



NYS District 1

Buffalo Branch Advocate

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



Highlights:

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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

Please also contact her if you would like to receive the *Buffalo Branch Advocate* via e-mail.



The American Association of University Women Buffalo Branch

Presents

The Seventh Annual International Women's Day
Celebration and Discussion

Modern India: Sacred Cows and High Tech Businesses

*As a country how does India reconcile its vastly disparate realities?
More than an economic paradigm, it is a cultural one.
True equity would require a cultural change. Can this be done?*

Samuel's Grande Manor
8750 Main Street

Clarence, New York

Saturday, March 8, 2008, 6 p.m.

The speaker will be: **Geeta Desai**

Ms. Desai is an organizational development consultant who has worked in Asia and the United States. She has been responsible for creating organizational systems including management information and technology support to help businesses and non-profits grow.

As a women's advocate, she has given a number of papers on the status of women. She specializes in speaking engagements to enhance dialogue on women's equity here and abroad.

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

Registration form on page 7 - deadline March 1



President's Message



March is one of my favorite months. Besides the fact that it represents the "almost" end of winter, there are two very special AAUW programs to which I look forward.

First, International Women's Day. I suppose that this is special partly because I remember being on the planning committee for the very first dinner. This is a wonderful celebration. Moreover, it causes us to pause and consider the status of women globally. For the first time in years, the celebration will be held on a Saturday, so I hope that brings even more people to join us and the co-sponsoring organizations.

I want to share a little story about Tech Savvy: Last year, a few people wanted to register on the morning of the event. We were able to accommodate the students after completing the pre-registered attendees. After registering two girls, I asked if the parent would also like to register. The parent said yes, and the three of them proceeded to the various workshops. I saw that parent later that day. The parent "confessed" that there really wasn't any intention on staying for the adult sessions, but since I had asked, the parent didn't want to say no. However, after attending the morning's sessions, the parent was really happy to have attended, had learned a lot, and was really looking forward to the afternoon session.

The cool thing about the story is that the parent was a *father*. While I hope that we spread the message of equitable education and encouraging girls to everyone, I am especially glad when we can reach the men in our society.

So, I hope to see you this month as we *march* on to equity.

Tamara

Special thanks to Michele Maddox for her work with UB!



Welcome to our New Members!

Mrs. Ruth Fierro-King
5530 Via Marina, Williamsville, NY 14221
H: 636 0497
W: 650 6513
C: 870 3363
ruth_fierro-king@keybank.com

Therese Warden
126 Russell St, Buffalo, NY 14214
H: 716-833-7124
Theresewarden@verizon.net

The Branch also welcomes the University at Buffalo, our newest College/University Partner!

I need your help!

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

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

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For prospective or new member questions, contact VP Membership Recruitment, Bev Schwiegerling. (schwieger@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.*

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Education and Equity

The Education and Equity Committee heard from Lee Tetkowski of the League of Women Voters about the League's Charter School monitoring, and final State consensus to continue this activity. Those attending learned that \$50 million from the Buffalo School budget goes to Charter schools each year. There are 13 Charter schools in Buffalo, and several outside the city. There is no tuition charged to students to attend charter schools. The per student costs are sent to the charter school by the home district of each student - the amount depends on what the per student costs are for that district. Students may attend charter schools outside of the district. Transportation may or may not be a problem.

Stacey Johnson, Chair



Congratulations to our Buffalo "Emerging Leader".

Susan McClary joined AAUW Buffalo Branch in 2005. One of her first events was the District conference. There she expressed an interest to get involved... which we love! Susan got involved and continues: first, joining working committees; then, chairing the branch's *Velma Cobb Scholarship*.

Says one branch member, "Susan has readily stepped up to the plate as Program VP within a short time of joining the branch. She's also taken on large responsibilities for Tech Savvy and seems always willing to help out."

Dr. McClary displays an extraordinary combination of practicality, purpose, and team-spirit -- an exemplary NYS Emerging Leader.

 * *Light tomorrow* *
 * *With today!* *
 * *Elizabeth Barrett Browning* *



1. **BookSale** assistance is always needed. Please see pg 5.
2. **Tech Savvy 3** is coming up on March 15 and many hands are needed, both before and the day of the event! Contact Tamara Brown, 649-9871 or TBforAAUW@cs.com. Please see pg. 6.
3. The **Transitions** Conference - Sat, April 12 - needs workers. Contact Sandra Bush, 867-3631 or swbush@email.com. Please see pg. 7.
4. Our branch historian would like **documentation on last year's programs** - contact Donna Fitzgerald, 837-6058.
5. **AFTER-SCHOOL TUTORING OPPORTUNITY**

The after-school ENERGY Tutoring Program, serving 20 students in grades 2-6 Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, is looking for tutors. This program takes place during 4:45-6:15pm at Westminster Church, 724 Delaware Ave., Buffalo (between North and Summer Sts.) If interested in additional information and scheduling a "look-see", contact the ENERGY Director Kathy Vitagliano at 884-9437, ext. 122.

Sylvia Volk, Tutor

AAUW-NYS Convention Coming Up



Registration information for the April 25-27 AAUW-NYS Convention is now available on the NYS website - <http://aauw-nys.org>. Click on the "convention" tab to get the details.

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

Buffalo Branch Study/Interest Groups - Schedule for the Month

Study groups are an excellent way to form friendships, network, learn 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: Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at 1:30 pm

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

Book: any biography of Margaret Sanger

Discussion Leader: Sue Oliver

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

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

Group: Clueless Mystery Book Club

When: Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at 5:30 pm

Where: Friendly's, 4350 Maple Road, Amherst

Book: *The Lighthouse*, by P.D. James

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

Group: Current Events

Cancelled - March '08

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

Group: Dinner by the Book

When: Wednesday, March 12, 2008, at 5:30 pm

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

Facilitator: Suzanne Grossman

Discussion Leaders: Joan Lardner & Norma Heimerl

Book: *Nineteen Minutes* by Jodi Picoult

Contact: **Fran Witnauer:** 688-5708 or
grandmafran44@yahoo.com

Group: Education and Equity

When: Tuesday March 11th at 6 pm

Where: the Plaka Restaurant, 2904 Delaware Avenue,
Kenmore. We will discuss Transitions.

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

Group: Green Thumbs Garden Study

When: Thursday, March 13, 2008, at 7:00 pm

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

Topic: Soil testing with the Master Gardeners and
soil amendments.

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

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, March 27, 2008

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 10am starting Feb 16

**Where: Deerhurst Presbyterian Church in Memorial
Hall.**

Cost: \$5.00 per session. The group will need a minimum of 8 per session to continue.

Contact: **Diane Bishop,** Diane@lbishop.net



Great Decisions at the International Institute

The remaining programs in the spring 2008 series are listed below. All are held at the International Institute (864 Delaware Ave) from 5:30-7:00 pm.

- Feb 25 - "Private Philanthropy" - Kevin Kazmierczak, Principal, Buffalo Academy for Visual and Performing Arts
- Mar 3 - "Iraq: End Game" - Sam Al Bofradi, former Iraqi refugee and Arabic Instructor to the US Military
- Mar 10 - "Talking to Our Enemies" - speaker tba
- Mar 17 - "Russia" - Elizabeth French, PhD in Russian Affairs and Nuclear Proliferation Advisor to Swedish & American Governments

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

“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, call Diane Silvestro, 631-3349 or belvoir6@hotmail.com.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone (for use in case of cancellation): _____ Organization: _____

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

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

Book Sale Corner

Book Sale Job Postings

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

Needed: Member to assist treasurer during the Book Sale; handle large sums of money.

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

BOOK SALE NEWS

In mid March, you will each be receiving the now familiar Blue Volunteer Empowerment Packet. This packet will let you know about all the Volunteer Opportunities for the 2008 Scholarship Book Sale and give you the chance to sign up for various shifts and activities. We know that we can count on an excellent response to those opportunities. AAUW members and friends always come through for the Scholarship Book Sale.



From now until April 12, 2008 there will be book sorting on Saturdays at the Kensington Bailey Neighborhood Housing Service, 995 Kensington Ave in Buffalo in addition to the regular Tuesday morning schedule. We are delighted to give members this additional opportunity to sort. It will be an excellent way to add more hours for those of you who pledged 20 hours of help for the Book Sale. Contact Pat Baker at 634-6640 or PBBaker217@aol.com if you are able to sort on a Saturday.

The Book Sale Committee

Tech Savvy 3 -

Have you signed up yet ???

Tech Savvy is not just for kids.... Besides the energy of the day, there are at least four good reasons to come to Tech Savvy on March 15:

1. Listen to Tracy Sherman, Director of Government Relations for AAUW, talk about public policy issues related to girls' education Tracy will open the adult session around 10 AM. Then, Elizabeth Casciani, Vice President of Operations for Prax-air, will give a special address to the adults in the audience.
2. Learn more about *Let's Read Math*. This exciting program-- with roots in AAUW-- teaches math skills through reading. Join Dr. Claire Passantino as she introduces this program to our audience.
3. Listen to the afternoon keynote address by Camille Alleyne. Ms. Alleyne is an aerospace engineer for NASA. She is passionate about expanding opportunities for girls in science and has started a foundation to encourage girls around the world.
4. Volunteer! We are expecting almost 350 girls and 200 adults! Volunteer for all or part of the day.

To attend, please fill out the registration form below. To volunteer, please call Tamara at 649-9871 or e-mail AAUWTS3@cs.com.

Looking forward to seeing you on March 15 where girls in Western New York will be *tech savvy!*

Tech Savvy Reception

Join the branch on Friday, March 14, at 6:30 PM as we join our co-sponsors in welcoming Camille Alleyne, Tracy Sherman, Claire Passantino, and all other Tech Savvy program participants. The University at Buffalo's School of Engineering & Applied Sciences is sponsoring this reception.

The reception will be held at the University Ramada (formerly the University Inn and Conference Center). Please contact Tamara Brown (649-9871) **before March 7** if you plan to attend.

TS 3 - TECH SAVVY!

A Strong Foundation = Highest Heights

REGISTRATION FORM FOR ADULTS

Please print clearly the information below. Include a check or money order for \$5.00 per attendee payable to "AAUW Buffalo Branch EF".

\$5 registration fee includes lite breakfast, lunch, conference materials, tote bag, book, and other gift items.

Mail to: AAUW Tech Savvy Attn.: T Brown, PO Box 311, Buffalo, NY 14201-0311

Registration is limited. Please register before February 24, 2007

Name _____ Parent Teacher Interested Adult

Street/ PO Box _____

City _____, NY Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

Do you plan to take the free, optional tour at UB (at approximately 3:30 pm)? Yes No

Do you plan to take the free shuttle to the North Campus from the South Campus? Yes No

Physically-disabled Accessibility and/or Dietary Needs: _____

How did you hear about *Tech Savvy!*? _____

Women in the Arts Festival 2008

A multi-artist, multi-venue Women in the Arts Festival, presented by the Buffalo Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, will be presented April 17 through 20 in Buffalo.

Dr. Barbara Harbach, renowned composer, organist, harpsichordist, lecturer and recording artist, will be featured in a gala organ recital on Friday, April 18, at 8 pm at Lippes Concert Hall in Slee Hall on the UB Amherst campus. She will also deliver three lecture/demonstrations (at NCCC, UB and Canisius) as well as moderate a panel discussion of prominent area women in the fields of music, art, drama, dance and literature on Saturday, April 19, at 11:30 am at Ascension Episcopal Church, Linwood Avenue.

Also part of the four-day festival will be a performance by Ladies First Big Band, an 18-member orchestra of women high school age through senior citizen! That event will take place on Saturday, April 19, at 8 pm at Church of the Nativity, 1530 Colvin Blvd., Buffalo. On Sunday, April 20 (time and venue TBA), a final all-arts event will conclude the four-day festival. For more information, visit the group's website at www.agohq.org/chapters/buffalo.

This program is being supported in part by the Buffalo AAUW Branch.

CALL FOR HELP

AAUW TRANSITIONS CONFERENCE: for women returning to college

Saturday, April 12, 2008 at 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



International Women's Day Registration Form - March 8, 2008

Name(s) _____

Telephone # (for use in case of cancellation) _____

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

Dinner Choices:

Chicken Samuel _____ Stuffed Sole _____ Gourmet Pasta with Vegetables _____

Total enclosed _____

RESERVATIONS and CHECKS TO:

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

21 Nye Hill Road, East Aurora, New York 14052 **by March 1, 2008**

Please indicate any special needs: _____

I would like a ride to the meeting - please circle → Yes No

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, Mar 5, 5:30 pm - Board Meeting, United Way

Sat, Mar 8, 6pm - International Women's Day Dinner at Samuel's Grande Manor - details pg 1, registration form pg 6

Sat, Mar 15 - Tech Savvy 3 at UB

Wed, Apr 2, 5:30 pm - Board Meeting, United Way

Tues, Apr 8 - Identity Theft Branch Program - details pg 5

Sat, Apr 12 - Transitions Conference at the Educational Opportunity Center (see pg 7)

Sat, Apr 12 - Sister to Sister at Buffalo State **NOTE** - this date was incorrect in the Feb issue

Fri-Sun, Apr 25-27 - AAUW-NYS Convention at Cooperstown, NY

Wed, May 7, 5:30 pm - Board Meeting, United Way

Sat, May 13 - Annual Luncheon Meeting at Harry's Harbour Place Grill

This newsletter was delivered to the William Street Post Office, Buffalo, NY on February 22, 2008.
Moving? Please contact Freddie Cheek, 716-835-6945.



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

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