



February 2010

716.559.3037 - [aauw.buffalo.edu](http://aauw.buffalo.edu)

## February Program Tours COE

The New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics & Life Sciences (COE) was created in Buffalo, New York in 2002 as part of more than \$200 million dollars in investment from state, federal, industry and philanthropic sources to create a hub of life sciences expertise and innovation in Upstate New York. The COE brings a strong foundation in life sciences research and discovery to its mission and collaborative efforts with industry, government and researchers around the world to improve the health and well being of the population. The University at Buffalo is the lead academic organization with Roswell Park Cancer Institute and Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute as research partners.

On Saturday, February 20th we'll have an opportunity to see COE for ourselves. Starting at 9 AM, with a continental breakfast catered by Au Bon Pain, we'll be introduced by Director of Operations, Dr. Karen Utz, to many of the unique and exciting activities at COE. Then we'll divide into 3 groups and rotate through tours of the COE, a

video at the Hauptman-Woodward Institute, and demonstrations at the supercomputer visualization center. All these facilities are within short walking distances and entirely accessible indoors. We'll be finished by noon. **If you'd like some assistance getting around the facilities, please give Betty Krist (675-4059) a call to make appropriate arrangements.**

Parking is convenient to the 701 Ellicott Street entrance where you can pick-up your nametag and be directed to breakfast. We'll have coffee, tea, juice, pastry, muffins, bagels, fresh fruit, and condiments. The cost is \$11.50 including tax and gratuity. Please send your reservation to Betty Krist by February 10. **A registration form can be found on page 7.**

Join us for an informative morning learning about one of the most exciting recent developments in Western New York.

As always, friends are welcome!

### March Program -

## PROGRESS IN EQUITY: NORTH AMERICAN WOMEN

A Gala Champagne Brunch

Where: Samuel's Grande Manor, 8750 Main Street

When: Saturday, March 6, 2010

Time: 11:00 AM

Featuring speakers on the status of Women in Mexico, Canada and the United States

Registration form for the March 6 Gala Champagne Brunch

Mail to: Lillis McLean, 366 Victoria Blvd, Kenmore, 14217 by March 1, 2010

My check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$25.00 per person) payable to the AAUW Buffalo Branch is enclosed.

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

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

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

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

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

I would like a ride to the program - please circle: Yes No

### Dates to Remember:

- **Sat, Jan 30, 2 - 4 pm**, Refugees in Buffalo, pg. 4
- **Wed, Feb 3, 4:30 pm**, Board Meeting, Key Bank, 550 Essjay Road, **\*NEW TIME**
- **Sat, Feb 20, 9am-12 PM**, February COE Program
- **Wed, Mar 3, 4:30 PM**, Board meeting, Ebenezer UCC **\*NEW LOCATION**
- **Sat, Mar 6**, International Women's Day Brunch at Samuel's Grande Manor, pg. 1
- **Fri-Sat, Mar 12-13**, pre-Tech-Savvy Reception and Tech Savvy Event, pg. 5
- **Fri, Mar 27**, Sister-to-Sister
- **Tue, Apr 20**, April Dinner Program, see page 3
- **Fri-Sun, April 23-25**, AAUW-NYS Convention, Cooperstown, NY
- **Sat, May 15, 2010**, Annual Meeting/awards luncheon
- **Wed-Sun, June 2-6, 2010** - 56th Annual Booksale!
- **Fri-Sun, July 9-11, 2010** - NYS Leadership Conference, Pg. 7

### Inside this issue:

FEBRUARY PROGRAM	<b>1</b>
PROGRESS IN EQUITY	
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	<b>2</b>
INTEREST GROUPS	<b>3</b>
AAUW ART CONTEST	<b>4</b>
JANUARY PROGRAM	
TECH SAVVY	<b>5</b>
BOOK SALE CORNER	<b>6</b>
AAUW-NYS NEWS	<b>7</b>

# President's Message

---

## Happy New Year to all!

My spirit soars with a new beginning and starting over with a list of resolutions! Here are some I'll share:

- I'll spend more hours working for the Book Sale, sorting and packing.
- I'll seek out at least one new member to join AAUW, particularly someone younger than I.
- I'll get a new member involved in a committee.
- I'll get in the habit of asking for more help. Generally, people are willing to lend a hand and give advice.
- To learn more about the experience of college women in the 2010 environment.
- To learn and read more about the life experience of women in other countries.
- Finally, to finish reading the three books I started before the holidays – *Eleanor & Franklin*, 1971 (Lash); *Eleanor Roosevelt*, 1992 (Cook); and *Infidel* by Ayaan Hirsi Ali, a biography of a woman who was born in Somalia, grew up in Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, and Kenya, and her flight to the Netherlands. Her memoirs tell of third world conditions of warfare, clan rivalry, scarcity and repression.

\*\*\*\*\*



I am looking forward to seeing many of you in the coming months. The January program offers us an opportunity to learn

about the thousands of refugees who have settled in Buffalo, refugees from the Sudan, Somalia, Burma, and other countries. Perhaps you read Donn Esmonde's commentary in *The Buffalo News*, "Refugee's Freedom Has a Price" (January 3, 2010). He writes about Myothant, a man who escaped the military dictatorship in Burma, a dictatorship "that has for decades silenced free speech at the end of a gun". Edmonde writes, "if you want to appreciate what freedom is and the choices it gives each of us, talk to someone who knows what it is like not to have it."

Join us for a conversation, "Refugees in Buffalo," with two women who are in the forefront of aiding refugees in Buffalo: Mary Callahan, Co-Chair of Peace House Committee: New Organization for Asylum Seekers; and Stephanie Lipnicki, Director of Financially Fit, an AAUW sponsored program for women refugees at Jericho Road Ministries.

Sincerely,

Marguerite Collesano

"When will our consciences grow so tender that we will act to prevent human misery rather than avenge it?"

- *Eleanor Roosevelt*

---

## THE BUFFALO BRANCH ADVOCATE

is published monthly Sep-June as a bulletin of events for members and as an update on AAUW issues and programs.

- President: Marguerite Collesano
- Publisher/Editor: Maria Coppola
- Assistant Editors: Betty Preble, Judy Weidemann, Betty Krist

Send address changes to:

Freddie Cheek  
406 Maynard Drive  
Amherst, NY 14226-2929

For prospective or new member questions, contact Bev Schwiegerling, VP of Membership Recruitment, at 652-7182 or [schwieg@roadrunner.com](mailto:schwieg@roadrunner.com). Or for renewal questions, contact Susan McClary, VP of Membership Retention, at 636-2854 or [smclary2@verizon.net](mailto:smclary2@verizon.net).

February 2010

Vol. CXX No. 6

Circulation 220





## Buffalo Branch Study & Interest Groups

### Schedules for the Month:

Study groups are a great way to form friendships, network, learn and have fun. If you're interested in joining a group, contact the person listed for the group. She can give you all the information you need. Remember, guests are welcome at a limited number of meetings of each interest group. Also, to be an active participant in AAUW sponsored group, branch membership is required. If you would like to suggest a new Study Group or bring back a former one, please contact Study Group co-ordinator Anita Kunkle @ 649-8863 or email [amkun05@msn.com](mailto:amkun05@msn.com).

**American Biographies** You are welcome whether you have read the book or not; we are a small, interesting group.

**When:** Thursday, Feb 11, 2010 , 1:30 pm

**Where:** Eggertsville/Snyder Library, 4622 Main Street

**Book:** "Elizabeth Cady Stanton, An American Biography" by Lori Ginsberg, historian at Carnegie-Mellon. This is "an untidy history of women's movements in antebellum New York."

**Discussion Leader:** Pauline Dyson

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

### Dinner by the Book

**When:** Wednesday, Feb 17, 2010, 5:30 pm

**Where:** Dandelions Restaurant, 1340 North Forest Road

**Book:** "The Tortilla Curtain" by T.C. Boyle; **Discussion Leader:** Judy Malamas; **Facilitator:** Mary Crocker

**Questions:** Contact **Leona Barback**, 633-1982 or [barleo@roadrunner.com](mailto:barleo@roadrunner.com) or **Marilyn Carmichael**, 228-8626 or [mcarmichael45@aol.com](mailto:mcarmichael45@aol.com)

**RESERVATIONS (REQUIRED):** Contact Fran Witnauer, 688-5708 or [Grandmafran44@yahoo.com](mailto:Grandmafran44@yahoo.com)

### Clueless Mystery Book Club

**When:** Wednesday, Feb 24 , 2010, 6:00 pm

**Where:** Friendly's, 4350 Maple Road

**Book:** "Tyranosaur Canyon" by Douglas Preston

**Discussion Leader:** Karen Howard

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

### Knitting Group

Anyone interested in knitting, beginner to advanced, is welcome to join the group.

**When:** Thursday, Feb. 25, 2 PM

**Where:** Barnes & Noble, 4401 Transit Road

**Questions:** Contact Karen Howard at 874-1389 or by email at [kkhoward@roadrunner.com](mailto:kkhoward@roadrunner.com).



### New Interest Group: Writing Workshop Group

Beginning with Garrison Keillor's *Good Poems for Hard Times* and the Billy Collins book *The Trouble With Poetry* we will read some current poems, discuss them, and explore them through freewriting.

We will use poems as starting points but there is no pressure to finish or to share among group members.

**When:** Thursday, Feb 25th at 3:00 pm

**Where:** Crane Library, 633 Elmwood Ave.

**Questions:** Call Linda Drajem at 553-0864 or email at [Ldrajem@roadrunner.com](mailto:Ldrajem@roadrunner.com)



## Volunteers needed

### Saturday March 27



The Sister to Sister Summit is being held at Buffalo State College on Saturday, March 27. Registration and other events take place at the Student Union. We need people to help for all or part of that day. We need the most help starting at 7:45 in the morning. Let me know if you can help either at [gsoliver@verizon.net](mailto:gsoliver@verizon.net) or by phone at 652-1230. Thank you. - Sue Oliver

## Save the Date: April Dinner Program at the 20th Century Club

AAUW's April dinner program will include a very special discussion presentation on fabulous first ladies, including the activist role first ladies have taken. This special program will be held at the historic Twentieth Century Club whose membership is also celebrating a very special anniversary this year. Please save the date for Tuesday, evening, April 20, 2010 and look for the upcoming reservation form.

## Calling all AAUW Artists



### Art Contest

AAUW announces the 2010 AAUW art contest, a showcase of the artistic talents of AAUW members. The contest is open exclusively to AAUW members, who may submit their original artwork beginning January 8, 2010. The winning entries will be displayed in the 2010–11 AAUW calendar, with a unique work of art presented each month.

AAUW members will select the designs that appear in the calendar by voting online once a week for their favorites. All members will receive the new AAUW 2010–11 calendar featuring the winning entries.\*

Enter soon and encourage your friends to do so, too. Then make sure to visit the AAUW design gallery to see all of the terrific submis-

sions and to vote for your favorites.

Help us ensure that the calendars we mail to AAUW members this year are uniquely AAUW!

#### Important Dates

- **January 8–February 10:** Submit your designs through the art contest website.
- **February 11–March 11:** Visit the website once a week to vote for your favorite designs.

\*The calendar as well as note cards featuring the winning designs will also be available for purchase at ShopAAUW.

## "Refugees in Buffalo"



#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

### Mid-Winter Retreat for Women

Rediscover-Recreate-Renew your creative self

January 30th,  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

SS Columba-Brigid Church, 75 Hickory Street, Buffalo, NY

\$30 Donation to Buffalo Peace House to support its mission.

For additional information contact Linda Drajem at [ldrajem@roadrunner.com](mailto:ldrajem@roadrunner.com) or Evelyn Brady at [ebrady7@verizon.net](mailto:ebrady7@verizon.net)

Join us for tea, finger foods and conversation with women on the forefront of helping refugees in Buffalo. Program speakers include:

- Mary Callahan, Co-Chair of Peace House Committee: New Organization for Asylum Seekers
- Stephanie Lipnicki, Director of "Financially Fit", an AAUW sponsored program for women refugees at Jericho Road Ministries

**Place:** SS Columba-Brigid Church, 75 Hickory Street, Buffalo, NY (near Bennett-Park Montessori School)

**When:** Saturday, Jan 30, 2:00 to 4:00 pm

**Registration:** \$6.00

Please send checks, payable to AAUW-Buffalo Branch, to Lillis McLean at 366 Victoria Blvd, Kenmore, NY 14217.

**Registration Deadline:** Monday, Jan 25

**Questions:** Contact any of following:

Linda Drajem - [ldrajem@roadrunner.com](mailto:ldrajem@roadrunner.com)

Lillis McLean - [lillismclean@live.com](mailto:lillismclean@live.com)

Yvonne Curry - 716-553-3925 or [yon104@roadrunner.com](mailto:yon104@roadrunner.com)

#### Registration form for the January 30 Branch Program

Mail to: Lillis McLean, 366 Victoria Blvd, Kenmore, 14217 by January 25, 2010

My check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$6.00 per person) payable to the AAUW Buffalo Branch is enclosed.

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Mark Your Calendar for Tech Savvy's Fifth Anniversary Events!

This year, we are celebrating Tech Savvy's 5th anniversary with the theme: **Tech Savvy Girls: Girls Who Have a Clue...**

Whether you plan to come to the beginning or end of Tech Savvy—or sometime in between—you are sure to find something enlightening. After all, for five years, we have inspired many middle school girls to pursue STEM careers—involving science, technology, engineering, and math. And, we have enlightened many parents, teachers, and other adults through AAUW research and practical sessions. We are almost ready to welcome 750 girls, parents, and teachers on Saturday, March 13, and we hope to see all AAUW members that weekend.

Here is some information for your calendar:

### Friday, March 12, 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Tech Savvy Reception at Ramada Inn (formerly University Inn & Conference Center) in Amherst, featuring a preview of AAUW's not yet released research report on STEM. Christianne Corbett, research associate for AAUW's national educational foundation, will preview the report. Join all Tech Savvy volunteers and presenters, our keynote speaker Dr. Heather Rozzi, and Lilly Ledbetter. Our partners, including major sponsor, Praxair, and UB's School of Engineering, who graciously sponsor the reception, and a new sponsor will be in attendance. There is no charge to attend but registration is required.

### Saturday, March 13, 7 AM – 4 PM

Tech Savvy 5 at UB's North Campus Student Union. We need 50 volunteers for the day.

Please let us know if you can volunteer. Light breakfast foods and lunch will be provided for all volunteers.

### Saturday, March 13, 10:00 AM

Lilly Ledbetter opens the adult session. We are opening this session to members who would like to hear Lilly's talk and cannot stay for the entire session.

### Saturday, March 13

#### Tech Savvy Adult Session.

If you would like to attend the entire adult session, which includes the Tech Savvy tote bag, light breakfast items, lunch, and sessions as follows, please include \$5 registration fee.

- 8:30 AM - Registration
- 9:30 AM - Kickoff
- 10:00 AM - Opening session with Lilly Ledbetter
- 11:00 AM - "How to Engineer Your Life" Workshop by Drs. Kerry Collins-Gross and Teresa Miklitch of UB's School of Engineering
- Noon - Cyberbullying Presentation by The Ophelia Project
- 1:00 - Cryogenic presentation by Praxair Inc. and free time to meet speakers and college representatives
- 1:30 - Presentation by Elizabeth Casciani, Vice President of Operations & Services, Praxair, Inc.
- 2:30 Keynote Address by Dr. Heather Rozzi

Questions about Tech Savvy? Call Tamara Brown at 649-9871

## TECH SAVVY'S

## FIFTH

## ANNIVERSARY

## EVENT IS THEMED:

## "TECH SAVVY

## GIRLS: GIRLS WHO

## HAVE A CLUE..."

### Tech Savvy Participation – Registration Form

Please mail to Tamara Brown, AAUW, PO Box 311, Buffalo, NY 14201-0311 before Feb 25, 2010

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

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

\_\_\_ Planning to help stuff tote bags on Thursday, March 4 (United Way, 742 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo)

\_\_\_ Planning to attend Tech Savvy Reception at 5:30pm on Friday, March 12 (No cost to attend)

\_\_\_ Planning to Volunteer at Tech Savvy, Saturday, March 13

\_\_\_ Morning shift (7am – 1pm)      \_\_\_ Afternoon shift (11 AM – 5pm)      \_\_\_ All day

Available other times: \_\_\_\_\_

#### For those not volunteering on Saturday, March 13:

\_\_\_ Attending Lilly Ledbetter talk at 10 AM only, Saturday, March 13 – Please include \$2 payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch EF for morning refreshments.

\_\_\_ Attending Tech Savvy adult session, including morning refreshments, lunch, tote bag and materials - Please include \$5 payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch EF.





Jacquie Walker, news anchor for WIVB-TV, has agreed to once again be honorary chair of the branch's book sale. The 56th annual sale to be held June 2-6 will mark the fourth time Walker has accepted this job. Her contributions to and in support of the sale have been invaluable to its success, and her efforts in promoting the sale and building public awareness of the scholarship programs it supports have taken AAUW's community profile to new heights. The branch has recognized her service to AAUW and a number of other community programs by naming a \$5,000 scholarship for her in 2009.

In other good news, the committee reports that it expects to secure a site for



the sale within the month.

Meanwhile, sorting continues on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at the Kensington - - Bailey Neighborhood Housing Services. Hours are 9:30 -12:30. To accommodate members who are unable to help out on those days, the site will be open for work on Saturday, Feb. 13, from 9:30 to

12:30. Members who would like to work on that day should contact Judy Weidemann, sale co-chair, at 655-3649 or e-mail her at [JWeide7170@aol.com](mailto:JWeide7170@aol.com). The site is located at 995 Kensington Ave. Donated books can be dropped off there on Tuesdays and Wednesday from 10 AM until noon.

## The Nominating Team is Looking for a Few Good Women!

---

Actually, we are looking for at least nine.

The nominating team is looking for leaders for the 2010-2012 term:

- President-Elect (one year)
- Second Vice President in charge of Membership Recruitment
- Vice President in charge of Educational Foundation
- Recording Secretary
- Corresponding Secretary
- Nominating Committee Members

If you are interested in one of these positions or have someone to suggest, please contact a member of the nominating team for position descriptions. Members of the Nominating Team will also be at the February program meeting, and they welcome any opportunity to discuss these openings and how you can help to further our branch.

*Helping to Ensure a Legacy of Leadership...  
Your Nominating Committee*

Tamara Brown, Chair; Bertha Boston, Peggy Meinl, Joan Trinchera, and Judy Weidemann

# AAUW-NYS this 'n that

Your AAUW-NYS leadership has been busy on a number of activities which affect us all.

Hopefully you are all aware of the following.

The state convention will be returning this spring to the Otesaga, in Cooperstown. Please think about attending, April 23-25. The location is beautiful, the food was absolutely fantastic two years ago, and the weekend is always inspiring. Buffalo Branch attendance at the convention has been sparse for the past couple of years; let's get a good representation going this year! Details and registration forms are available on the AAUW-NYS website at [www.aauw-nys.org/convention.htm](http://www.aauw-nys.org/convention.htm). If you're interested in sharing a room, please contact Betty Preble ([betty.preble@gmail.com](mailto:betty.preble@gmail.com)) by February 11 so we can set up arrangements.

One of the popular features at the state convention every year is the baskets which have been assembled by the various branches and auctioned off to benefit the Legal Advocacy Fund. For more information on this fund, please see the state website - [www.aauw-nys.org/laf.htm](http://www.aauw-nys.org/laf.htm).

In the past, our branch has generally put together a "book" basket to help advertise our booksale plus a couple of other baskets. Perpetually popular are baskets for an Italian Dinner or wine and cheese. How about a kitchen basket with tea towels, gadgets, dishcloths, wooden spoons, dish soap, scouring pads, lotion

for the hands, gloves etc? If you'd like to create a basket, or if you'd like to contribute towards one (one of those holiday gifts that are not really "you"?), please contact Marguerite Collesano at [mcollesano@aol.com](mailto:mcollesano@aol.com) to let her know of your interest.



Also coming up is the state leadership conference, July 9-11, at Cazenovia College. Although designed for branch leadership, any member is welcome to attend. The cost is minimal to members due to heavy subsidies from AAUW-NYS. Details will soon be available on the state website: [www.aauw-nys.org/Cazenovia](http://www.aauw-nys.org/Cazenovia). Keep watching!

One continuing state project is a book on "Women Making a Difference". All branches are asked to contribute short biographical information about women from their communities. The state historians are in charge of this project, which hopefully will culminate in the book's publication sometime this year. If you are interested in contributing, please contact the state historians. Information is available on the state website - [www.aauw-nys.org](http://www.aauw-nys.org).

Questions or comments on AAUW-NYS activities? Please contact one of the three Buffalo members on the state board - Ruth Fierro-King, [ruthfierroking@gmail.com](mailto:ruthfierroking@gmail.com), Treasurer, Lillis McLean, [lillismclean@live.com](mailto:lillismclean@live.com), Diversity Director, Betty Preble, [betty.preble@gmail.com](mailto:betty.preble@gmail.com), Administrative Director

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

### April 23-25

State convention, Cooperstown, NY

### July 9-11

State Leadership Conference, Cazenovia College

### Registration form for the February 20 Branch Program

Mail to: Betty Krist, 116 Iris Ave, West Seneca, 14224 by February 10, 2010

My check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$11.50 per person) payable to the AAUW Buffalo Branch is enclosed.

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

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

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

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

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

I would like a ride to the program - 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, philanthropy 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.*



AAUW

Breaking through Barriers

Return Service Requested

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



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

This newsletter was delivered to the William Street Post Office, Buffalo, NY on January 23, 2010.  
Moving? Please contact Freddie Cheek, 716-835-6945.