



January 2010

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

## "Refugees in Buffalo"

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

### Speakers:

- \* 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 St., 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:** 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)

### Dates to Remember:

- **Wed, Jan 6, 5:45 pm**, Board Meeting, Key Bank
- **Sat, Jan 30, 2 - 4 pm**, Refugees in Buffalo
- **Sat, Feb 20, 9am-noon**, February COE Program, see page 4
- **Sat, Mar 6**, International Women's Day Brunch at Samuel's Grande Manor
- **Fri-Sat, Mar 12-13**, pre-Tech-Savvy Reception and Tech Savvy Event, see page 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
- **Wed-Sun, June 2-6, 2010** - 56th Annual Booksale!

### 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

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

Actually, we are looking for at least nine to fill leadership roles 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 January and February program meetings, 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 Meinel, Joan Trinchera, and Judy Weidemann*

### Inside this issue:

JANUARY PROGRAM	1
2010 BOARD SEARCH	
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	2
INTEREST GROUPS	
APRIL PROGRAM	3
BOARD UPDATE	4
FEBRUARY PROGRAM	
TECH SAVVY	
BOOKSALE CORNER	5

# President's Message

---

Greetings!

I'm happy to report that Stacey Johnson, PhD has been appointed President-Elect of the AAUW Buffalo Branch for 2009-2010. The Nominating Committee presented her name at the December Board Meeting and the Board enthusiastically approved.



officers. If you receive a call to serve, be willing to accept. Serving on the Board is not an impossible task because you are part of a team effort.

I would like to acknowledge the initiative of two members in recent weeks:

Dr. Johnson brings years of dedicated experience to this office, including a prior term as President for 1982-83. For as long as I have served on the Board, Stacey has been a constant contributor and inspiring leader. Her gentle, articulate manner and broad knowledge of the workings of the AAUW will serve us very well.

Maria Coppola, a returning member, just called Betty Preble (editor of the *Advocate*) to offer her services. Maria has re-designed our newsletter to give it a fresh look.

I want to keep you informed of the diligent efforts of the Governance Committee, particularly in their effort to amend the Buffalo Branch by-laws in order to clarify the powers and duties of each officer. This is important because it is a fact that members hesitate to take leadership roles because they think it is too difficult, complicated, and time consuming. The President Elect, for example, works closely with the President and past President (who remains on the Board for one year following her term).

Linda Drajem is developing a new interest group, a writing workshop. The group will meet in January at the Crane library on Elmwood Avenue. Our branch has one of the best talents in Linda Drajem. She has served as director of the writing workshop at Canisius College and her poems are often published in the Buffalo News. For more information contact Linda at [ldrajem@roadrunner.com](mailto:ldrajem@roadrunner.com).

The Nominating Committee will be meeting in the first few months of 2010 to select new

One final note: It is a real privilege for me to lead the Buffalo Branch AAUW. It has enriched me to be in "the company of educated women". Happy Holidays and I wish you good fortune in the new year.

"The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience."

- *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).

January 2010

Vol. CXX No. 5

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. Anyone interested in joining a group should see the contact person listed for the group. Remember that 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

No meeting in January. February's book selection will be determined. Contact Lillis for the selection.

**Questions:** Call Lillis McLean, 873-7467 or cell phone 830-6709.



### Knitting Group

We will collect items for charity at the meeting, either hand knit or newly purchased. Items will be delivered to the City Mission and Corner Stone Manor in January. If you have items that you would like included but cannot attend the meeting, contact Karen Howard. These charities help men, women, children and babies and will appreciate anything we can provide.

**When:** Thursday, Jan 28 at 2:00 pm

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

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

### Dinner by the Book

**When:** Wednesday, Jan 20, 2010, 5:30 pm

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

**Book:** *EXILE* by Richard North Patterson

**Discussion Leader:** Marilyn Todd; **Facilitator:** Joan Spencer

**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, Jan 27, 2010, 6:00 pm

**Where:** Friendly's, 6673 Transit Road

**Book:** *ANATOMY OF DECEPTION* by Lawrence Sanders

**Discussion Leader:** Sue Yarborough

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

### New Interest Group: Writing Workshop Group

Beginning with Garrison Keillor's *Good Poems for Hard Times* 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:** Monthly beginning Thursday, Jan 28 at 3:00 pm

**Where:** Crane Library, Elmwood Avenue

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

---

## Please Welcome

### New Member

Ms. Jessie Givens  
15 Peach Tree Road  
Cheektowaga, NY 14225  
716 813 1069  
[Jgivens425@gmail.com](mailto:Jgivens425@gmail.com)

## Save the Date:

### April Dinner Program at the Twentieth 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.

## Board Activity Highlights: October through December

---

During the last quarter, the board empowered the Governance committee to look into possibility of looking into combining the two entities into a 501(c)(3) organization. This is strong possibility as only a small percentage of our funds are used for lobbying. Currently the branch is 501(c)(4) and the Educational Foundation side is 501(c)(3). They already have some feedback as to what this would entail and will be pursuing the best options.

In addition the board has approved a new treasurer Joan Eschner and approved as President Elect Stacey Johnson.

The board approved \$16,000 to be given to the American Fellowship and also ap-

proved that including this we would pledge \$200,000 over the next 15 years so that we would have our own named fund. Currently the Board is soliciting a name for this fund that would attract others to donate to it.

Tech Savvy, to be held March 13th, is well on its way. The speakers have been selected. Funding has been identified. The Key Note speaker is Heather Rozzi, MD a forensic scientist and the speaker for the adult portion is Lilly Ledbetter.

A study group called Writing Workshop is approved. Its first meeting will be January 28, 2010.

## February Program Tours: COE

---

JOIN US TO SEE  
HOW THE COE IS  
ACHIEVING ITS  
MISSION RIGHT  
HERE IN  
BUFFALO.

**The New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics & Life Sciences (COE)** was created in Buffalo 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 the COE for ourselves. Starting at 9 AM with a continental breakfast catered by Au Bon Pain, we'll be intro-

duced 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. Our tour will finish by noon.

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. Join us for an informative morning learning about one of the most exciting recent developments in Western New York. As always, friends are welcome!

# Lilly Ledbetter and Heather Rozzi to Join Us in March for Tech Savvy's Fifth Anniversary!

Whether you plan to come at the beginning, the end or sometime in the middle, Tech Savvy, is sure to enlighten you. This is the fifth anniversary of our branch's program to inspire middle school girls to pursue STEM careers (science, technology, engineering, and math). Planning is underway to welcome 750 girls, parents, and teachers on Saturday, March 13.

Lilly Ledbetter (of Ledbetter v. Goodyear and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act) is returning to Buffalo for a special session. The program will end with a keynote address by Dr. Heather Rozzi, a critical care physician specializing in forensic medicine. Dr. Rozzi is well regarded in the field of sexual assault evidence collection. Her attention to detail and interesting specialization in forensics is sure to pique the interest of young CSI fans!

Between the morning and afternoon sessions, the program will offer demonstrations and activities planned by the branch committee and supported by our educational fund and sponsors, which include Praxair and UB's School of Engineering.

More details will follow. Please consider volunteering before the event with mailings or stuffing tote bags, or the day of the event for a morning or afternoon shift.

There is also a pre-Tech Savvy reception on Friday evening, so mark your calendars for March 12th and plan to attend on Saturday, March 13th to hear Ms. Ledbetter and Dr. Rozzi.

If you have questions about Tech Savvy, call Tamara Brown at 649-9871.

TECH SAVVY IS OUR BRANCH'S PROGRAM TO INSPIRE MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS TO PURSUE CAREERS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATH.

## 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

## Booksale Corner

Thanks to the many members who have donated their time and expertise sorting the massive collection of books at the Kensington Bailey site. Everything is currently under control. The book sale chairs are confident that a sale site will be secured this month or next.

Sorting continued on a somewhat abbreviated schedule during the holidays but now we are looking for your help as the work schedule resumes on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Stop by 995 Kensington Avenue and stay as long as your schedule allows. We will also be accepting book donations at that site during those hours.

The Book Sale Committee hopes all of you had a wonderful holiday season and wish you the best of everything in 2010.

*Pat Swift-MacClennan, Booksale Committee*



*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

Moving? Please contact Freddie Check, 716-835-6945.

This newsletter was delivered to the William Street Post Office, Buffalo, NY on December 23, 2009.