



Buffalo Branch Advocate

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



NYS District 1

Highlights:

- Pg 1 - December Program, registration form.
- Pg 2 - President's Message, Help Wanted
- Pg 3 - Interest Groups, Tech Savvy Help Wanted
- Pg 4 - Booksale Corner, Convention News, MASTR project
- Pg 5 - January Program
- Pg 6 - 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

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



The December Holiday Gathering is Monday, December 8, 2008 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The location is the Art Gallery of the Charles Burchfield Nature and Art Center at 2001 Union Road near Clinton Avenue in West Seneca (NOT the new Burchfield-Penney Art Center at Buff State). The cost is \$8 per person. Guests are welcome and new members will be offered a reduced membership fee. The deadline for reservations is December 1. The program is simply to enjoy each other's company, meet new friends and relax a bit in pleasant surroundings during this time between Thanksgiving and the end of the year. Light refreshments will be served

The Burchfield Art and Nature Center is the home of Western New York AmeriCorps, the largest AmeriCorps program in the United States. AmeriCorps members provide service to our community in a number of ways, including tutoring at area schools serving low income students. Members and guests interested in donating a gift to some of the children AmeriCorps serves are invited to visit the website www.buffalochristmaswishes.com. You may either sponsor a child by bringing an unwrapped gift tagged with the child's name and/or bring in wrapping paper, ribbons, scotch tape or gift bags that will be used to wrap gifts donated by other sponsors.

**Registration form for December 8 Branch Program. Send to:
Nancy Langer, 115 Woodbridge Ave, Buffalo, NY 14214 by December 1, 2008**

My check in the amount of \$ _____ (\$8.00 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 → Yes No Questions? - contact NMLanger@aol.com or 984-5146.

President's Message

Remembering Janet Fowler

For those of us who worked with Janet Fowler, we remember her as a friend and a dedicated leader of our AAUW Branch.

Janet was President of the Buffalo Branch during 2004-2005 and was elected to a second term for 2008-09. For more than ten years she served on the Board of Directors holding diverse offices, sharing not only her financial expertise, but her creativity and joy for life. Professionally, Janet worked for Citicorp North America, Inc. and was a controller at the time of her retirement. As Loans Funds Chair of the Buffalo Branch, she managed the Chamberlin Fund, interviewed applicants and with persistence made sure the loans were re-paid. In addition, she guided the board through the legal maze to obtain a 501(c)(3) designation for our Scholarship work.



Janet was a Master Gardener. When

Thanks to Pauline Dyson who provided this photo of Janet, taken at the Botanical Gardens in January 2008.

she hosted a meeting at her house, we had to first walk through her beautiful city garden and of course leave with a bouquet of flowers. She loved gardening so much that she initiated the Green Thumbs Garden Study Group for the branch. In 2002, Janet co-chaired the Branch's first Transitions Conference for women returning to school. This project was of serious interest to her because she returned to college to complete her BS Degree (Medaille College) as a non-traditional student. In her memory a fund has been established to further her wishes of educational assistance to non-traditional students. Members who wish to remember our dear friend and her fine leadership may send a check to Betty Preble. (write checks to "AAUW Funds for Education" and send to Betty at 6935 East Quaker, Orchard Park, NY 14127)

Sincerely,
Marguerite Collesano



Call for two volunteers



We are in the planning stages for our February 7 and April 4 programs. Fabulous topics have been chosen, but we need people to serve as

chairs. This only involves being responsible for collecting the reservations/checks and bringing the snacks.

Contact Susan McClary if you are able to help. (eeyore123@verizon.net or 636-2854).

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

President: Marguerite Collesano

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For prospective or new member questions, contact VP Membership Recruitment, Bev Schwiegerling. (schwieg@roadrunner.com, 652-7182) or Nancy Langer (984-5146 or nmlanger@aol.com)

For renewal questions, contact VPs Membership Retention, Kristin Bojanowski (kaybee74@gmail.com, 873-7387) or Michelle Norris (mnorris@mtb.com, 877-5484)

December 2008
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Buffalo Branch Study/Interest Groups - Schedules for the Month

Study groups are an excellent way to form friendships, network, educate yourself 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 or von104@roadrunner.com.

American Biographies

When: No meeting for December '08 or January '09
– due to the weather

Contact: Jean Sylvester: 838-6780 or jeangroversylvester@yahoo.com

Contact: Lillis McLean: 873-7467 or lillismclean@hotmail.com

Clueless Mystery Book Club

When: Wednesday, December 3, 2008, at 6:00 pm

Where: Friendly's, 4350 Maple Road, Amherst

Book: *In A Strange City*, by Laura Lippman

Facilitator: Kate Collins

Contact: Suzanne Grossman: 837-8769

Dinner by the book

When: Wednesday, December 17, at 5:30 pm

Where: Café in the Square

Book: *Luncheon of the Boating Party*, by Susan Vreeland

Facilitator: Leona Barback

Discussion Leader: Marilyn Carmichael

Contact: Marilyn Carmichael: 228-8626 or mcar-michael45@aol.com

Green Thumbs Garden Study

When: TBA

Contact: Claudia Kolbe-Hawthorne 833-2251 or hdhckh@msn.com

Knitting Group

When: no meeting until January, 2009

Contact: Karen Howard or kkhoward@roadrunner.com

Writing Workshop

Do you want to write poetry or short vignettes? Are you already a writer who wants to sharpen her skills? Or are you looking for a creative outlet? AAUW member and published writer Linda Drajem is interested in offering a writing workshop. Each session would begin with a writing activity, then sharing and feedback.



AAUW members interested in participating in such a workshop meeting monthly please e-mail LDrajem@roadrunner.com or contact study group coordinator Yvonne Curry (716 -553-3925) to ask questions or reserve a spot.

TS4 Volunteers Needed

March (and Tech Savvy 4) seem to be just around the corner. This year's theme is *Charting a Pathway to Success*. The committee is doing a little charting and planning for needs for the big day, Saturday, March 7, 2009. Won't you join us -- and about 400 girls plus their parents and teachers -- to make this day a success?

The listing below outlines some of the help we need now and on the day of the event. There's a lot to do, so you can choose to volunteer as little as 4 hours or to work on a specific, small planning task!

- Planning Help: Members willing to work to develop a fun activity for the girls (Those with backgrounds in life mapping or career planning may be especially helpful!)
- Planning Help: We need someone to work on the pre-tech savvy reception -- Marriott Hotel on Friday, March 6 (food details, invitations, etc.).

- Help with mailings (once or twice in Dec/Jan; once in

March)

- Help with tote bag stuffing (once in March)
- Fun pre-work: We need one to two people willing to shop! These members will be responsible for student/parent giveaways and thank you gifts for presenters.
- At the event: We will again need at least 50 volunteers... We are already putting together lists of people to "woman" the student workshop area and other sessions. We will also need people to work registration and would like to have a person to observe each student workshop session (fun!) It's a great time to bring along a friend, and there is little time involved: You choose morning or afternoon (3-5 hours)...
- At the event: We are looking for a couple of people to accompany our guest speakers for the day.

Please call Tamara Brown at 649-9871 or e-mail at tbforaauwbranch@cs.com to volunteer.

Booksale Corner

With books piling into the Kensington Bailey sorting site at an unanticipated rate, the Book Sale Executive Committee has expanded its sorting hours and issued a plea for additional help.



Sorting is now being done two days a week: Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at Kensington-Bailey Neighborhood Housing Services, 995 Kensington Ave. Your help is very much needed. Drop by for as long or short a period as you can manage.

While the committee solicits and welcomes donations of books, some guidelines must apply. Organizations and institutions weeding out or disposing of their libraries have in the past dumped them on the book sale without checking the sale's willingness or ability to accept them. If you are aware of any group or individual planning to donate a huge number of books, please advise them to talk to one of the book sale contacts first.

The sale's storage space and garbage disposal system are extremely limited.

Having said that, the sale is accepting donations at the sorting site 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Pat Swift MacClennan

Convention News!

The spring 2009 AAUW-NYS convention will be held April 24-26 at the luxurious Sagamore island resort on beautiful Lake George, the site of next spring's convention. The keynote speaker will be Jill Birdwhistell, the Chief of Strategic Advancement for AAUW, where her role is to work closely with national staff and AAUW leaders to facilitate implementation of Board goals and AAUW Strategic Planning. Dr. Birdwhistell holds a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, a MEd from the University of Virginia, and a PhD in Higher Education Administration and Policy/Law from the University of Virginia. Before coming to AAUW, she taught high school and served on the faculties of KU, UVA, and Tulane University. She was the Sr. V.P. for America's Health TV Network, and a senior executive for several national health-related organizations. Those state board members who have heard her attest to her interesting and dynamic presentations.



Did you Know?

A national AAUW Education Foundation grant is at work right here in Buffalo! Branch member Dr Catherine Lange is using a Community Action grant for her local project.

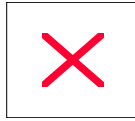
The MASTR (Motivating All Students Through Rolemodels) series will be held during the present academic school year at Buffalo State College. The grant will fund an informal pizza/salad evening from 6-9 where girls of all ages are invited to attend to hear from women who are successful in their field, specifically what it is like on a day to day basis to be a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) professional. Recent research has indicated that if girls are exposed to role models at an early age, they can then visualize themselves in that occupation. This same research also indicates that early intervention with school officials and parent and/or guardian participation promotes additional success because only then will girls be guided into the correct coursework and through the application process for higher degrees. The informal setting allows young ladies to approach and speak to veteran STEM professionals about their education, inspiration and motivations associated with their career.

The next scheduled careers to be explored are Medicine on December 16 and Computer Engineering on January 27.

A flyer with the full schedule is available at <http://aauw-nys.org/Buffalo/MASTR-flyer.pdf>. See that schedule for details and contact Cathy Lange, langecl@buffalostate.edu, for additional information.

* Help Support the AAUW Education Foundation - Raffle tickets will be available at the December meeting for the AAUW-NYS Education Foundation's "Rest and Relax" package. Just \$5 for a chance to win \$40 in Lowes gift cards, a one-night hotel stay and a restaurant gift certificate. You and the Buffalo Branch will receive credit for your contribution.

The American Association of University Women - Buffalo Branch



Presents

**A Breakfast Seminar & Tour of the VA's
Women's Wellness Center
Saturday, January 24, 2009
at the VA Medical Center Room – Freedom Hall 3rd Floor
3495 Bailey Avenue (across from the UB South Campus)**

**Our Guest Speaker for
“Challenges Facing our Women in the Military -
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder”
is Dr. Terri Julian, PhD
of the Batavia VA Medical Center**



Registration begins at 9:30

Free parking available at the facility

**The cost is \$5 per person, which includes a Continental Breakfast. All funds must be received before the event. No payments will be accepted at the door due to Federal Regulations. Please make your reservations by January 17, 2009. Checks should be made payable to the AAUW – Buffalo Branch
Mail to: Peggy Meinel, 96 Mafalda Drive, Buffalo, NY 14215**



Questions: Call Peggy at 834-0439 or e-mail at aurorapm1219@aol.com

Name: _____ Number Attending: _____

Address: _____ Phone #: _____

Please enclose a check for \$5 for each person attending. Remember, deadline is January 17!
I would like a ride to the meeting (please circle) → Yes No

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance.

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 a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Wed, Dec 3, 5:45-8 pm** - Board Meeting, Amherst Audubon Library
- Mon, Dec 8, 5:30-7:30** - December Holiday Program, Art Gallery of the Charles Burchfield Nature and Art Center (details on pg 1)
- Sat, Jan 24** - VA Hospital program (details on pg 5)
- Sat, Feb 7, 10:00 - noon** - Audubon Library. Deb Naybor will present biographies of some fascinating women
- Sat, Mar 7** - Tech Savvy 4 at UB
- Sun, Mar 8** - International Women's Day Brunch at Samuel's Grande Manor
- Sat, Apr 4 10:00 - noon** - Audubon library; Carol Harlos, master gardener, will discuss herbs
- April 24-26** - AAUW-NYS Convention at the Sagamore on Lake George
- Sat, May 2** - Annual Awards Lunch at the Westwood Country Club

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



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