



September 2010

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

## September Program: Annual AAUW Potluck

The AAUW Buffalo Branch is pleased to invite you to our first event of the year. Our annual "Potluck" will be held on Monday, September 13. The Olga Lindberg Scholarship will be presented by Tamara Brown, and long-time AAUW friend Jacquie Walker will be on hand to present the scholarship our branch awards in her name.

We are also happy to have, as our keynote speaker, Mary Travers Murphy. Many of you may remember Mary as the crusading consumer reporter on Channel 7. Now, she is crusading for women and children who are trying to escape violence in their homes. In January, Mary was named executive director of the Family Justice Center, a local agency that assists victims of domestic violence.

This year, we will be changing the customary event format. Rather than having everyone bring a dish, the main dinner will be catered, and each member is asked to bring a dessert that can serve 8 people. Here are the complete event details:



Mary Travers Murphy

### Women + Children Escaping Violence

Monday, September 13

Christ United Methodist Church

350 Saratoga Road, Amherst, NY 14226

6:00 – 8:30 PM



#### Dates to Remember:

- **Mon, Sep 13**, Branch Potluck
- **Sat, Oct 16**, District Meeting at Chautauqua Institute
- **Sat, Oct 30**, EcoTrail program
- **Sat, Jan 15, 2011**, LAF Fundraising Luncheon
- **Sat, May 14, 2011**, Annual Meeting and Luncheon
- **Wed - Sun, June 1-5, 2011**, 57th Annual Book Sale

Registration form for the September 13 Potluck Dinner

Return to Yvonne Curry, 172 Hamlin Road, Buffalo, NY 14208, by Sept 7, 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

## OCTOBER PROGRAM - SAVE THE DATE

On October 30, 2010, Dr. Brenda Young will take us on a tour of the EcoTrail that she and her students in the Environmental Science program have built on the Daemen campus. We will have lunch at noon with a presentation by Dr. Young. We will then tour the EcoTrail, weather permitting. We are also invited to tour the new Research and Information Commons which has received a very high Green Building rating. Registration information will be in next month's Newsletter.

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## President's Message

### Welcome to 2010-2011!!

Thank you to Marguerite Collesano for shepherding our Branch through a wonderful year of programs, events, business and change. She and I have already collaborated on things for the upcoming year, and she has agreed to be Legal Advocacy Fund Chair. Thank you, Marguerite; and thank you to all the Board members who worked so hard to keep things in order.

Book Sale, How did we do? Thank you to everyone who worked so hard. I got some great buys, did you? Was it while you were working? The New Members' Reception was held at the Book Sale site which really gave the full picture of what our Book Sale is about – volunteerism, philanthropy, hard work and good will. This is the first year that the volunteer hours were calculated, and I'm sure the Book Sale Committee will be reporting on this.

Our greatest triumph in fund raising for scholarships is the Book Sale. With the establishment of a Buffalo Branch National Fellowship in honor of Hillary Clinton, with her permission, our work is ongoing. It is to make sure that we complete this fellowship in the time allotted.

Where will we go this year? Changes are coming.

The Buffalo Branch and the Buffalo Branch Educational Foundation has been voted on by the membership to become one 501(c)(3) organization. Dues and contributions will be tax deductible.

Great programming headed by Yvonne Curry begins with the September pot luck. For the first time this will be catered, with dessert contributions from our members. Let us know how you like the change. The Board wanted everyone to be able to enjoy the meeting, and not be stuck in

the kitchen. So, here's a new format but at our traditional venue at Harlem Road and Saratoga. This is an opportunity for our members to socialize, learn new ideas, and hear speakers from different parts of our community. Bring a guest and introduce them to our terrific organization.

We need a Scholarship Committee Chair to work with scholarship committees on a strategic plan for our scholarships. Our Branch has many scholarships to give, and we would like to rationalize the process. Please contact me if you would like to take on this role.

Leadership – Our Branch has so many ways for members to show their true leadership abilities, whether it is through planning for meetings, raising funds for LAF, getting the message out about our mission and goals. We want members who would like to gain experience so that they can move on to new roles in our organization. Let me know who you are and we will find a place for you.

Our branch has many facets. I read in *The Buffalo News* about contributions to a Haitian School of new books from the Book Sale. This collaboration of volunteers collected them from the Book Sale Committee and delivered them to Port au Prince Haiti, furthering our goal of Education and Equity. Just one more thing we do quietly and positively. Philanthropy, featured at the NYS AAUW Leadership Conference, is now part of our mission: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Sincerely,

### THE BUFFALO BRANCH ADVOCATE

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

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# Buffalo Branch Study & Interest Groups

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## 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 who can provide you any information you need to get started. Remember that guests are welcome at a limited number of meetings for each interest group. Also, you are required to be a branch member in order to actively participate in AAUW sponsored groups. 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](mailto:amkun05@msn.com).



### American Biographies:

**When:** Thurs. Sept. 9, 1:30 P.M.

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

**Leader:** Lillis McLean, 873-7467 New members contact Lillis for additional information.

### Dinner by the Book:

**When:** Weds. Sept. 15, 5:30 PM.

**Where:** Bob Evans, 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd.

**Leader:** Lynne Tauriello

**Book:** "Olive Kitteridge" by Elizabeth Strout

**Facilitator:** Marilyn Todd **Questions:** 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).

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

### Clueless Mystery Book Club

**When:** Weds. Sept. 22, 6 PM

**Where:** Bob Evans, 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd.

Contact Suzanne Grossman, 837-8769

**Book:** "Death in Paradise" by Robert B. Parker or any work of Jesse Stone

**Facilitator:** Fran Witnauer

### Knitting Group

**When:** Weds. Sept. 8, 2 P.M.

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

**Leader:** Karen Howard, 874-1389 or [kkhoward@roadrunner.com](mailto:kkhoward@roadrunner.com).

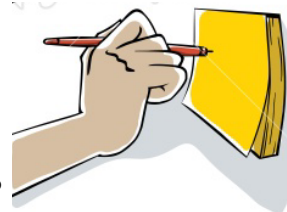
### Writing Workshop Group

**When:** Thurs. A.M., no date as yet chosen.

**Where:** Member home, to be announced monthly

**Leader:** Linda Drajem, 553-0864

New members welcome. Contact Linda for additional information.



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**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**DINNER BY THE BOOK FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON**

DINNER BY THE BOOK WILL BE HOLDING A FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON TO BENEFIT THE LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND (LAF) ON JANUARY 15, 2011. LAUREN BELFER, THE AUTHOR OF "CITY OF LIGHT" WILL BE THE GUEST SPEAKER. LAUREN'S NEWEST BOOK, "A FIERCE RADIANCE" WAS JUST PUBLISHED IN JUNE. THE LOCATION IS YET TO BE DETERMINED.

PLEASE "SAVE THE DATE." A NOTICE WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER NEWSLETTERS SO THAT MEMBERS CAN PLAN TO ATTEND. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT LEONA BARBACK AT 633-1982 OR VIA EMAIL AT [barleo@roadrunner.com](mailto:barleo@roadrunner.com). UPDATES AND FULL SCHEDULES WILL BE LISTED ON THE WEBSITE AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.

Laura Wright, a volunteer non-member at the Book Sale who has long been familiar with the Sale wrote a letter to Judy Clare. In it she said, "I've served on many boards and committees in my life, but never have I met such dedicated and inspirational women as the most active and supportive members of AAUW. I thank you, for being who you are and for all that you do, both for myself and for all women, and for all the changes and opportunities you have and will bring about for women and society."

Laura sums up the spirit found at our annual Book Sale and reflects on the kinds of opportunities the sale gives to our community.

Once again the Sale was a great success. The net profit was over \$60,000.

121 members participated before, during and after the Sale. Their combined volunteer hours totaled about 41,000. Thank you to Barb Emer who coordinated the effort to contact members for volunteering.

It is estimated that we had over 150,000 books. The site once again secured by Cathy Weiss was a perfect venue for the Sale. The many Table Chairs following Pat Baker's detailed directions arranged the books perfectly.

Our "good guys", Larry Clare, Dick Emer, Stanley Collesano, Jim Falleta, Carl Ressen, Fred Howard, Mike Marino, Paul MacClennan, George Oliver, Bill Powers, John Preble, Vince Tarzia, and Chris Warden, supplied the necessary muscle and know-how for important jobs.

Each year brings new innovation to the Sale. This year we began dealing with a company, Green Is Good, LLC, (GIGGL) who contacted Pat MacClennan, after reading our publicity on the internet. They contracted to take all our leftover books (about 12,000). On Clean-up Day a huge truck drove in. The left-over books were slid off the tables onto "gaylords" a word not in all of our vocabularies! In turn a rented forklift

put the gaylords on the truck. It was some operation to watch. GIGGL will sell these books on the Internet and give us a part of the proceeds. Leona Barback, Book Sale Treasurer, tells us that some of the books have already been sold. To think that there have been times when we needed to **pay** to have the leftovers taken away.

A few years ago we started recording the names and contact information of our customers electronically. The first few years it was difficult to find enough computer literate volunteers to man the computer. We are now much more sophisticated and those interviewer slots were all filled.

Leona Barback has assembled a fine team of assistants to the Treasurer. Betty Preble also helped refine the process of collecting and recording the cash receipts during the Book Sale.

Jacquie Walker was once again so helpful as the Honorary Chair. One of her assistants who came to the Sale when Jacquie visited told us the AAUW Book Sale is one of Jacquie's favorite charities. The Book Sale committee is nearing closure on the selection of the Jacquie Walker Scholarship winner. That winner will be invited to the Pot Luck Dinner on September 13th. Jacquie and her husband will attend as well.

The Steering Committee wishes to thank the branch and friends of the branch who made the 56th Sale one of the most successful in history. By the way we had a large number of friends of members help with the Sale. A special thank you goes to them and to the members who encouraged them to come.

Now on to planning for the 57th Sale!

*Judy Weidemann for the Steering Committee:*

*Leona Barback, Pat Baker, Judy Clare, Barbara Emer, Pat MacClennan, Cathy Weiss*

# Book Sale Celebration!!

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## PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF THE 56TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP BOOK SALE

**When: Monday, August 30, 2010**

**Where: The Home of Judy Weidemann**

**21 Nye Hill Road, East Aurora, NY**

**Time: 5:30 PM**

**RSVP: By August 29, 2010.**

Bring a dish to pass and your ideas for next year.

Mark your calendar!! Our 57th Sale is scheduled for June 1 - 5, 2011.

I will be out of town until August 29. Simply e-mail the choice of dish (or beverage, paper product etc,) ) that you will bring to me at [jweide7170@aol.com](mailto:jweide7170@aol.com). I will put it all together when I get home.

## 2010 Book Sale Table Donors

By Leona Barback

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The branch wishes to thank the following generous donors who gave funds to offset the cost of tables at the 56th Annual Book Sale in June, 2010. Thank you to:

<i>Leona Barback</i>	<i>Teresa Gessner</i>
<i>A. Marie Barker</i>	<i>Susan Kowalski</i>
<i>Laura J. Barnum</i>	<i>Barbara Ann Matthewson</i>
<i>Sawrie Barnes Becker</i>	<i>Susan McClary</i>
<i>Tamara Brown</i>	<i>Sharon Minklein</i>
<i>Joan Bozer</i>	<i>Florence Rembold</i>
<i>Fredricka Cheek</i>	<i>Caren Shapiro</i>
<i>Susan Clements</i>	<i>Sylvia Volk</i>
<i>Lois Dabney</i>	<i>Jacquie Walker</i>
<i>Carolyn Day</i>	<i>Rebecca R. Weber</i>
<i>Joan Eschenr</i>	<i>Frances C. Witnauer</i>
<i>Marion Kidd Fay</i>	

## \$25,500 Awarded from Chamberlin Fund

by Pat Swift-MacClennan

At a meeting on August 11, the Buffalo Branch Board approved \$25,500 in Chamberlin Fund/Funds for Education grants and loans to be shared by nine applicants in the June 1 cycle.

The Chamberlin Fund committee, after interviewing candidates on July 31, recommended a dispersal of \$15,500 in grants and \$10,000 in loans.

The applicant pool of 10, (one of whom was disqualified) comprised the largest number of applications we received in the past five years.

Awards and recipients include:

- Lakesha Dillard, a 35-year-old single mother who will complete an RN degree in Trocaire College this fall semester and plans to work on a bachelor's degree in nursing in D'Youville College: \$3,000 grant.
- Melissa Brown, a Grove City College graduate working on a master's degree in social work in University of Buffalo: \$2,000 loan and \$1,000 grant.
- Courtney Glick, a Niagara County Community College graduate, who will be a junior in University at Buffalo majoring in psychology: \$1,500 loan and \$500 grant.
- Michelle George, a UB graduate attending Colgate Rochester Crozer Di-

vinity School with plans to graduate in May 2013: \$3,000 grant.

- Samantha King, a sophomore in Duquesne University majoring in international relations: \$1,500 loan and \$1,500 grant.
- Grace Mukupa, a native of Zambia, graduate of Southern Connecticut State University with an MBA from Oswego State College, working for a doctoral degree in global gender studies in UB. \$3,000 grant from Chamberlin and FFE funds.
- Ruth Simmons, a graduate of Rochester Institute of Technology with a master's degree from UB, completing a doctoral degree in UB: \$1,500 Chamberlin loan and \$1,500 FFE grant.
- Brittany Smykowski, Niagara University sophomore majoring in business: \$1,500 loan and \$1,500 grant.
- Elizabeth Suchan, Canisius College senior majoring in sociology and social work: \$2,000 loan and \$500 grant.

Participating in the day-long interview session were Anastasia Johnson, Marguerite Collisano, Michelle Norris, Diane Silvestro, Anita Kunkle, Karen Howard, Karen Huffman-Kelly and Maria Coppola.

The next deadline for Chamberlin applications is Dec. 1. Applications are available on our branch website at [www.aauw.buffalo.edu](http://www.aauw.buffalo.edu).

### NEW AAUW MAILING ADDRESS

**AAUW Buffalo Branch**  
**PO Box 894**  
**Cheektowaga, NY 14225-0894**

### SORTING TO BEGIN FOR 57<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BOOK SALE

Weekly sorting will start for the 57th Annual Book Sale on Tuesday, September 14. The sorting site is located at 995 Kensington Avenue in Buffalo.

Sorting will take place between 9:30 AM and 12:00 Noon every Tuesday and Wednesday.





Before I sent out the certificates of the named EF gift recipients I wanted to make sure I had the name and address of an appropriate family member or friend of our deceased member. After a little detective work, I made some remarkable phone calls. Each provided new insight into the role our branch played in the lives of these women and each was followed up with another call or card to me expressing sincere appreciation to us. Here's a short summary of my conversations.

Ruthe Sicherman's daughter-in-law in Ocean, NJ told me her own involvement in her local AAUW branch is a result of the lifetime membership Ruthe gifted her.

Margit Spector's sister in Schenectady, NY told me all about how much Margit wanted women of all ages to have opportunity and how she loved the Book Sale.

Ann Egan's son in Kingston, NY was so proud of his mother's accomplishments and glad that she was part of such a vital organization.

Margaret Haas' friend in Williamsville shared stories of how Margaret always wanted something special to take to each of her AAUW Buffalo Branch activities.

Diane Sina's daughter in Atlanta, GA wanted us all to know how much her mother enjoyed her AAUW Buffalo Branch activities and friendships.

Everyone was pleased and honored that we had memorialized their loved one in this special way. What started as a chore became a de-

lightful opportunity for wonderful conversations and confirmed the special role of AAUW Buffalo Branch.

We have been congratulated for achieving Fifth Place among the Top Ten total branch giving to the AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund and Second Place among the Top Ten Protectors of the legal rights of those facing discrimination through the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF). These are among the highest of branch and state honors and recognize our strong commitment to advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Brittany and Heather Williams received support from us to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) and here's Brittany's video at [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com).

Secretary Clinton's special assistant has notified us that she has approved our request to name an AAUW American Fellowship "Buffalo, NY Branch in honor of Hillary Rodham Clinton." We've already contributed \$16,000 and have 15 years to finish our \$200,000 pledge.

Our Book Sale has contributed \$60,000 to our Educational Accounts and Charitable Projects Account.

The estate of Charles Jamieson (Carol's husband) has bequest to us \$9,211.53.

## 2010 - 2011 Preliminary Program Outline

by Yvonne Curry

**September:** Monday, Sept 13, POTLUCK  
**Topic:** Domestic Violence **Speaker:** Mary Traverser Murphy -- Family Justice Ctr

**October:** District Conference and "Ecotrail" tour

**November:** "The Place & Power of Women Athletes" Presenter: Amy Moritz, Mentoring Project Kick-off program

**December:** Holiday Gathering 2010

**January:** "Dinner by the Book" Fundraiser.

**Speaker / Author:** Lauren Belfer

**February:** Community Services Program

**March:** International Women's Day, Tech Savvy 6, Sister-to-Sister

**April:** Domestic Violence Awareness Month program

**May:** Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon

**June:** 57th Annual Book Sale

*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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