



NYS District 1

# Buffalo Branch Advocate

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



## Highlights:

- Pg 1 - November Meeting
- Pg 2 - President's Message, Financial Security
- Pg 3 - Action Groups, Personals, Future Events
- Pg 4 - Interest Groups
- Pg 5 - October mtg recap, Scholarship winners
- Pg 6 - New members, two-minute activist
- Pg 7 - Booksale corner, District Conference report
- 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](mailto:betty.preble@gmail.com)

## November is your healthy month!

Our November program is to be a discussion of how yoga can contribute to a healthy lifestyle. While the study of yoga, which dates back at least five centuries, is part of a larger philosophical discussion of well-being, our program will focus on its contribution through gentle motion to physical health and vitality. Our instructor for the morning will be Renee Scott, who was so well received during an AAUW program on healthy joints in 2005. She intends to discuss some of the background and principles of yoga and follow the discussion with yoga stretching.



Due to the importance of working with a manageable group and providing space to move freely, the program will be limited to the first 30 members who register. Renee has indicated that the movements she intends to teach will be not too physically challenging for even the less fit among us. The nominal fee of \$7.00 will cover a small healthy snack. Please bring either a small exercise mat or a folded beach towel and come in comfortable clothes. Date: Saturday, November 10th, 2007 at **10:00 am to noon (not 9:00 as indicated in the program flyer)**. Location: Deerhurst Presbyterian Church, Corner of Colvin Blvd. and Deerhurst Park Blvd. in Kenmore.

**Registration form for yoga program on Nov 10, 2007 at 10 am. Send to:  
Diane Bishop, 306 Deerhurst Park Blvd., Buffalo, NY 14223 by November 3, 2007**

Remember that attendance is limited - don't wait 'til the last minute!

My check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$7.00 per person) payable to the "AAUW Buffalo Branch" is enclosed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Guests: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please indicate any special needs: \_\_\_\_\_

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

# President's Message

For November, I wanted to share a story I told at the May luncheon about the introduction of electricity to an African village.

Clearly, the technology of electric lights was welcome in the village. Tasks could be completed even in the absence of sunlight. In fact, the village residents were so enamored of the lights that they often sat in the evening admiring and enjoying this newfound convenience. I think we all can appreciate the joy of having the latest gadget, that wonderful new "whatever" that gives us pause or increases productivity.

Over a short time, the lights proved to be so attractive that the community lost the traditional talks-- formerly the major evening activity when darkness allowed little else. The community had lost its practice of storytelling.

When I said in May that I think "telling the story" is important, I was referring to our good purposes in AAUW. However, in general, the concept just fits my talkative nature!

As I write this note, I'm in the Washington DC area meeting with a lot of folks who are concerned about disasters that challenge our healthcare systems. In between presentations and formal meetings over the last few days, I somehow always find myself meeting

people and talking about the oddest things. I find that those "odd things" are what always give texture to the fabric of life.

Terrorism, floods, flu pandemics. Disparities, inequities, discrimination. Take your pick of issues to consider; there's always another weighty issue to ponder. There is always another task to be done. Like those African villagers decades ago, there's much to demand our attention.

However, let's not forget to take a balance break. Tell a story, or just take a little time to share with others.

November waves the flag alerting us to the cold weather to come and the "busy-ness" that the holidays bring. So, now is a great time to stock up on some peaceful moments and perhaps a little fun. In the midst of everything else this month, take some time with yourself or with fellow members, friends and family just to enjoy!

See you in November,

*Tamara*



---

---

## Financial Security

### From the Association website



While repaying mom for all she's done in years past may be an impossible task, asking her a few simple questions right now may make a difference when it comes to her financial future. The American Association of University Women Educational Foundation's telephone survey of U.S. adults found that 40 percent knew very little or nothing about mom's financial situation. In addition, the poll found that while most adults whose moms have retired realize that Social Security is her primary source of income, those whose mothers have not yet retired don't fully appreciate the importance of Social Security for their mothers or for themselves.

See the website (<http://aauw.org/research/mothersdaypoll2006.cfm>) for more information.

**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 Check  
406 Maynard Drive  
Amherst, NY 14226-2929



For prospective or new member questions, contact VP Membership Recruitment, Bev Schwiegerling. ([schwieg@roadrunner.com](mailto:schwieg@roadrunner.com), 652-7182)

For renewal questions, contact VP Membership

Retention,

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

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

November 2007  
Vol. CXVIII No. 3  
Circulation 280

## AAUW Action Groups

🏠 **The Public Policy Committee and Action Group** will meet Monday, November 12 at 5:30 PM in Perkins Restaurant, 8444 Transit Rd., E. Amherst (near intersection with Klein Rd.). Contact Teresa (tguessner@acsu.buffalo.edu or 634-5053) for more information, and to reserve if you are coming.

🏠 **Education and Equity** will meet Tuesday, November 13th at 6 p.m. at The Plaka Restaurant, 2904 Delaware Avenue, Kenmore.

*Stacey Johnson, Education and Equity Chair*



### Personals:

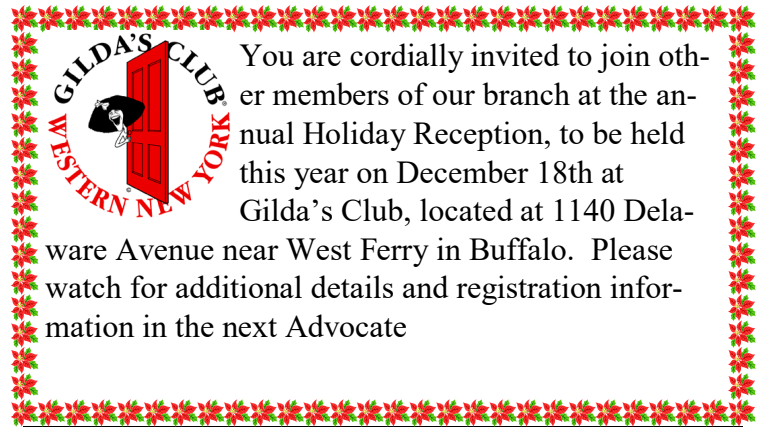
Our sympathies to Barbara Ciepiela, whose brother, John W. Szlachtun Jr., died on September 18, 2007.

Our thoughts and good wishes are also with members Janet Fowler and Carol Battle, who are undergoing cancer treatments and to Lynne Beller, who had a stroke.

### Support our sister branch in Jamestown and have fun at the same time!

Jamestown is holding its **52nd Annual AAUW What's New Fair** on the Jamestown Community College Campus on Saturday, Nov 10, 10am - 6pm and Sunday, Nov 11, 10am - 4pm. There will be about 65 merchants selling their Christmas goods. \$3 adult admission, \$1 for children 6 - 12, and free for children 5 and under.

These vendors are all businesses, not local craftspeople - come do your holiday shopping early!



You are cordially invited to join other members of our branch at the annual Holiday Reception, to be held this year on December 18th at Gilda's Club, located at 1140 Delaware Avenue near West Ferry in Buffalo. Please watch for additional details and registration information in the next Advocate

### AAUW-NYS Convention News

Convention planning is well under way and I am delighted to announce that Lilly Ledbetter will be our keynote speaker.



Ms. Ledbetter was launched into the national spotlight when she sued Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company for unfair pay. A jury awarded her \$223,776 in back pay and \$3 million in punitive damages. She never received any money and ultimately the case was thrown out when the Supreme Court ruled that the 180 day filing limit had begun with the first check she received showing her lesser pay.

The House *Ledbetter Fair Pay Act* would return us to the longstanding rule (before the Supreme Court changed it in May), which treated each and every discriminatory paycheck as a new discrimination, thus re-starting the 180-day clock.

Please plan on attending convention April 25-27, 2008 at the beautiful Otesaga Resort in Cooperstown NY.

For those whom childcare may be an issue, we are working with the resort to find quality babysitting services. Please let me know if you have any such special needs. (914-245-8568/program@aauw-nys.org).

I look forward to seeing you there.

*Jann Mirchandani, AAUW-NYS Program VP*

Ed. Note - for those of you who missed Ms Ledbetter at the September potluck, here's another chance!

## 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: [November 13, 2007, at 1:30 pm](#)

Where: Eggertsville Snyder Library, 4622 Main St.,  
Parking, off Burroughs

Note: Accessible by Metro Busses: 48, 49 and 30

Book: *Radical Innocent*: Upton Sinclair, by Anthony  
Arthur

Discussion Leader: TBA

Contact: Mary Fiore 886-6727

### Group: Clueless Mystery Book Club

When: [November 28, 2007, at 6:00 pm](#)

Where: Friendly's, 4350 Maple Road, Amherst

Book: *Sleep of Death*, by Philip Gooden

Contact: Suzanne Grossman: 837-8769

### Group: Current Events

When: [November 1, 2007, 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, [November 14, 2007, at 5:30 pm](#)

Where: The Plaka Restaurant, 2904 Delaware Ave-  
nue, Kenmore, NY

Facilitator & Discussion Leader: Marilyn Carmichael

Book: *The Double Bind* (and / or) *Before You Know  
Kindness*, by Chris Bohjalian

Contact: Leona Barback: [barleo@roadrunner.com](mailto:barleo@roadrunner.com),  
633-1982, or Marilyn Carmichael: 875-6817

### Group: Green Thumbs Gardening

When: Thursday, [November 8, 2007, at 7:00pm](#)

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

Topic: TBA

Contact: Janet Fowler: 884-8698, [Janalanf@aol.com](mailto:Janalanf@aol.com)

### Group: Gourmet Food Interest Group

What: AAUW-Buffalo's Gourmet Food Group's Re-  
scheduled "Tour (and Nibbles) of Lexington Co-  
Operative" with Joann, Marketing and Member-

ship Manager

When: Thursday, [November 1, 2007, 7:00 – 8:15 pm](#)

Where: Lexington Co-Operative Market, 908 Elm  
wood Ave., Buffalo (near West Ferry)

Note! Limited to 12 people: RSVP's required.

Contact: Sylvia Volk, [sylviavolk.aauw@yahoo.com](mailto:sylviavolk.aauw@yahoo.com)  
or 881-1424

### Group: ¡Adelante! Diversity Book/Discussion

Book: (Native American Heritage Month): *Woman  
Who Watches Over the World: A Native Memoir* by  
Linda Hogan (2001)

When: No discussion meeting for November, 2007,  
however we encourage every member to read this  
book.

Contact: Sylvia Volk, [sylviavolk.aauw@yahoo.com](mailto:sylviavolk.aauw@yahoo.com)  
or 881-1424

### Group: Knitting Group

When & When: November - TBA

Contact: Adrienne Kotler, 688-0740 or  
[aikotler@earthlink.net](mailto:aikotler@earthlink.net)



### Group: Quilting (still seeking new members)

If interested contact Mary Christ –

[amazingracesq@yahoo.com](mailto:amazingracesq@yahoo.com)

## October Meeting Recap

On October 6, 2006 our branch celebrated diversity within our membership with presentations by Douglas A. Platt, Curator, The Museum of disABILITY History and Brie Hofshneider, Coordinator of Kids on the Block (KOTB). In his informative presentation, Mr. Platt briefly touched on the displays one would find in the museum's wing on Disability and Society from the earliest time to the present. Ms. Hofshneider introduced us to the puppet, Mark Riley, an 11 year old boy who has cerebral palsy, a developmental disability that affects the ability to control movement. Both Mr. Platt and Ms. Hofshneider effectively delivered the message, shared by AAUW that "being different is a universal condition that should be celebrated!"



The Museum of disABILITY History <http://www.museumofdisability.org>

and Kids on the Block <http://www.people-inc.org/kidsontheblock/> are projects of People, Inc. Additional information is available by calling the general contact telephone number at 716/817-7261.

Many thanks to Sylvia Volk for chairing this event.

*Nancy Langer, Diversity Chair*



The Buffalo Branch has awarded \$16,000 in interest-free loans and grants to seven Western New York college students through its Chamberlin Loan Fund and Funds for Education programs.

The Chamberlin Loan Fund was established in 1937 by Sarah A. Chamberlin to provide a college education for women who might otherwise be unable to attend college. Funds for Education, supported by bequests from other members and funds from the branch's annual book sale, provides loans and grants to women and men. The next application deadline is Dec. 1.

- Amanda Ribbeck, a senior in Cornell University majoring in biology and pre-med and Megan Lovullo, a Northeastern University student working for a doctorate in pharmacy, were each awarded a \$2,500 grant.
- Jennifer Sreniawski, a student in Stony Brook University school of Medicine, received a \$1,500 grant and a \$1,000 FFE loan.
- Michael Reyen, a University at Buffalo Law

School student working for a doctorate in law and a master's in economics, was awarded \$1,500 grant and \$1,000 loan, both from FFE.

- Melissa Brown, a sophomore in Grove City College, was given a \$2,500 Chamberlin loan and Elyse Gehring, a sophomore in Cortland State College, received a \$2,000 Chamberlin loan. Both are majoring in psychology.
- Natalie Do, a senior in University at Buffalo, working to become a physician assistant, was given a \$1,500 Chamberlin loan.

Applications for the Dec. 1 deadline may be obtained from Chamberlin Loan Fund/Funds for Education, American Association of University Women, Buffalo Branch, PO Box 397, Amherst, N.Y. 14226.

Applications also are available on-line at [www.aauw.buffalo.edu](http://www.aauw.buffalo.edu) or by calling 559-3037.

*Pat Swift MacClennan, Chair*

## Welcome to our newest members!

Ms Cynthia Koch  
12 Littlefield Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14211  
H: 893 2308

Ms Frances Parone  
380 Hartford Rd  
Amherst, NY 14226  
H: 862 3906

Ms Cynthia Stoddard  
1850 Schwab Rd  
Varysburg, NY 14167  
W: 562 0205  
C: 984 6709  
Cin-  
dy.stoddard@perrysicecream.com

Ms Judith Anderson  
8 Woodbrook Dr. #4  
East Aurora, NY 14052  
H: 655 1993  
W: 898 5266  
judithma@Buffalo.edu

Mrs Jennifer Dominguez  
118 Rosemont Drive  
Amherst NY 14226  
H: 833 1236  
jvdominguez@roadrunner.com  
Ms Barbara Barksdale  
15 Brookedge Ct  
Williamsville, NY 14221

H: 634 0967

Dr Jennifer Ryan  
101 Huntley Road  
Buffalo, NY 14215  
W: 878 5415  
C: 541 5318  
ryanjda@buffalostate.edu

Ms Dorothy Messenlehner  
1055 Tonawanda St  
Buffalo, NY 14207  
H: 447 0884

Elisha J. Burkart, Esq.  
Kavinoky Cook LLP  
726 Exchange Street, Suite 800  
Buffalo, New York 14210



W: 845-6000  
Fax: 845-6474  
C: 607 227 4010  
eburkart@kavinokycook.com  
Dr. Philomena Behar  
15 Forrester Ct.  
Amherst, NY 14228  
H: 639 1088  
W 362 9730

PMBehar@aol.com

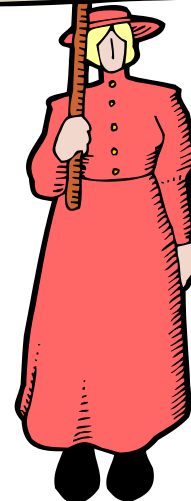
Christine Murekeyisoni  
228 Montrose Avenue Apt 1  
Tonawanda, NY 14223  
H: 871 0491  
Mureke78@gmail.com

Ms Lucille Kingston  
146 Lyndale Ave  
Buffalo, NY 14223  
H: 833 9492  
W: 362 9730  
lkingston@wnykidsent.com

Ms Leslie Effman  
93 Hendricks Blvd.  
Amherst, NY 14226  
H: 833 5877  
C: 553 2246  
leffman@roadrunner.com

### Did you know?

that the Association website has a “two minute activist” feature? This allows you to easily pick an area of interest to you, take some prepared text from the Association’s Public Policy team, add your own note and instantly send an e-mail to YOUR federal officials. And it’s not limited to AAUW members - if there’s an issue of particular interest to you, you can invite your other friends and family members to make their voices heard. Simply log onto the AAUW website (aauw.org), then look in the “Quick Links” in the upper right. “Two Minute Activist” will do the trick. After you type in your zipcode, you have the ability to contact your legislators, check on other current issues, send an e-mail to your local media, etc. Check it out!



# Book Sale Corner

## SITE DETECTIVES NEEDED

We must have a site for the 2008 Book Sale by April 1, 2008. Call or e-mail your "sightings" or tips to Judy Clare at 633-1294 or Clare273@cs.com. Vacant buildings with For Sale or For Rent signs displayed present possibilities. If you have a contact with a Realtor or Developer, let Judy Clare know about that as well. We prefer a location in Amherst or Tonawanda.



## BOOK SALE NEWS

Sorting continues at the Kensington Bailey site from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM on Tuesdays. Books are coming in steadily. Book marks are being distributed throughout the community with phone numbers to be called for book information. They are North Towns 874-1389, Mid Towns 674-3462 and South Towns 655-3649.



Be sure to read the SITE DETECTIVES NEEDED ad on this page. Perhaps you can respond with a "sighting".

## BOOK SALE GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

Karen Howard and her committee will be selling gift certificates at our events and meetings. They will be available in \$2 and \$5 denominations. The gift certificates make perfect stocking stuffers at Holiday time. You may also call Karen at 874-1389 to arrange to buy the certificates.

## District Conference, Oct 13 at Chautauqua



Eight Buffalo Branch members attended the District One conference at the Chautauqua Institution on Sat, Oct 13. Those from our branch enjoying an educational and social day were Betty Preble, Susan McClary, Joan Trinchera, Stacey Johnson, Anita Kunkle, Janet Fowler, Tamara Brown and Lillis McLean.

The highlight of the day was the presentation of the "Vote 18" exercise by Walt Townes, executive director of that project. Read about it on their website - [www.vote18.org](http://www.vote18.org). If you have any interest in increasing voter participation by educated young people you will be interested in this. Other features of the program were a "walk thru the AAUW websites" and presentations from each of the branches about their advocacy projects. (Photos are from the presentations).

*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

**Tues, Nov 6 - VOTE!!!**

**Wed, Nov 7, 5:30 pm** - Board Meeting at the United Way

**Sat, Nov 10, 10 am** - Branch Meeting - Yoga at Deerhurst Presbyterian Church



**Wed, Dec 5, 5:45 pm** - Board Meeting at the United Way

**Tues, Dec 18** - Holiday Reception at Gilda's Club - save the evening!

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

This newsletter was delivered to the William Street Post Office, Buffalo, NY on October 24, 2007.  
Moving? Please contact Freddie Check, 716-835-6945.



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

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Buffalo, NY  
Permit No. 1078

**Return Service Requested**