



December 2010

716.559.3037 - aauw.buffalo.edu

December Holiday Program!

Our December Program will include lunch at The Protocol Restaurant in Williams-ville and a performance by Danielle DiStefano.

Ms. DiStefano is a classically trained soprano with an amazing vocal range. Her ability in singing operatic, sacred music and Broadway melodies has brought rave reviews from her audiences with numerous requests for repeat performances. She brings charm, elegance and her sincerest love of the art to her performances.

Currently a freshman at SUNY Fredonia, Ms. DiStefano is studying under Julie Newell. She performs throughout the area at weddings, special events and non-profits events. She also writes for Opera Buffs.

We hope you will all be on hand for this special afternoon of friends, food and entertainment.



Danielle DiStefano



Dates to Remember:

- **Wed, Dec 1**, 5:45 pm, Board Meeting, United Way, 742 Delaware Ave., Buffalo
- **Sat, Dec 11**, 12:00 Noon, Holiday Event, Protocol Restaurant
- **Wed, Jan 5**, 5:45 pm, Board Meeting, United Way of Buffalo, 742 Delaware Ave.
- **Sat, Jan 15, 2011**, LAF Fund-raising Luncheon, Protocol Restaurant
- **Fri, Feb 4, 2011**, Domestic Violence-Campus Assault, UB Center for the Arts
- **Sat, Mar 12, 2011**, Tech Savvy 6
- **Sat, Mar 26, 2011**, Sister to Sister
- **Sat, May 14, 2011**, Annual Meeting and Luncheon
- **Wed - Sun, June 1-5, 2011**, 57th Annual Book Sale

Registration form for December 11 Holiday Branch Program

Mail to: Yvonne Curry, 172 Hamlin Road, Buffalo, NY 14208 by December 3, 2010

My check in the amount of \$ _____ (\$22.00 per person) payable to the AAUW Buffalo Branch is enclosed.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Entree choice (indicate number of each) _____ Char-Broiled New York Strip Steak

_____ Broiled Filet of Boston Scrod

_____ Chicken Wellington

Names of Guests: _____

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

REMINDER:

Loans & Grants Applications are Due December 1

Just a reminder, applications for the branch's interest-free college loans and grants are due December 1. Pass on this information to your family, friends, colleagues and students. Funds for Education money is available to male as well as female students. Chamberlin Funds are for women only.

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 Chamberlin-fund@yahoo.com. or by calling 559-3037.

Inside this issue:

DECEMBER PROGRAM	1
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	2
INTEREST GROUPS	3
LAF BENEFIT	4
BOOK SALE CORNER	5



President's Message

November was certainly an exciting month. The midterm elections gave us, the voters, much food for thought. I will not comment on the party distribution across the states; however, I will say that I was disappointed that a number of candidates were chosen who did not support women's issues as we would have liked.

Needless to say, we encouraged everyone who was eligible to vote. In two years we will have another election of major import to all of us.

The meeting to discuss mentoring girls brought out a number of interested individuals from AAUW and other organizations. This is just preliminary to any actions toward a mentoring program that may be taken. We look to other AAUW groups, which have such a program, as resources.

Equity in public education is still at the top of the agenda for AAUW. On a global note, we received a report from AAUW United Nations Day on October 18th. A new entity was formed at the UN, "UNWomen," which will focus on better utilizing the efforts and resources of those working on women's issues. Five different women's organizations will be combined to work together under the Undersecretary General. UNWomen will have its own executive board comprised of forty one member states, whose participation will be determined by status within the United Nations and by their contribution towards women's issues. The four areas that will be focused on toward achieving gender justice are:

- 1) Expanding women-friendly public services, including women and girls' rights to education, health and food,
- 2) Guaranteeing land and jobs for women; ensuring the right to a decent livelihood through access to economic assets,

3) Increasing women's voice in decision-making; full participation of women in society, starting from autonomy in the household, to voice in all political processes at community, national and international levels, and

4) Ending violence against women and girls."

AAUW is valiantly supporting equal pay for equal work and trying to address the wage gap which still exists. Patricia Ho, AAUW Director-at-Large, says AAUW's data shows that the wage gap begins just one year out of college, putting most women at a "marked disadvantage."

The Branch Holiday gathering will take place December 11th, at Protocol Restaurant. Join us for a wonderful event with good food and terrific entertainment.

Book Sale sorting is ongoing. Books may be delivered to the Kensington Bailey site on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

On a philanthropic note, the following item makes me proud to be part of AAUW:

"Currently, the American Association of University Women has awarded more than 10,000 fellowships and grants since 1888, these days giving between \$3.5 and \$4.5 million annually to researchers." Marie Curie was awarded a grant in 1921 for her radium research.

Let's keep our enthusiasm for our mission: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Sincerely,
Stacey Johnson

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.

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For prospective or new member questions, contact Cynthia Mehary, VP of Membership Recruitment, at camehary@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:

Have you considered joining a study or interest group? They are a great way to meet people, network, learn and have some fun. You can join one by contacting the person listed below for each group. She can provide you any information you need to get started. As always, guests are welcome at a limited number of meetings for each interest group. If you would like to suggest a new Study Group or bring back an old one, please contact Study Group coordinator Anita Kunkle @ 649-8863 or email amkun05@msn.com.

American Biographies:

No meeting in December.

leo@roadrunner.com, or Marilyn Carmichael, 228-8626 or mcarmichael45@aol.com.

To reserve: Contact Fran Witnauer, 688-5708, or Grandmafran44@yahoo.com.

Clueless Book Club:

No meeting in December.

Dinner by the Book:

When: Weds. Dec. 15, 5:30 PM.

Where: Bob Evans, 1925 Niagara Falls Boulevard in Amherst.

Leader: Lynne Tauriello

Book: "Summer at Tiffany," by Marjorie Hart.

Facilitator: Suzanne Grossman, Leader: Norma Miller

Questions: Leona Barback, 633-1982 or bar-



Knitting Group

When: Weds. Dec. 8, 2 P.M.

Where: Barnes & Noble, 4401 Transit Road

Leader: Anita Kunkle @ 649-8863 or email amkun05@msn.com.

Knitters of all skill levels are most welcome. Plans for knitted donations to Haven House are upcoming. Join us!

SAVE THE DATE

Telling Stories

Campus Sexual Assault & Intimate Partner Violence: A Dramatic Arts Event

- Friday, Feb 4, 2011, 6pm - 10 pm
- University at Buffalo Center for the Arts
- 6 pm, Reception
- 7 pm, Focus on Campus Sexual Assault
- "Telling Our Story", an Original Play by Lauren Germain
- Focus on Domestic/Intimate Partner Violence
- Screening of "Telling Amy's Story", starring Mariska Hargitay
- 9:30 pm, Coffee, Desserts, Chats

- Attendance is free. Reservations are required.
- Admission is limited to 200 guests.

Please register and obtain e-ticket by visiting www.aauw.buffalo.edu/fjc-conference.html

If you would like to volunteer for this program or would like any details, call Tamara Brown at 716-649-9871.

(We particularly need a member with theatrical experience!)

This Branch is pleased to have received a grant from the national AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund to support this program.

AAUW Buffalo Branch, Inc. joins with Family Justice Center of Erie County to present Telling Stories.

NEW MEMBER

Michelle Flint
56 Surrey Run
Williamsville, NY 14221
716-866-8881
mflint@daemen.edu

IN MEMORIUM

Long time AAUW member **Irma L. Bagdy** passed away on October 31 at 92. She was a teacher and head of guidance at Tonawanda High School.

MEMBER UPDATE

Marian Bass let us know she has a new phone number: 995-3128

LAF Benefit Featuring Lauren Belfer, January 15

Your LAF Committee

The AAUW Buffalo Branch will host its Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) Benefit on Saturday, January 15th at The Protocol Restaurant in Williamsville. The event begins at 11:30 am.

This is the only LAF fundraiser this year, so please mark your calendar and plan to help support this vital aspect of AAUW that continues to help us break barriers. There will be a cash bar and non-members are welcome, as always.

Author, Lauren Belfer will present "Fact into Fiction: Writing A Fierce Radiance." Jonathon Welch of Talking Leaves books will be on hand to sell copies of the book. Lauren will be happy to sign books at the event. 15 to 20 percent of sales will go to the LAF.

About Lauren Belfer

In her new novel, *A Fierce Radiance*, Lauren Belfer envisions New York City in 1941 as seen through the lens of a Life magazine photographer. Her protagonist, Claire Shipley, has assignments that range from shooting the latest Rockette to photographing a young father whose life might be saved by penicillin. Her debut novel, *City of Light*, based in Buffalo, NY, was a *New York Times* bestseller.

Lauren was born in Rochester, New York, and grew up in Buffalo, where she attended the Buffalo Seminary. At Swarthmore College, she majored in Medieval Studies. After graduating, she worked as a file clerk at an art gallery, a paralegal, an assistant photo editor at a newspaper, a fact checker at magazines, and as a researcher and associate producer on documentary films. She has an M.F.A. from Columbia University.

Registration form for the January LAF Fundraiser

Mail to: Judy Malamas, 379 Sagewood Terrace, Williamsville, NY 14221 by January 5, 2011

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Entree choice (enter number of each) _____ Grilled chicken & gorgonzola over tossed greens

_____ Salmon with Dill Sauce _____ Pasta with Vegetables

Guests are welcome. Please provide guest names and their lunch selection on a separate sheet of paper.

I am unable to attend the luncheon but enclosed is my gift of \$_____ to LAF.

\$5.00 of luncheon fee is a donation to the Legal Advocacy Fund.

AAUW Celebrates its 130th Anniversary in November

Are you ready to celebrate? This month marks the beginning of a year-long celebration of AAUW's 130th Anniversary. Part of the 2011 celebration of 130 years of AAUW, a new membership campaign started on Nov. 1, 2010. Your membership chair has more details, but here are the high points:

- Recruit a new member between now and Nov. 30, 2011 and you'll be entered into a drawing for a free membership of your own.

Learn about these important discounts that apply between Nov. 1, 2010 and Nov. 30, 2011:

- Graduate students pay \$18.81 for a national membership (instead of \$49)
- College/University partners pay \$130

(instead of an enrollment-based fee of \$125 for fewer than 1000 students to \$350 for the largest institutions). Remember that once an institution is an AAUW partner, their undergraduates may join as e-student affiliates for free.

- Both of these discounts apply to new members and those lapsed for at least two years.
- If your branch increases its membership by at least 7% between 2/1/2010 and 2/1/2011, you can earn a free membership to give to another new member; 13% means two free memberships.

To learn more about special anniversary programs and discounts, visit www.aauw.org.

Book Sale Corner

by Pat Swift-MacClellan



Thanks to a lot of help from many members, preparations for the 2011 scholarship book sale are moving at a rapid pace. Several thousand books have been sorted already and the storage area is shrinking.

The sorting site at 995 Kensington Ave. is open every Tuesday and Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. Work generally stops at noon or 12:30, but you can stay later or leave earlier. Whatever works for you.

Book sale treasurer Leona Barback reports receiving in excess of \$500 from GIGGL's sale of books left over from last year's book sale. There are hints from GIGGL that the figure may double before year's end. For those who may not recall, GIGGL collects books to sell on-line and shares any profits with the donor. In the past our unsold books were given away or thrown away.

Remember to save your Wegman's paper and anyone's plastic shopping bags for use in the sale.

We have an abundance of bookmarks advertising the sale and requesting donations. If you would like some to distribute to friends and associates, call me at 837-2298.

Missing history!!!

by Betty Preble

While searching for some specific documents from our branch history, this notation was found in the UB Archives regarding our branch newsletters. Any chance that anyone has any of these stashed away in a box somewhere? If so, please contact Betty Preble at 662-0608 or email betty.preble@gmail.com. It would be nice to complete the collection!

The following issues are missing from the archives:

- January, February, April, March, June 1950
- December 1959
- June 1961
- October-December 1965
- October 1966
- May, June 1968
- June 1969
- June-December 1972
- All 1973
- January-May 1974

Approved October Board Meeting Highlights

By Taylor Page

Branch Board of Directors

The September 1st minutes were accepted.

The Treasurer's Report for September 2010 was accepted.

Tamara Brown will chair Tech Savvy in 2011

National Convention will be held in Washington D.C. on June 16-19, 2011

Education Accounts and Charitable Projects, AAUW Buffalo Branch, Inc. [501c(3) entity]

The September 1st minutes were accepted.

Changes to the Educational Foundation Report were accepted.

Loan Funds Treasurer's report was accepted.

The Buffalo Branch officially launched a new American fellowship at the National level called "Buffalo, NY Branch of AAUW Fellowship in honor of Hillary Rodham Clinton"

Pat Swift-MacClellan suggested that study group coordinators hold their group meetings at the book sale location to increase interest and assistance with the book sale.

A message will be put on the website indicating that Jacquie Walker, Olga Lindberg, and Velma Cobb funds have been awarded for 2010-2011. People interested should check later for 2011 applications.

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

AAUW
Cheektowaga, NY 14225-0894

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AAUW Buffalo Branch



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