



March 2010

716.559.3037 - aauw.buffalo.edu

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:

- **Wed, Mar 3, 6:00 PM**, Key Bank, 550 Essjay Drive, Williamsville. *PLEASE NOTE TIME & LOCATION
- **Thurs, Mar 4, 7:30pm**, Half the Sky LIVE!, pg. 4
- **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. 6
- **Fri, Mar 27**, Sister-to-Sister Summit
- **Tue, Apr 20**, April Dinner Program
- **Fri-Sun, April 23-25**, AAUW-NYS Convention, Coopers-town, NY, pg. 6
- **Sat, May 15**, Annual Awards Luncheon, Fanny's
- **Wed-Sun, June 2-6, 2010** - 56th Annual Booksale!
- **Fri-Sun, July 9-11, 2010** - NYS Leadership Conference

April Program: Fabulous First Ladies, Tuesday, April 20

The April dinner program will be a panel discussion that will examine three American First Ladies: Michelle Obama, as portrayed by the authors of the book *Go Tell Michelle*, Drs. Peggy Brooks Bertram and Barbara Seals Nevergold, who will discuss their collection of letters to First Lady Obama from women across the country.

Mrs. Esther Kopp of the Millard Fillmore Home will provide a view of Abigail Fillmore—a first lady about whom little is known.

Our own branch President Marguerite Collesano

will give reflections on Eleanor Roosevelt, a first lady whose activism and impact is well known.

5:30 Registration
6:00 - 8:00 Dinner & Discussion
Twentieth Century Club
595 Delaware Avenue

Additional event details, directions and parking information will be issued in the April newsletter. A registration form is on page 5.

Looking forward to seeing you!

-Chairs Tamara Brown and Sharon Minklein

Volunteers needed March 27th

The Sister to Sister Summit is being held at Buffalo State College on Saturday, March 27. We need the most help starting at 7:45 AM for registration and other events. If you can help, please let me know via email at gsoliver@verizon.net or by phone at 652 1230. Thank you. - Sue Oliver

Tech Savvy's 5th Anniversary

Tech Savvy Girls: Girls Who Have a Clue...

Friday, March 12, 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Tech Savvy Reception at the Ramada Inn

Saturday, March 13, 7 AM – 4 PM

Tech Savvy 5, UB's North Campus Student Union. See details on page 6 and registration on page 7.

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President's Message



Women's life paths is the subject of a recent study completed by the University of Buffalo's Regional Institute. In the following weeks, Brigid Doherty, Executive Director of the WNY Women's

Fund, will present the findings of the study, a comprehensive assessment of the status of women and girls in the Buffalo Region, to various agencies and volunteers concerned with women's issues. At a recent conversational meeting, I learned that the study focuses on key areas where changes can make a huge difference in women's lives. According to Doherty, "these changes can be as large and expensive as establishing and funding new programs, or as subtle as altering cultural attitudes". The "Pathways" report also included suggestions on how to improve the status of women and girls.

At this meeting I was pleased to speak about the ongoing work of the Buffalo Branch AAUW, including projects that address the needs of women and girls, particularly as they relate to education. Our members have volunteered many hours to accomplish so much.

- \$75,000.00 awarded in scholarships.
- The Sister-to-Sister program for middle school girls
- Tech Savvy – a day long program about science and mathematics for middle school girls
- Educational Grants and interest free loans
- Grass Roots Grants for various community groups that work with women and young girls
- Programs that have enlightened us about women's issues including the status of veterans

of war, women refugees, pay equity and cultural diversity.

For more information on "Pathways to Progress," visit www.wnywomensfund.org.

Barbara Carier has graciously volunteered to chair the Annual Achievement Awards luncheon. This year, the event will be held at Fanny's Restaurant on May 15, 2010. Barbara is asking for volunteers to assist her. Please email her at bcarier@roadrunner.com or phone 839-0933.

The Governance Committee reports that their work on the review and revision of the By-Laws is just about complete. Branch members will receive a copy of the By-Laws to read so they will be prepared to vote on May 15th. The installation of the new By-Laws will ease the administration of our Branch.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you on March 6th, the International Women's Day Lunch. Once again, Lillis McLean and Judy Weidemann have planned an interesting program. The theme this year is The Women of North America. Shake off the winter blues and join us for lunch!

And finally, on March 13th Tech Savvy 5 will be held once again at the University of Buffalo. The committee has planned many events for young girls interested in math and science. If you haven't yet volunteered, please call Tamara Brown.

Sincerely,
Marguerite Collesano

"As for accomplishments, I just did what I had to do as things came along."

- Eleanor Roosevelt

THE BUFFALO BRANCH ADVOCATE

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

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Buffalo Branch Study & Interest Groups



Schedules for the Month:

Consider joining a study or interest group! They 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 any information you need. Guests are welcome at a limited number of meetings of each interest group. Also, to be an active participant in AAUW sponsored groups, 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.

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

When: Thursday, Mar 11, 2010 , 1:15 pm
Where: Eggertsville/Snyder Library, 4622 Main Street
Book: *"When Everything Changed. The Amazing Journey of American Women from 1960 to the Present"* by Gail Collins.

***NOTE TIME CHANGE**

Questions: Contact Lillis McLean at 873-7467

Dinner by the Book

When: Wednesday, Mar 17, 2010, 5:30 pm
Where: Dandelions Restaurant, 1340 North Forest Rd
Book: *"Loving Frank"* by Nancy Horan; **Discussion Leader:** Barbara Walleshauser; **Facilitator:** Sharon Doerr

Questions: Contact **Leona Barback**, 633-1982 or barleo@roadrunner.com

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

Clueless Mystery Book Club

When: Wednesday, Mar 24 , 2010, 6:00 pm
Where: Friendly's, 4350 Maple Road
Book: *"Grand Night for Murder"* by H. Paul Jeffers



Discussion Leader: Suzanne Grossman

Questions: Contact Suzanne Grossman: at 837-8769

Knitting Group

Anyone interested in knitting, beginner to advanced, is welcome to join the group. In January a box of hand knitted items was delivered to Cornerstone Manor.



When: Wednesday, Mar 10, 2 PM

Where: Barnes & Noble, 4401 Transit Road

Questions: Contact Karen Howard at 874-1389 or by email at koward@roadrunner.com.

New Interest Group: Writing Workshop Group

When: Thursday, Mar 18th at 2:00 pm

Where: Crane Library, 633 Elmwood Ave.

Questions: Call Linda Drajem at 553-0864 or email at Ldrajem@roadrunner.com

Welcome Our Newest Members

Ms. Aimee M. Levesque
283 Stillwell Avenue
Buffalo NY 14217-2135
Cell: 716 573 9106
aimeelevesque@gmail.com

Mrs. Margaret (Peg) Trego
3758 Teachers Lane #7
Orchard Park, NY 14127
Home: 202 4307
Cell: 796 5514
iamatwin@aol.com

Ms. Janice Donlon
65 Guilford Lane #7
Williamsville, NY 14221
H: 688 4591
jrdonlon@roadrunner.com

Dr. Karen Huffman-Kelly
152 Bernhardt Dr.
Amherst, NY 14226
H 839 4754
W 825 8796 x 418
C 830 5316
Kshk152@yahoo.com

Help Promote Self-Sufficiency with Refugees: Volunteer with Jericho Road Ministries!

Jericho Road Ministries is a not-for-profit serving refugees and low-income residents on the West Side of Buffalo. One of its programs, "Financially Fit," received a grant in 2009! This initiative offers free basic financial education to refugees, predominately women, empowering them with the knowledge needed to successfully navigate our culture's financial systems, manage their limited resources, and embrace a healthy financial lifestyle.

Consider partnering with JRM by giving your time to provide child care during these classes. This is a vital way to make participating in the program possible for these women, many of whom are single-parents.

Classes are Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, 4-7pm, though their greatest need is currently on Tuesdays.

To sign up or to learn about other JRM volunteer opportunities, please phone Stephanie at 716-348-3000 or email her at stephanie.lipnicki@gmail.com.

Half the Sky LIVE

On Thursday, March 4th, 2010 at 7:30pm, CARE will present *Half the Sky LIVE* in movie theaters nationwide. Inspired by the best-selling book from Pulitzer-prize winning journalists Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, *Half the Sky LIVE* will celebrate International Women's Day with musical performances, celebrity commentary, and the world premiere of *Woineshet*, a powerful short film directed by Academy Award® Winner Marisa Tomei.

As featured on Oprah, CNN, and Dateline NBC, *Half the Sky* remains a New York Times bestseller and a critical favorite across the globe. With *Half the Sky LIVE*, you can watch the pages of *Half the Sky* come to life onscreen as *Woineshet* chronicles the struggles of a young Ethiopian woman who ultimately triumphs over sexual violence and discrimination.

Broadcast to theaters across the country, this one-night-only event – featuring the authors of *Half the Sky*, Dr. Helene Gayle of CARE, other experts, celebrities and musical performances – will motivate you to participate in the growing movement to empower women and girls in the fight against global poverty. *Half the Sky LIVE* is the perfect way for AAUW members and branches to celebrate International Women's Day together and stand in solidarity with women and girls all over the world. CARE will provide a discussion guide and other tools to help you make the most of the event. *Half the Sky* by Nicholas D. Kristof

Book Sale Corner



The 56th annual Scholarship Book Sale will be held in the same location as last year's sale, 2309 Eggert Road, Town of Tonawanda. The site, as most of you will recall, is in the Office Depot Plaza at the corner of Eggert Road and Sheridan Drive. It proved to be an excellent location last year and workers and customers found it very user friendly.

Papers were signed early last month and the building will be available to AAUW from April 10 through June 10. The Book Sale Committee is hoping to move books into the site after a couple of days of preparation and a search is on for a moving company to transport several thousand books from the Kensington-Bailey sorting site to Eggert Road.

Members have responded well to requests for

sorting help in the Kensington-Bailey site and it is hoped that even more will turn out for sorting at the sale site. There will be more room in which to work, more people to talk with and more books you might want to buy.

You will have an opportunity to sign up for sale week jobs soon. The list of available jobs will be published in April and May editions of the Advocate, along with the sign up sheet. A description of all the jobs will appear on the Web site during that period, so be sure to check there for updates. The early birds get the best jobs so if you had one last year and want to do it again, get your bid in soonest. There is a need to staff three shifts each day of the sale, except Sunday, so you can pick a time most convenient for you.

UPDATES: Education Loans and Grants

A total of \$11,500 will be distributed to four students who applied for Chamberlin Fund/Funds for education loans and grants on Dec. 1, 2009. Chamberlin loans of \$2,000 and Chamberlin grants of \$9,500 were approved by the Board at its Feb. 3 meeting. The Chamberlin Fund has in excess of \$90,000 available for loans and grants and the FFE account, which was not used this round, has in excess of \$25,000.



and a \$500 Chamberlin loan; Claudia Wood, a sophomore in Trocaire College working for an RN degree, a \$2,000 Chamberlin grant and a \$1,000 Chamberlin loan; Allison Jacobs, a junior in St. John Fisher College, majoring in childhood/special education, a \$2,500 Chamberlin grant; Natalie Do, a UB graduate, who is attending the D'Youville College physician assistant course working for a master's degree, a \$2,500 Chamberlin grant and a \$500 Chamberlin loan. King, Jacobs and Do previously have received loans and grants from the Chamberlin program.

June 1, 2010, is the deadline for the next round of applications and we urge members to inform their children, students, colleagues, friends and neighbors of this opportunity. Qualified students may receive up to \$3,000 in interest-free loans and/or grants in each of four years in their academic career.

Interviewers were Stacey Johnson, Anita Kunkle, Michelle Norris, treasurer, and Pat Swift MacClennan, chair.

Receiving awards in the December cycle are: Jeannethe King, a senior in Long Island University, majoring in athletic training and sports science, a \$2,500 Chamberlin grant

Members interested in participating in interviews should contact Pat MacClennan at swiftscope@aol.com.

Registration Form:

Fabulous First Ladies, Tuesday Evening, April 20, 2010

Registration form for the April 20 Fabulous First Ladies Dinner Program
Return to Tamara Brown, 2723 Christopher Blvd, Hamburg, NY 14075 by April 10, 2010
My check in the amount of \$ _____ (\$40.00 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

LET'S REPRESENT THE BUFFALO BRANCH:

New York State AAUW Convention, April 23-25

It's not too late to register! The focus of this year's convention is on equity and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs for young women and girls. Speakers include Linda Hallman, AAUW Executive Director; Liz Krueger, NYS Senator; Carolyn Kemet, Eleanor Roosevelt Legacy Committee; Kerry Connelly, Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York; and Gina Torry, NGO Working Group on Women, Peace, and Security at the United Nations. Linda will give the keynote, "Mission 2010" and two workshops on AAUW's latest research report and on current public policy efforts. Kerry will join AAUW's Betsy Forkas in presenting opportunities for branches to partner with Girl Scout units and councils. Gina will conclude the weekend with "Women in the World: Accomplishments and Dilemmas and How AAUW Members Can Help" at the International Luncheon.

We will also have an LAF litigant and an EF recipient as luncheon and dinner speakers.

Other workshops include "Value U: A Gender Equity Community Action Initiative" with Jennifer Ball, Clarkson University; "Too Sexy, Too Soon" with Deborah Borie, Just Kids Early Childhood Development Center; "Live Wires in a Labor Cause", with Francine Moccio, Cornell University School of Labor Relations; "Dignity for all Students", with Melinda Trimble, NY Civil Liberties Union; "Music of Holocaust Refugees at Fort Ontario", with Marilyn Smiley, SUNY Oswego; and "Eleanor Roosevelt", with Joan Monk, AAUW-NYS Cultural Interests Director.

Register online at the AAUW-NYS.org web site, www.aauw-nys.org/convention.htm print a copy, or get one from your branch president. The state convention is for everyone, and is a great way to learn more and meet women from around the state in a beautiful setting.

Regular registration is open until March 8; late registrations can be made after that with a late fee and subject to hotel room availability.

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...** We will welcome 750 girls, parents, and teachers on Saturday, March 13, and we hope to see all AAUW members that weekend.

Mark your calendar:

Friday, March 12, 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Tech Savvy Reception at Ramada Inn (formerly University Inn & Conference Center) in Amherst. A preview of AAUW's not yet released research report on STEM will be presented by Christianne Corbett, research associate for AAUW's national educational foundation. Our partners include Praxair and UB's School of Engineering. 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 are available.

Saturday, March 13, 10:00 AM

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
- 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, VP President of Operations & Services, Praxair, Inc.
- 2:30 Keynote Address by Dr. Heather Rozzi

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

HISTORY REPEATS ?

In 1881, Marion Talbot (with the support of her mother) and 16 other women established the Association of Collegiate Alumnae (ACA), the forerunner of AAUW. In the book, *The History of the American Association of University Women 1881-1931*, written by Marion Talbot and Lois Rosenbery, it says, "the Association of Collegiate Alumnae (ACA) was established with Talbot as secretary. Article II of its constitution states: The object of this Association shall be to unite alumnae of different institutions for practical education work. This was the first association of college and university trained women in the world.

The subject of the first research project of ACA was health and its corollary, physical education which concluded, 'The members of the Association are convinced that the low standard of health among women in and after college life is largely due to their common lack of physical training and disregard of the laws of health before they enter college.'

Following evils:

1. Girls too often stimulated to shine socially and intellectually at the same time.
2. Habitual loss of sufficient and healthy sleep.

3. Irregularity and haste in taking food (skip breakfast, little lunch).
4. Tight, heavy, and insufficient clothing.
5. Lack of sufficient outdoor exercise.
6. Ambition of parents and daughters to accomplish much in little time.
7. Usual postponement of instruction in laws of physiology and hygiene to a college course.

The results of the health investigation were presented by Talbot as secretary of ACA, to the American Social Science Association in September 1885. The original investigation had apparently been abandoned. In reality, it became part of a basic problem in research seen in a different perspective, against a large background."

How familiar this sounds in these days of eating disorders, early onset diabetes due to poor nutrition, and obesity resulting from lack of physical exercise. We must continue to encourage girls to pursue education, especially in non-traditional fields, and stimulate them to shine intellectually. It's a reminder that those who ignore history are doomed to repeat it.



Tech Savvy Participation – Registration Form - Adults Only

Please mail to Tamara Brown, AAUW, PO Box 311, Buffalo, NY 14201-0311 before Mar 1, 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.

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

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