.



Networking New Member Happy Hour **“The only program is getting to know one another.”**

Attention: All New Members, Study/Interest Group Chairs and Potential Members

The Membership Committee is sponsoring a Networking Happy Hour on Wednesday April 23, 2008 with free Hors D'oeuvres and a Cash Bar from 5-7 pm at

Red Brick Inn (formerly Hidden Hollow Inn)

444 Indian Church Rd
West Seneca, NY 14224

This is a great chance for us all to formally welcome our fabulous new members and get to know them better. It is also a great way to network with members in a less formal atmosphere. Please RSVP to Michelle Norris either at 716-866-6183 or by email to mnorris@mtb.com.



Family Justice Center of Erie County - simplifies services for victims of domestic violence

By Linda Ray, Executive Director

The Family Justice Center of Erie County (FJC) provides free, wrap-around services to victims of domestic and intimate partner violence via a one-stop model. Through the collaboration of 12 on-site partners and another 19 off-site, the FJC staff and partners provide efficient, user-friendly services to families in crisis.

Our on-site partners include Crisis Services, Haven House, Neighborhood Legal Services, and Hispanics United of Buffalo. These experienced community-based service providers in partnership with the Sexual Offense Section of the Buffalo Police Department, the Erie County District Attorney, the 8th Judicial District Courts, and UB Department of Family Medicine bring under one the roof the essential services and support that families victimized by domestic violence need and deserve.

Imagine, if you will, how services were provided before the advent of the FJC. Victims would find fragmented services all over town in a system that was difficult to navigate and insensitive to their needs at a time of crisis. For victims in distress, the resulting frustrations, loss of time and money, and uncoordinated responses often left them with little recourse but to remain in abusive relationships. Getting out – via this fragmented system – was often harder for them than staying in the known situation – even an abusive one.

Now, imagine the difference that the FJC is making. Victims step off our elevators and find immediate assistance and acceptance. Advocates are assigned to walk victims through the process of determining which services best meet their needs. At the FJC, victims and their children experience safety, efficiency, and respect. We exist to

reduce barriers to service for hurting families. Our mission is to strengthen family safety and improve offender accountability, and in our nearly two years at work, we have begun to achieve our mission.

Through 2007, we served 1,163 clients, 25% of whom brought their children along – most of them having witnessed the violence in their homes. In 2007, we saw an increase in adult clients of more than 100% over 2006 and an increase of more than 200% in accompanying children. For those victims who used the Forensic Medical Unit at the FJC to document their injuries, the prosecution rate for their abusers was 20% higher than for those victims who did not use the FJC.

Still, there is much work to be done. More than 85% of our clients come from the City of Buffalo. Yet we know that domestic violence happens in all zip codes in Erie County. How do we provide accessible services to people outside the city? Only one in 10 incidents of domestic violence is reported. How do we encourage 100% reporting? What are the special needs of children who witness the violence in their homes? And on and on.

Read more about this organization, their partners and services on their website - <http://www.fjcsafe.org/index.htm>. You may also contact them to volunteer to help - Christina Chapman, (716) 558-5282 or cchapman@fjcsafe.org.



2008 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders

June 5-7, 2008
Georgetown University | Washington, D.C.

Don't let the young women in our community miss out on this Roadtrip to Leadership, sponsored by AAUW!- check the website for more information - <http://www.nccwsl.org>.

AAUW Buffalo Branch Annual Awards Luncheon and General Elections Saturday, May 3, 2008 - Harry's Harbourplace

Proceedings

The Past and Future Merge in the Optional Pre-Luncheon Experience... Do you ever wish for the time machine that would allow you to have the chance to talk to an historical woman who made an impact on the status of women today?

You have just that chance on the morning before the luncheon. Join us at 11:15 for a mimosa and a wonderful interpretation of Elizabeth Cady Stanton or another progressive, historical woman. Not only will this experience be fun and illuminating, but your presence will also help women of the future: Net proceeds will benefit the Legal Advocacy Fund.

Luncheon... The meeting will begin at noon. The Branch Annual Achievement Award will be presented, and Named Gift honorees for the Educational Foundation will be recognized. As well, the Branch will elect new officers for 2008-2009.

Our Honorees. A highlight of each luncheon is the presentation of the Annual Achievement Award. This year AAUW will honor Drs. Barbara Nevergold and Peggy Brooks-Bertram of the Uncrowned Queens Project, two women whose passion and lives' work is centered on researching and promoting women's experiences and contributions.

✂ -----

All lunch choices served With Salad, Roasted Baby Red Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Fresh Bread and Butter, Tea/Regular & Decaf Coffee and Dessert: Vanilla Sundae with Mixed Berry Topping

Reservations due April 24, 2008

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please mark your entrée choice:

- Stuffed Chicken Marsala** (*Stuffed breast of chicken, topped with a mushroom marsala sauce*)
- Almond Crusted Salmon Filet** (*Served with fresh vegetables, with herbed amaretto beurre blanc*)
- Vegetarian Wellington** (*Mixed vegetables and herbs wrapped in a baked puff pastry and served with our house red sauce*)

Cost: Luncheon \$28.00 Optional pre-luncheon experience & drinks \$10.00 (LAF benefit at 11:15)

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Send to: Judith Anderson, 8 Woodbrook Drive, #4, East Aurora, NY 14052. Questions? Contact Judith - judithma@Buffalo.edu.

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 will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

The AAUW LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Wed, Apr 2, 5:30 pm** - Board Meeting, United Way
- Tues, Apr 8** - Identity Theft Branch Program - details pg 1
- Sat, Apr 12** - Transitions Conference at the Educational Opportunity Center
- Sat, Apr 12** - Sister to Sister at Buffalo State
NOTE - this date was incorrect in the Feb issue
- Wed, Apr 23** - Networking Happy Hour at the Red Brick Inn (See pg 6)
- Fri-Sun, Apr 25-27** - AAUW-NYS Convention at Cooperstown, NY
- Sat, May 3** - Annual Luncheon Meeting at Harry's Harbour Place Grill (See pg 7)
NOTE - this date was incorrect in the March issue
- Wed, May 7, 5:30 pm** - Board Meeting, United Way

This newsletter was delivered to the William Street Post Office, Buffalo, NY on March 21, 2008.
Moving? Please contact Freddie Cheek, 716-835-6945.



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