



Buffalo Branch Advocate

May 2009
<http://aauw.buffalo.edu>
716-559-3037



NYS District 1

Highlights:

- Pg 1 - May Program
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The deadline for each issue is the 10th of the previous month.

Articles received after that may not appear in the next issue.

Please send articles to Betty Preble via e-mail:

betty.preble@gmail.com

If you would like to receive the *Advocate* via e-mail, please also email Betty with that request.

AAUW Buffalo Branch Annual Awards Luncheon and General Elections

A Celebration of Women
Saturday, May 2, 2009

**Westwood Country Club
772 North Forest Road
Williamsville**

Proceedings

The event will begin at 11:30 am with a wonderful chance to mingle over mimosas and enjoy special musical selections. Enjoy a leisurely conversation with fellow branch members. Even more, support the Legal Advocacy Fund with a donation of your choice.

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 2009-2010.

Luncheon Selection

Guests will enjoy one of three entree selections: chicken, salmon, or vegetarian pasta.

For information please call Judith Anderson, Luncheon Chair, at 655-1993. Please send reservations by April 20 using the form below.

Registration form for May 2 Annual Awards Luncheon.

Send to: Ms. Judith Anderson, 8 Woodbrook Drive, Apt. 4, East Aurora, NY 14052 by April 20, 2009

Member Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Guest Name(s): _____

Luncheon Selection(s): _____ *Chicken* _____ *Salmon* _____ *Pasta*

Cost: \$25 per person, payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch EF

You may include optional donation, in the amount of your choice, for the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund. Donations to LAF may also be brought to the pre-luncheon social.

Please respond by **April 20** to: Ms. Judith Anderson
8 Woodbrook Drive, Apt. 4
East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 655-1993

President's Message

It is finally springtime and I'm hoping to see many of our members at the Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon, May 2nd, at the beautiful Westwood Country Club in Williamsville.



Tamara Brown will be honored at this event for her dedicated and outstanding leadership. She served two terms as President (2005-2006 and 2007-2008). She initiated and has chaired Tech Savvy, the successful day-long program for girls ages 9 – 12.

This year the program, which highlights Math and Science, registered 450 students plus 160 parents and teachers from area schools. In addition, Tamara serves on the New York State Board of AAUW as Educational Foundation Vice President. For these past five years, Tamara has guided our local branch with intelligence and grace.

It is not too soon to be thinking ahead to June, with the transition of officers and when new committee appointments are made.

The success of any organization is in realizing grass-roots participation. I'm asking members to review the programs and think about how to share your talents. Consider joining a committee, offer an idea for a pro-

gram, and take a leadership role. The highlights of our program include a Pot-Luck Dinner in September, the District 1 Fall Conference, the Holiday Get-Together, International Women's Day, and the Awards Luncheon. Don't wait to be asked! E-mail or call me or any of the board members to express your interest in joining a committee.

Our programs this year were well attended. If you have an idea for a program, e-mail the Program VP, Susan McClary, and her committee will help you to develop a program for next year.

The board is eager to expand the Interest and Study Groups. Yvonne Curry, coordinator, will advise you in planning and organizing a group. Some ideas that come to mind that would add variety include:

- learning a foreign language
- the English Novel (American, Russian)
- healthy diets
- feminist literature
- yoga, physical exercise, a walking group
- poetry reading and writing

Explore an idea, get together with 3 – 5 women and run with it!

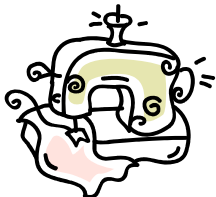
Sincerely,

Marguerite Collesano



Wanted: Used Sewing Machines!

Anyone who has a sewing machine which could be donated, please contact either Elaine Bogumil at Journey's End, 882-4963, X15 or cell 783-5975 or Lillis McLean at 873-7467 or email lillismclean@live.com



Lillis will be happy to pick the machine up.

A group of Burmese refugees are trying to set up a small business in sewing under the direction of Lay Lay Moe who was at our March 8 brunch.

Lillis McLean,
International Relations Director

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

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 Schwierling. (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 (gootzilla@msn.com, 877-5484)

May 2009
Vol. CXIX No. 9
Circulation 250

Buffalo Branch Study/Interest Groups - Schedules 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@roadrunner.com

American Biographies

No further meetings until Thursday, September 10, 2009

Book: *No Ordinary Time*, by Doris Kearns Goodwin

Discussion Leader: Jean Sylvester

Where: Amherst Library, Snyder / Eggertsville Library, 4622 Main St. Snyder

Contact: Jean Sylvester: 838-6780 or

jeangroversylvester@yahoo.com

Co Contact: Lillis McLean: 873-7467 or

lillismclean@live.com

Clueless Mystery Book Club

When: **Wednesday, May 27, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.**

Where: The Plaka Restaurant, 2904 Delaware Avenue, Kenmore

Book: *Southampton Road*, by Anne Perry

Facilitator: Karen Howard

Contact: Suzanne Grossman: 837-8769

Dinner by the book

When: **Wednesday, May 20, 2009 at 5:30 pm**

Where: The Plaka Restaurant, 2904 Delaware Avenue, Kenmore

Book: *Harriet and Isabella*, by Patricia O'Brien

Discussion Leaders: Pat Weber & Colleen Frey

Facilitator: Lynne Tauriello

Reservations: Fran Witnauer 688-5708 or

Grandmafran44@yahoo.com

For general questions:

Leona Barback, 633-1982 or barleo@roadrunner.com

or Marilyn Carmichael, 228-8626 or

mcarmichael45@aol.com

Grassroots Grants!

The AAUW Buffalo Branch, Inc. announces its Grassroots Grants program for women and girls for 2009-10. The goal of the Grants program is the promotion of equity, gender awareness and lifelong learning. Grants of up to \$1500 are available in three categories: Individual Awards, High School Leadership and non-profit Community Organizations. The deadline for completed applications is May 30, 2009. Details and an application can be found at www.aauw.buffalo.edu.

Green Thumbs Garden Group

Watch your e-mail for June events!

Contact: -Diane Silvestro, 631-3349 or

belvoir6@hotmail.com

Knitting Group

When: **Thursday, May 28, 2009 at 3:00pm**

Where: Sheridan Drive @ International Drive and Evans Rd.

(*Please contact Karen for exact location)

Contact: Karen Howard, 874-1389 or

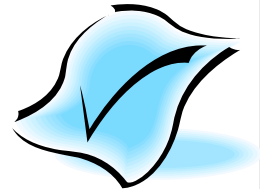
kkhoward@roadrunner.com



Officer Candidates for 2009-2010

The following people will be presented at the May annual meeting for election to office for 2009-2010:

- President: Marguerite Collesano (1 year term)
- Vice President for Program: Yvonne Curry (2 year term)
- Vice President of Membership Retention: Susan McClary (2 year term)
- Nominating Committee: Tamara Brown will continue as chair along with the nominating committee in place for 2008-09. Members of the committee are Joan Trinchera, Judy Weidemann, Bertha Boston and Peggy Meinl. (1 year term for all).



The following slate positions (all 2 year terms) remain open at the time of publishing:

- President-elect,
- Treasurer,
- Chamberlin/Funds for Education Treasurer.

Tamara Brown,

Nominating Committee Chair

Members and Friends Honored by AAUW Educational Foundation

Having donated \$16,000 to the AAUW Education Foundation, we are pleased to honor 32 individuals at both the AAUW-NYS convention and at our annual luncheon on May 2. A fortunate woman or organization will receive funding for further academic study or a community project through these gifts. This is our list of honorees.

- During the past year we have lost members, friends, and spouses: Carol Battle, Richard Carrier, Alison DesForges, Janet Fowler, Alan Fowler, Gretchen Stringer, and Charles Weiss.
- Key Bank has generously hosted our Finance Committee meetings and Progyamita Bhattacharya has faithfully maintained our website for many years.
- Pat Baker, Leona Barback, Bertha Boston,

Tamara Brown, Frederica Cheek, Kerry Collins-Gross, Constance Combs, Judith Clare, Anastasia Johnson, Claudia Kania, Anita Kunkle, Barbara Libby, Patricia Swift-MacClennan, Susan McClary, Lyn McDonald, Lillis McLean, Teresa Miklitsch, Michelle Norris, Suzanne Oliver, Joan Trinchera, Julia Weidemann, Ingrid Wetherbee, and Catherine Weiss have especially generously given of their time and talent to the myriad of our activities. These include our booksale, various scholarship, loan and grant programs, the *Advocate*, Sister2Sister, and Tech Savvy.

It is with the help of so many individuals like these, sister branches, and like-minded organizations that we fulfill the mission of AAUW and advance educational and career opportunities for (men and) women. Thank you!

Betty Krist, Co-EV VP

A bit more about our 2009 Woman of Achievement - our own Tamara Brown

A native of Vicksburg, Mississippi, Tamara Brown has been a part of the Western New York community since 1994.

A National Merit Finalist, Tamara graduated from Vicksburg High School with honors. Involvement in many organizations spurred a passion for community efforts and volunteerism, and she spent time during high school in activities at the Mississippi State legislature and in the nation's capital.

Tamara chose to attend Vanderbilt University and completed a double major in biomedical engineering and chemical engineering. While there she served for three years on the school's historic Honor Council and reviewed cases as a part of the Undergraduate Student Conduct Council.

She received her Master of Engineering degree in chemical engineering from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Her studies included a focus in technology management and materials. Her Masters' project focused on the use of "bio dots", synthesized nanomaterials used as biological tags. Tamara also completed a program in small business management from the Center for Entrepreneurship at Canisius College / Wheel School of Business.

Professionally, Tamara focuses on emerging technology in the healthcare market. Since moving to Western New York her work has included the design and development of many new medical devices including auto-transfusion systems, orthopedic products, and fiber optic surgical devices. Tamara has led teams in the development of patented medical devices and has contributed to technical publications.

In 2008 she moved to Project Controls team in Praxair's U.S. Project Execution Center - focusing on cost and schedule control for new chemical plant builds and expansions in the United States.

She recently accepted an invitation to serve as an advisory board member of the American Council of Medical Innovation chaired by Congressman Richard Gephardt.

Overwhelmingly, Tamara's community involvement is focused on improving opportunities for women and children. Her AAUW work has included leadership at the branch, state and national levels. At Praxair, she is active in the mentoring program and also leads the Praxair Scientist program. She has also been involved with the Girl Scouts, "Explore and More" NCCA and the National Assn of Negro Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc



Booksale Corner



The 55th Scholarship Book Sale will be held in the Office Depot Plaza at 2309 Eggert Rd. Tonawanda. The new site, located at the corner of Sheridan Dr. and Eggert Rd., had its grand opening on April 9 and books are being collected and sorted there weekdays from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. with the exception of Tuesdays, when it is open until 8 p.m. Saturday hours are 9 a.m. until noon (except on May 2.) Members are urged to select a work shift from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. If you are working during the day, you might be able to help out at the site on Tuesday evenings or Saturday mornings.

Veteran book sale workers describe the site as the most pleasant venue that has been available in recent years. The management even did some of our housework for us—washing windows and scrubbing floors. Stop by for a tour.

The sale will open May 27 and continue through May 31. There is still time for you to sign up to work during the sale. You should have received in the mail a list of jobs and a schedule for volunteers from the

Volunteer Empowerment Committee chairs. (Please note the dates of the sale were incorrect in the first section of the volunteers' blue book.)

The success of the book sale, which is very closely tied to the success of the branch, depends on every member making an effort to help. Your contribution is what makes the difference in the bottom line.

We could also use some of your friends, especially young, able-bodied males wanting to do some body building lifting boxes of books onto the table.

You have a number of choices in how you want to support the sale and it is important to make a decision soon and return your volunteer sheet so schedules can be completed leaving sale workers with one less thing to worry about. There are hundreds of tasks connected to a project of this magnitude and not a whole lot of people handling them.

All members are invited to an open house at the sale site on Tuesday, May 19, from 4 to 7 p.m. Those attending can check out the facility, look over the collection and buy any of the regularly-priced books (\$1.00 for hard cover and .50 cents for paperbacks). Specially priced books destined for the Collectible Corner will not be available.

Pat Swift MacClennan

Chamberlin Loan Fund and Funds for Education Update

The June 1 deadline for one of the Branch's college loans and grants programs is fast approaching. Applications for the Chamberlin Loan Fund and Funds for Education are available through the internet or via snail mail.

Awards are made twice a year to Western New York women and men enrolled in undergraduate or graduate programs in accredited colleges and universities. The last round of applications resulted in six students sharing \$17,000 in interest-free loans and/or grants.

Awards are given on the basis of academic achievement, financial need, and potential for achieving academic goals. Funds are provided by bequests to the

branch and proceeds of the annual Scholarship Book Sale.

Applications for Chamberlin Loan Fund and Funds for Education loans and 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 also may request applications at Chamberlinfund@yahoo.com. or by calling 559-3037.



Pat Swift MacClennan

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

Sat, May 2 - Annual Awards Luncheon at the Westwood Country Club (information and registration form on page 7)

Sat, May 2 - Sister to Sister at Buff State

Wed, May 6, 5:45 pm - Board Meeting, Audubon Library

Wed-Sun, May 27-31 - **BOOKSALE!** 2309 Eggert Rd., Tonawanda

Wed, June 3 - Joint Board Meeting at Marguerite's Canada home (tentative)

June 26-28 - AAUW Convention in St Louis, MO

June 30 - 2009-2010 dues are due

July 10-12 - AAUW-NYS Leadership Conference at Hartwick College (new location this year)

This newsletter was delivered to the William Street Post Office, Buffalo, NY on Apr 16, 2009.
Moving? Please contact Freddie Cheek, 716-835-6945.



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