



March Program: International Women's Day

100th Anniversary of International Women's Day

Tuesday, March 8, 2011

5:30 p.m. social gathering

6:00 p.m. dinner

Samuel's Grande Manor
8750 Main Street
Williamsville, NY 14221

Registration form on Page 6.

**Featuring speakers
from Haiti: Its Past,
Present and Future**



Sister-to-Sister Summit, Saturday, March 26

The theme for this year's Sister to Sister Summit is *Let's Get fit: Mind, Body and Soul*. We are focusing on health and fitness in conjunction with First Lady Michelle Obama's initiative. The program is scheduled for Saturday, March 26, at Buffalo State College. We are looking for volunteers able to help the day of the Summit, either all day from 8am to 3:30pm, or for just a few hours. Any amount of time would be appreciated. If you can help with this great event for girls, please contact me at 652-1230 or gsoliver@verizon.net.

Thank you. Sue Oliver



Dates to Remember:

- **Wed, Mar 2, 5:45 pm**, Board Meeting at The United Way
- **Tues, Mar 8**, International Women's Day Dinner, Samuel's Grand Manor, pg. 5
- **Sat, Mar 12**, Tech Savvy 6, pg. 4
- **Sat, Mar 26**, Sister-to-Sister
- **Sat, Apr 2**, Human Trafficking Event, pg. 6
- **Wed, Apr 6, 6:00 pm**, Board Meeting at Ebenezer Church
- **Tues - Thurs, Apr 15-17**, NYS AAUW Convention, pg. 7
- **Sat, May 14**, Annual Meeting and Luncheon

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President's Message

Our activities fall under educational equity for women and girls, and philanthropy. Everything we do, even as we enjoy our various activities, is geared towards these goals.

We are going through a major merger of our Branch and Branch Educational Foundation. This will impact us by simplifying administrative functions; and by making the Branch a 501(c)(3) organization. Members will be able to deduct part of their dues as a charitable contribution. Our activities fall under educational equity for women and girls, and philanthropy. Everything we do, even as we enjoy our various activities, is geared towards these goals. The committee, chaired by Betty Preble, is waiting for the final go-ahead.

Our scholarship committee, chaired by Diane Silvestro, is strategizing the way our scholarships are structured. Much has been accomplished, and more is yet to be done. As part of their deliberations, it was recommended that the funds received from the Harold and Lucille Peterson Trust should be sent to AAUW for the National Fellowships, and the Board agreed that the funds would be sent as part of our contribution to our newly initiated Buffalo, NY Branch of AAUW Fellowship in honor of Hillary Rodham Clinton. This will help speed reaching our goal of \$200,000, as we add it to our contribution from the Book Sale.

Our book sale is in its 57th year. Since its beginning, the Branch has actively raised funds to support AAUW national fellowships and local scholarships, including the Buffalo Branch Community Action/Career Development fund, the Buffalo Centennial American Fellowship and the Buffalo Hillary Rodham Clinton American Fellowship. In Georgia, there are three branches that work on a book sale, and have given over \$1 million for local scholarships. (See *OUTLOOK* Winter 2011, p. 23). I will be reporting in the future our contribution. I think we should be proud that the Western New York community has helped us to reach our goals, and we are looking forward to another successful book sale this year.

As I look over the issues that AAUW has identified to concentrate on, we have certainly fulfilled our obligations. We heard from the Family Justice Center. We are only too aware of the ramifications of abuse and the need for support mechanisms to help the victims of abuse.

Buffalo Branch co-sponsored with UB the program on Domestic Violence/Campus Sexual Assault. Tamara Brown coordinated this program and over 200 individuals registered for

it. Our members contributed to the panels, and to bring AAUW to this audience, encouraging those attending to join us in reaching our goals.

Our Branch co-sponsored with the League of Women Voters and Buffalo State College a public policy lecture "Race to the Top: Hope or Flop."

We co-sponsored an event *Homeless Connect*, for the homeless, including women and children.

Several of our members are participating in a mentorship program for girls from the St. Monica Campus of the Nativity/Miguel school, a non-denominational Buffalo School that serves children of poverty and educates girls from elementary through middle school. These girls continue on to public high schools.

On a lighter note, but no less important, Anita Kunkle, Interest Group Chair, makes sure that our interest groups are going strong. Two groups get together once a year to critique a common book that they have read. What fun to meet the other group's members and to get to know them through this activity.

We had the honor of hearing Lauren Belfer at our successful fund raiser for LAF. We raised more funds for LAF at a single event than ever before.

International Women's Day will be celebrated on March 8th at Samuel's Grande Manor. I look forward to seeing you all there. Remember one member plus one guest may lead to one member plus one new member. It's hard to resist joining our Branch when our programs are so vital, and our members are so energetic. Cynthia Mehary, Membership Recruitment VP, is sure to be there with membership applications.

In the current issue of *OUTLOOK*, health issues experienced by women are featured. It has been my experience in AAUW that we are always looking to better the lives of women and girls in everything we do. As we stay healthy, we accomplish more, and enjoy a better quality of life, and keep our enthusiasm for AAUW's mission.

I am anticipating even more Branch accomplishments between now and the end of my term as President; and, I know, so are you.

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 smcclary2@verizon.net.

March, 2011

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Buffalo Branch Study & Interest Groups

Schedules for the Month:

The Buffalo branch offers a variety of interest groups. Study Groups afford opportunities for new friendships, fun, and sharing your skills and interests. For further information, contact the leader identified with a particular group or Study Group Coordinator Anita Kunkle, 649-8863.

Is anyone interested in starting a new group in 2011? Please share any ideas with our branch Study Group coordinator Anita Kunkle @ 649-8863 or email amkun05@msn.com.

American Biographies:

When: Thurs. March 10, 1:30 PM

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

Book: "John Adams" by David McCullough

Leader: Lillis McLean

Questions: Contact Lillis, 873-7467 or lmclean366@yahoo.com



Book: "The Help", by Kathryn Stockett, 2009

Facilitator: Judy Malamas

Discussion Leader: Sue Licata

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

Marilyn Carmichael, 228-8626 or mcarmi-

chael45@aol.com

To reserve: Contact Fran Witnauer, 688-5708, or Grandma-fran44@yahoo.com



Clueless Book Club:

When: Weds. March 23, 6 PM

Where: Bob Evans, 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd.

Book: Any Asey Mayo Cape Cod Mystery

Facilitator: Jean Hubbard

To reserve: Suzanne Grossman, 837-8769

Knitting Group

When: Thurs., March 10, 2 P.M.

Where: Barnes & Noble, 4401 Transit Road

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

We welcome new members! Patterns and skills are shared along with casual conversation. Coffee bar and refreshments are available.

Dinner by the Book:

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

Where: Bob Evans, 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd.

Mark Your Calendars

Meeting to Select Velma Cobb Scholarship Winners

Everyone is invited to participate in the selection of Velma Cobb Scholarship winners on Thursday, March 24 at 7 PM in the library of Ebenezer United Church of Christ, 630 Main Street, West Seneca. Park in the lot across the street and enter through the main vestibule. The library is downstairs and to the left. If you're planning to come, please tell Betty Krist kristbj@verizon.net or 675-4059. Thanks for participating in this important activity.

In Memoriam

We were sad to learn that long time member Sharon Minklein passed away on February 4, 2011 at age 71. If you were lucky enough to know her, you know her bright smile and friendly nature made her a pleasure to spend time with. In addition to her involvement with AAUW she was also a supporter of Habitat for Humanity. Sharon will be terribly missed.

Kind Thanks

Barb Carier would like to thank the many members who sent prayers, cards, phone calls, e-mails, and gifts to her through her extended illness/hospitalization. She said, "There is nothing to match the friendship and loyalty of women who share our ideals and I will never forget it."

Tech Savvy Conference: Saturday, March 12, 2011

The sixth annual Tech Savvy conference is next month. On Saturday, March 12, we will welcome about 500 girls and 250 parents and teachers.

The conference is designed to inspire middle school girls to pursue STEM careers (science, technology, engineering, and math)—and to provide adults with relevant information. Tech Savvy features 20 workshops for the girls. This year, we will also have 5 new savvy skills workshops, introducing critical life success skills and a special panel discussion for the adults. Teachers will also have the chance to learn new techniques to develop their students' spatial skills.

This year's conference theme is *Tech Savvy Girls Without Limits: Anything, Anywhere*. Our keynote speaker is certainly a woman whose career has no limits. Susan Chapman, Senior Vice President of American Express, is responsible for Global Real Estate & Workforce Enablement. Her engineering background combined with many experiences take her all over the world building --- building real estate, building business, and building better ways for people to work better.

You can participate in Tech Savvy:

- Join us for the reception on Friday, March 11
- Join us for the adult activities—including the panel and/or Spatial Skills training—or keynote speech

by American Express' Susan Chapman at 2 pm.

- Volunteer for all or part of the day. (We need about 50 volunteers for the day between 7 am and 5 pm)

Upcoming Planning Dates for Tech Savvy 6:

- Tuesday, February 22: Tech Savvy Meeting 5:45 pm – 7 pm at the United Way (corner of Delaware Avenue & Summer in Buffalo)
- February 23: Last day to register for Tech Savvy. Volunteers need not register for the conference. Please let Tamara know when you plan to volunteer during the day (morning, afternoon, all day).
- Thursday, March 3: Tote Bag Stuffing, Name Tag Assembly, and Bag Stuffing (Lots of Help Needed!) Afternoon start time at the United Way. (Dress comfortably; pizza served.)
- Saturday, March 12: Tech Savvy, UB North Campus Meet at Student Union. Ample Parking in Furnas Lot.)

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

Conference Information website: www.aauw-nys.org/Bufalo/techsavvy-info.htm

Tech Savvy Participation – Registration Form

Please mail to Tamara Brown, AAUW, PO Box 894, Cheektowaga, 14225 before Feb 28, 2011

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

___ Planning to help stuff tote bags on Thursday, March 3 (United Way, 742 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo)

___ Planning to attend Tech Savvy Reception at 5:30pm on Friday, March 11 (No cost to attend)

___ Planning to Volunteer at Tech Savvy, Saturday, March 12

___ Morning shift (7am – 12pm) ___ Afternoon shift (11 am – 4pm) ___ All day

Available other times: _____

For those not volunteering on Saturday, March 12:

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

___ Attending Tech Savvy 4-hour teacher training on spatial skills, including morning refreshments, lunch, tote bag and materials - Please include \$5 payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch EF

Welcome Susan Chapman, Tech Savvy 6 Keynote Speaker

This year's Tech Savvy Keynote Speaker is Susan Chapman, Senior Vice President, Global Real Estate and Workplace Enablement at American Express Company. She is responsible for global real estate operations supporting the American Express portfolio of over 65,000 employees in 41 countries. Ms. Chapman is currently working across the portfolio to transform the workplace to ensure it is fully enabled to support the company's growth.

Prior to joining American Express, Ms. Chapman served as Global Chief Administrative Officer for Citi Realty Services (CRS), a division of Citigroup, Inc. As one of the largest corporate portfolios in the world, it consisted of over 83 million square feet of space in 87 countries. Her responsibilities included Global Program Management, Global Real Estate and Lease Administration, Energy Strategies, and Management Information Systems and Procurement. Ms. Chapman also co-led the corporation's real estate strategy around Citi's \$50 billion commitment to climate change, and served as Global Head of Operations for CRS, leading the strategic realignment of the CRS operations platform with the Citi business model. In addition, Ms. Chapman's team led Citi's Global Alternative Workspace Strategy and Space Standards programs.

In addition to her professional roles, Ms. Chapman is committed to volunteer work for non-profit community development organizations across the United States and remains an active mentor to young people in her community.

Ms. Chapman has received numerous awards for her achievements, most recently being named one of the "75 Most Powerful Women in Business" by Black Enterprise Magazine in February 2010. She was also named "2008 Woman of Distinction" by the Girl Scout Council of Greater New York and the 2007 Distinguished Young Alumni by the University of Wisconsin Alumni Association. Ms. Chapman has been a featured speaker for several organizations, including Commercial Real Estate Women, The Harvard Business School Club New York and the Executive Leadership Council and Foundation's Mid-Level Managers' Forums. She has also lectured for the MIT, Sloan School of Business Fellows Program.

Ms. Chapman holds a Master of Business Administration in Real Estate and Urban Land Economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She also holds a Master of Regional Planning from The University of Massachusetts-Amherst and a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from Vanderbilt University.

Ms. Chapman resides in New York.

Tech Savvy is ideal for AAUW Members!

Tech Savvy is not just for kids! A full session of activities is scheduled for parents and other adults in the lives of girls! Please join us for workshops and engaging discussion. It is a day's investment that will reap dividends in your child's future!

Opening this year's adult session will be Lisa Maatz, AAUW's national Public Policy Director, who is one of the authors of *Secrets of Powerful Women*. Lisa will share a fabulous story with the audience-- one that will certainly inspire you to positively empower the girl in your life!

A highlight this year is the Special Panel Presentation, developed by member Elizabeth Casciani. AAUW's *Why So Few* research report highlights important findings about barriers for girls in STEM and proactive ways to address. This research "comes to life" as you hear from a special panel, including students, with expertise in education, industry, and innovative gender-specific initiatives.

There are TWO morning sessions choices for parents and interested adults: *College Planning 101* is perfect to introduce you to the information you need to consider while your child is in middle school for college. *Helping Your Child to Engineer Her Life* will offer insight into engineering that can help lead the children in your life to success careers in the field.

Special This Year: *Tech Savvy Offering for Educational Professionals*:

Dr. Sheryl Sorby, a noted researcher in this field, will lead this special offering, which is also open to AAUW members. This special four-hour course will help teachers and other professionals help their students develop spatial skills.

Before Tech Savvy:

Don't forget the reception at the Buffalo Niagara Marriott on Friday, March 11. There is no cost to attend, but reservations are required.

To volunteer or to attend Tech Savvy and/or the reception, please call Tamara Brown at 649-9871 or mail the reservation form on page 4 of this newsletter by February 28.

Human Trafficking Breakfast Seminar: Saturday, April 2, 2011

Guest Speaker: Ms. Elizabeth Fildes
Director of the Western District of New York
Human Trafficking Task Force & Alliance
(Erie County Deputy Sheriff for 37 Years)

The International Institute
864 Delaware Avenue
10:00 Registration & Refreshments

The cost to attend the event is \$5.00 and a continental Breakfast will be provided. Please let Peggy Meinl know that you are planning to attend. She can be contacted at 834-0439 or via e-mail at [auro-rapm1219@aol.com](mailto:auro-<u>rapm1219@aol.com</u>). Payment will be accepted at the event.

This is an initiative under the New York State AAUW program, *My Sister's Keeper*, a two year awareness effort examining the tragedy of human trafficking and the needs of oppressed women throughout the world. Suggested reading on this issue is "Half the Sky" by Nicholas Kristof.

New Members

Lubitsa Wojno
53 Princeton Blvd.
Buffalo, NY 14217
716 874-1758 H
716 553 4630
lubitsa@aol.com

Grace Mukupa
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gracemuk@buffalo.edu

Anna Kourelis
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Pam Nicastro
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716 447 6276
pinicastro@verizon.net

Marjorie Norris
204 Aldrich Place
Buffalo, NY 14220
716 875-1136
marjnor@roadrunner.com

Nancy Light
10525 Clarence Center Rd.
Clarence, NY 14031
716 741 2443
716 341 0079

March Program: International Women's Day

Registration Form

Cost: \$30 per person (Please make checks payable to AAUW/Buffalo Branch)

Name(s): _____

Telephone #: _____

Dinner Choices:

Chicken Normando (basil wine and herbs): _____ Salmon: _____ Pasta with Vegetable: _____

Total enclosed: _____

Please mail this registration form and checks by March 1 to:
Lillis McLean, 366 Victoria Blvd., Kenmore, NY 14217
716-873-7467

NYS AAUW CONVENTION, APRIL 15-17, 2011

Peggy Kelland, NYS/AAUW

Join other AAUW members from around New York State at the Glen Cove Mansion for a weekend of inspiration and fun. Key-note speaker AAUW President Carolyn Garfein will be joined by LAF Program Director Holly Kearl and EOF recipient Amrita Bahl. The public policy panel will feature two bankruptcy court judges, and workshops will be offered on pay equity, STEM education, fair trade, women of the American Revolution, and nutrition.

On a lighter note, you'll have the opportunity to take a tour of Teddy Roosevelt's home Sagamore Hill, stroll around the lovely grounds of the Glen Cove Mansion on the EOF Walk, play military bridge, exercise with Zumba, swim in the pool to raise money for Heifer International, and replace those lost calories at the lavish meals, coffee breaks, and President's Reception.

Sunday will be a sharing of AAUW ideas and experiences, starting at the Counterpart Breakfast with State Board members and invited speakers; continuing with the Branch Showcase of successful programs; and concluding with a panel of members who went with official AAUW delegations to Cuba and Israel. The weekend concludes with a relaxing luncheon with old and new friends. See you there!

Registration materials are on the state web site aauw-nys.org and available from your branch president.

Book Sale Corner

by Pat Swift-MacClellan



Book Sale workers have had an eventful month. Some fierce weather has prevented opening on one sorting day and a burst pipe leading to a minor flood interrupted work on another. Fortunately, very few books were damaged and many helpful hands have allowed us to keep up with the incoming books. Storage space is getting tight at 995 Kensington Ave., which leads us to believe we may top last year's record collection.

While many members have been turning out on sorting days, we are in need of some specialized help. As you know, the sale has a large selection of collectible and pricier books. We need people with either some expertise or just plain interest in books to help us price these books. Sorters are adept at spotting them and setting them aside, so all you have to do is look at them and put a price on them. It is interesting work; there are many ways to do it and lots of people to help you. Cathy Weiss, our resident expert in this area, is dealing with some medical problems and has less time to devote to the job. If you can help, call Judy Weidemann, 655-3649, as soon as possible.

Book Sale treasurer Leona Barback reports that Giggil has already forwarded \$665.83 from the sale of books collected at a Niagara Falls bookstore in December. The store owner, who was going out of business, offered his all-new books to the book sale and because we had no place to store them, our members collected and boxed them for Giggil, an on-line book seller that gives us a percentage of every sale.

January Board Meeting Highlights

By Taylor Page

The motion that AAUW becomes a co-sponsor for the League of Women Voters Educational Forum by contributing \$50 of the public policy fund, was accepted.

The motion to publish similar advertisements as in past years in the NYS convention program (full page ad and a ¼ page ad), was accepted.

A motion that the Peterson fund, as it exists on 1/31/11, be sent to the National AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund, specifically to Fund 4347, the Hillary Rodham Clinton Fund established by the Buffalo Branch, was accepted. The motion that Lucille and Harold Peterson be added as honorees this year at the May luncheon and that the funds being sent to National are specified in their honor was also accepted.

The motion that AAUW Educational Foundation pay for the lunches of the four honorees (Vanita Evans, Ellen Trautman, Natasha Perkins, Toni Benjamine) at the May luncheon was accepted.

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

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Cheektowaga, NY 14225-0894

PO Box 894

AAUW Buffalo Branch



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This newsletter was delivered to the William Street Post Office, Buffalo, NY on February 22, 2011. Moving? Please contact Freddie Cheek, 716-835-6945.