

BUFFALO BRANCH ADVOCATE



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

NYS District 1

716.559.3037 - aauw.buffalo.edu

February 2012

February Program Presents: WOMEN IN SPORTS Saturday, February 25, 10 am

Amy Moritz, a Buffalo News sports reporter as well as an adjunct professor at both Niagara University and D'Youville College, will be the featured speaker for our February program with the topic "Women in Sports." She will talk about the historical influence of women in sports and the women's sports movement as well its portrayal in the media. Attention will then be paid to today's female athlete and the journey she must negotiate between being media savvy and being empowered.

The program will be held at the Southtowns YMCA, 1620 Southwestern Blvd, West Seneca, NY 14224 (near the intersection of Transit and Southwestern). Healthy snacks will be served. There is no cost, but seating is limited. Please contact Joan Trinchera at trinch84@hotmail.com or 649-9469 for reservations.

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The American Association of University Women Buffalo Branch presents its 11TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

Thursday, March 8, 2012, 5:15 pm

5:15 p.m. social gathering; 6:15 p.m. dinner; 7:30 p.m. program

Guest Speaker - Filomena M. Critelli, Assistant Professor, University of Buffalo School of Social Work

Topic: Past, Present and Future of Pakistan (Focus – Women & Children)

Location: Milos Restaurant (Formerly known as The Little White House)

5877 Main Street
Williamsville, New York 14221

Registration Form

Buffet Dinner: Appetizer – Soup, Main Course -Baked Greek Style Chicken, Milos Salmon, Mediterranean Style Pasta, Italian Style Green, Beans –Dessert – Ice cream

Cost \$35.00 per person (Please make checks payable to AAUW/Buffalo Branch)

Name: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Number Attending: _____ Total enclosed: _____

Please mail this form and checks by March 1, 2012 to

Carol A. Griffith - 18 Union Common,
Williamsville, New York 14221 (716)810-0269

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGES

Barb's Beliefs

"Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Wishing is not enough; we must do."

-- *Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe, Author*

OK. It's February, or close to it. How are you doing with those New Year's resolutions? I think I could brag a little that I haven't given up completely yet. Progress has been slow, however. I really wish I could improve some things in my life, but wishing isn't enough, as von Goethe said. But there's something about January 1 as a starting date. It just seems right for new ventures. Well, if you need a new starting date, think about this. Not all calendars and cultures start the new year on the date we call January 1. The Buddhist Mahayana New Year was January 9-12, the Chinese New Year began January 23, the New Year for Baha'i, Zoroastrians, and Iranians is March 20. You could even wait until the Islamic New Year Al-Hijra on November 15. The point is that you haven't lost the psychological advantage of a logical starting point. Pick one. Your birthday? Your sister's birthday? All good starting dates. It's a good idea to let someone know that you are starting on a certain date. Maybe you want that person to check in with you occasionally for progress reports. That might help you stay on track.

If your resolution was to be more active in Buffalo Branch activities, bless you! We have many people working on the planning and implementation of our large and small group activities. There's usually something for everyone each month. Betty's article about the State Convention is really exciting. I hope many of our members will make the trip to Rochester. You don't have to be a Board member to attend, participate, or benefit from the sessions.

I know that some of our members read these comments because I've had feedback on some things. Let me know if you have made progress on your good intentions. I'd love to hear from you!

Barbara Carier

THE BUFFALO BRANCH ADVOCATE

is published monthly Sept-June as a bulletin of events for members and as an update on AAUW issues and programs.

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- Assistant Editors: Betty Preble, Judy Weidemann, Barbara Carier

Send address changes to Freddie Cheek, 406 Maynard Drive, Amherst, NY 14226-2929. You can also email her at fscheek@verizon.net.

Betty's Rambles

"I do not believe in sex distinction in literature, law, politics, or trade - or that modesty and virtue are more becoming to women than to men, but wish we had more of it everywhere."

Belva Lockwood

One of the resolutions I made this year was to keep up with our members. Part of that is "catching up" - just learning what the "locals" know about the history of women from this area, as I am continually embarrassed by my lack of knowledge in this field (among others, I might add). Belva Lockwood, one of the nation's first female attorneys and a native Western New Yorker, is a name I did not know before I moved here.

As Women's History month approaches in March, it's appropriate to think about this woman who defied the conventional thinking of the day. Did you know that she drafted the equal-pay bill for female government workers which was enacted in 1872? That she was the first woman to practice law before the Supreme Court (and had led the fight for the law which allowed her to do so)? That she ran for president in 1884? Now, that's a person I think might be interesting to "follow" on Twitter or her blog! What would she say about girls being discouraged from entering the STEM fields? About the prevalence of human trafficking that still goes on around the world (and in our own back yards!) I'm sure she wouldn't just be sitting back and letting it happen. So, the question - are we doing just that - as an organization or as individuals? I hope not! And how many other local heroines are unknown beyond our WNY borders?

I look forward to seeing you at the February program and ALL the wonderful March activities!

Betty Preble

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

Or for renewal questions, Marguerite Collesano, VP of Membership Retention, at 853-6480 or mcollesano@aol.com.

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BUFFALO BRANCH STUDY AND INTEREST GROUPS

The Buffalo Branch offers a variety of interest groups. They afford opportunities for new friendships, fun, and sharing skills and interests. Anyone having an idea for a new study group starting this year, please contact Judy Malamas, tsagewood@aol.com or 632-0461.

Schedules for the Month:

Clueless Book Club

Joint meeting with Dinner by the Book.

Dinner by the Book

When: Wed, Feb, 15, 2012, 5:30 pm

Where: Bob Evans, 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd.

Facilitator: Karen Howard

Discussion Leader: Fran Witnauer

Book: *A Fierce Radiance* by Lauren Belfer

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

Questions: Leona Barback, 633-1982 or Marilyn Carmichael, 228-8626

The Knitting Group

When: Wed., Feb. 8, 2-4 pm

Where: Barnes & Noble on Transit near Main St.

Contact Leader: Margaret Fischer, at 632-8269 or margaretjf@roadrunner.com

All knitters – beginners or advanced – are welcome to join us.

Restaurant-of-the-Month Group

Restaurant: Gin Gin

Where: 3244 Sheridan Drive, Amherst, NY 14226

When: Sun., Feb. 26, 5:30 PM

Questions: Contact Maria, at marcoppola@gmail.com

RSVP: by Friday, Feb. 24 via email or call 716-289-8149

About Gin Gin: This place is nothing fancy but it's about the best Chinese Food in town and a great value! You'll have dinner for two days at a cost of about \$10, if you stick to the traditional Chinese menu items. They also have daily specials. The service is slow but the food is great.

Separate checks are available.

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS IN US WOMEN'S HISTORY

- **Feb 1, 1978** - First postage stamp to honor a black woman, Harriet Tubman, is issued in Washington, DC
- **Feb 4, 1987** - First National Women in Sports Day is celebrated by Presidential Proclamation
- **Feb. 12 1869** - the Utah Territory passes a law allowing women to vote
- **Feb 15, 1921** - The Suffrage Monument, depicting Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucretia Mott, and carved by Adelaide Johnson, is dedicated at the U.S. Capitol
- **Feb 15, 1953** - Tenley Albright is the first American woman to win the World Figure Skating championship
- **Feb 17, 1870** - Esther Hobart Morris became the first American woman Justice of the Peace
- **Feb 24, 1912** - Henrietta Szold founds Hadassah, the largest Jewish organization in American history, focusing on healthcare and education in the Israel and the US
- **Feb 24, 1967** - Jocelyn Bell Burnell makes the first discovery of a pulsar, a rapidly rotating neutron star
- **Feb 25 1986** - Corazon Aquino sworn in as the first woman President of the Philippines
- **Feb 27, 1922** - US Supreme Court upholds the 19th Amendment to the Constitution which guarantees women the right to vote

Source: <http://nwHP.org>

PEN WOMEN LEAGUE LUNCHEON

Our own Freddie Cheek will be speaking about the work of AAUW at The Eagle House Restaurant in Williamsville on Saturday, February 18, 2012 at noon. Spouses and/or friends are very welcome. For more information contact Lubitsa I. Wojno (Lubitsa@aol.com), President, WNY Pen Women Branch of the NLAPW

COME TO THE AAUW-NYS CONVENTION APRIL 20-22, 2012 IN ROCHESTER!

This year's state convention theme, "In Their Footsteps", will celebrate the historic women's rights movement centered in New York State. It will begin with a Friday afternoon tour of the Susan B. Anthony House and continue on Saturday with a dialogue between impersonators of Anthony and of Matilda Joslyn Gage. They will bring alive the conflicts within the women's suffrage movement - surprisingly relevant to today's political divisions. Workshops on "The Haudenosaunee Influence", "Harriet Tubman", African-American "Uncrowned Queens", "Elizabeth Cady Stanton", "Women of the Chautauqua Movement", and "The Seneca Army Depot Peace Encampment" will all expand on this theme.

Keynotes by Kathy Kelm, head of AAUW's Lobby Corps in Washington, and by Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, as well as workshops on The Temp Economy and "Clean Money, Clean Elections", a dialogue on the Women's History Trail, and "Project Women" will show how we can continue the mission today. We'll extend that mission throughout the world with our international speaker, Jane Roberts.

By popular demand we will again have military bridge on Friday evening, an exercise session (yoga this year!) on Saturday afternoon, musical entertainment on Saturday evening, and opportunities for swimming, walking, and bidding on LAF offerings (purses this year!). As a special treat, the Branch Showcase will be a presentation by the Bath Branch of the play "Momoirs" on Sunday morning.

Peggy Kelland, AAUW-NYS V.P. Program

“DO YOU KNOW THE WAY TO ~~SAN JOSE~~ ROCHESTER?”

Have you thought about attending the AAUW-NYS state convention this year? It'll be convenient (Woodcliff Hotel and Spa in Rochester), educational (Women's History Trail in our back yard plus tons of great speakers/

DATES TO NOTE:

- **Wed, Feb. 1, 5:45 pm** – Buffalo Branch **Board Meeting**, Ebenezer United Church of Christ, 630 Main St, West Seneca
- **Sat. Feb. 18, 12 noon** Pen Women Assoc. Luncheon
Location: The Eagle House Restaurant, Williamsville
Speaker: Freddie Cheek
- **Sat, Feb. 25, 10 am, Women in Sports**
Location: YMCA, 1620 Southwestern Blvd, West Seneca, NY 14224
Contact: Joan Trinchera
- **Wed, Mar 7, 5:45 pm** – Buffalo Branch **Board Meeting**, Christ United Methodist Church, Saratoga at Harlem
- **Thur. Mar. 8, 5:15 pm, International Women's Day Celebration**
Location: Milos Restaurant, 5877 Main St, Williamsville
Contact: Carol A. Griffith
- **Sat, March 17 Tech Savvy 7**
Location: UB
- **Sat, March 31 Sister to Sister**
Location: D'Youville College
- **Fri. April 20-22 AAUW-NYS Convention**
Location: Woodcliff Hotel and Spa, Rochester, NY

workshops), and FUN (trails to walk, spas to try, new friends to meet, a play to watch). The convention should be a great one!

Some of the highlights are listed in Peggy Kelland's article above and on page 7.

Every member of AAUW-NYS with an email address should have received the packet of information by now. Please see the state website (<http://aauw-nys.org>) for a discounted registration form, and sign up early to qualify for more chances at a free spa treatment and/or scholarship money for our branch to use. Please note that we will be auctioning PURSES instead of BASKETS this year in honor of Susan B. Anthony's belief that a woman's purse was a symbol of her economic independence.

Please join us for at least part of the weekend – let's show the state that Buffalo supports it!

Betty Preble

BRANCH POLICIES

PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES

The current bylaws and policies are not clear on whether or not some appointed members of the branch leadership team may vote at board meetings. In addition, one of the elected officers was inadvertently omitted from the executive committee in the bylaws. In order to correct these, the following changes are proposed (note – the board has approved these, but the branch has the final say in the matter.)

There may also be some changes coming as the result of some national mandates, but those have not yet been sent to us. They will NOT require a branch vote since all branches MUST comply with mandated changes.

Proposed changes: Struck-through Items are to be deleted while items in italics are to be added. These changes will be voted on at the annual meeting/luncheon in May.

- ARTICLE VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- Section 1. Composition. The board of directors shall include the elected and appointed officers ~~except that the nominating committee shall be represented on the board by the chair.~~
- ARTICLE VIII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
- Section 1. Composition. The executive committee shall consist of the following elected officers: President, the Vice Presidents, the Secretary, the Chief Financial Officer, the Branch Treasurer, the Treasurer for the Chamberlin Loan Fund and Funds for Education, the Treasurer for Educational Accounts and Program, the Treasurer for Fund Raising, ~~and~~ the Scholarship Chair, *and the Nominating Committee Chair.*



BOOK SALE CORNER

Book sale workers are entering the home stretch for the 2012 event. April, the time when we hope to be moving into the sale site, is only three months away and we all know how fast months go. To take advantage of the time that is left we need lots and lots of books. Donations have been a little slower this year and the volumes are down. Committee members are taking book marks requesting donations to all the Branch's events. Look for them; pick up a few and spread the word as far and wide as possible.

One of the pleasures of sorting and packing books for the sale is the occasional discovery of a very special book. It may be the one you have been searching for or it may be one that is super valuable and will sell for a very high price, even at our bargain rates. We have sorters who look for those special books and now everyone can know how to spot them.

Kevin Ransom, a veteran book seller, has shared his expertise with book sale workers and Judy Weidemann, a sale co-chair, is sharing them with our members.

Here are some of his tips as reported by Judy:

Condition of the book is critical even if it is a rare or first edition; look for original dust jacket; book club editions are not valuable; Amazon Book Finder and Abe Books are good internet places to research a book's value; uncorrected proofs are impossible to sell; our \$1 price for hard covers is good, \$2 is too high; local collectibles have no added value; science fiction can sell from \$1 to \$25.

It is fun being a book detective, and finding a rare book can be rewarding. Ransom reported that a first edition of Hemingway's "The Sun Also Rises," with a dust jacket and in good condition, sold for \$7,000.

Pat Swift-MacClennan, Booksale Committee

NEW MEMBERS

Diane O'Brien

81 Ponderosa Drive Williamsville, NY 14221-2409

Phone: 716 689-9442

E-mail: obnfam@roadrunner.com

Degree: BA Geneseo, MS Buffalo State College 1975 Elementary Ed.; D'Youville College 1990 Permanent Certification ESL English As Second Language; Canisius/Medaille College 2000 MS in Reading

JoAnn Greenzweig

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Degrees: BA – SUNY at Buffalo 1984 Computer Science;

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PUBLIC POLICY

The following information was made available through [Washington Update](#), internal communication for public policy leaders and members of AAUW

New FBI Rape Definition a Step Forward

Attorney General Eric Holder [announced](#) that the FBI will be updating the definition of rape used to collect data from state and local law enforcement agencies. The definition had not been changed since 1927. The update, which will help ensure accuracy in data reporting in the Uniform Crime Report, removes “forcible” as a necessary condition for reporting, and expands the definition to include rapes committed against men, without the consent of the victim, and a broader range of sexual acts. This update is significant in that accurate and meaningful reporting of rape and crime statistics helps law enforcement ensure the appropriate use of resources and take steps to prevent future violence.

AAUW applauds this long overdue update. Now, we urge Congress to act on other efforts to reduce rape and violence against women, including full reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). VAWA reauthorization is an opportunity to strengthen, enhance, and streamline the existing programs and provisions in the law. The legislation includes new improvements, including some aimed at ending sexual violence on campus. These changes incorporate many of the provisions of the Campus SaVE Act (S. 834), which AAUW, the AAUW Action Fund Lobby Corps, and our members nationwide have worked so hard to advance.

Public Layoffs Take Hidden Toll on Black Women

Women have accounted for 66 percent of the public sector job losses; black women are 22 percent more likely to work in the public sector than are non-black women and so have been doubly affected. Additionally, the contract employees hired to fill positions vacated by

layoffs are often paid less and have more limited access to benefits such as paid sick leave than did the public sector workers.

AAUW [supports](#) greater availability of and access to benefits and policies that promote work-life balance, which are critical for women to achieve equitable access and advancement in employment. AAUW is concerned at the disparate impact layoffs have had on women of color and will continue tracking how high unemployment is affecting all women.

2011: The Year of Reproductive Rights Rollbacks

States enacted 80 laws restricting access to reproductive health care in 2011, more than three times as many as in 2010, according to [research](#) by the Guttmacher Institute. This increase is due in part to the 2010 elections, which swept many anti-reproductive choice candidates into office. There are now 15 state governments in which both the governor and legislatures oppose abortion rights, up from 10 in 2010. These restrictive laws include mandatory waiting periods, limited access to medication abortion, and new restrictions on later term abortions. Additionally, six states enacted deep cuts to family planning budgets, and five states have also moved to restrict eligibility for providers that have anything to do with abortion.

AAUW [supports](#) the right of every woman to safe, accessible, affordable, and comprehensive family planning and reproductive health services. AAUW trusts that every woman has the ability to make her own informed choices regarding her reproductive life within the dictates of her own moral and religious beliefs. Further, AAUW believes that these deeply personal decisions should be made without government interference.

Unemployment Rate Drops; Men Hired in More New Jobs than Women

The Department of Labor [announced](#) that employers added 200,000 jobs in December, pushing the unemployment rate down to 8.5 percent. Yet deeper [analysis](#) showed a troubling trend – men got nearly 2 out of 3 new jobs created last year. Nearly 1.28 million men gained jobs in the 12 months that ended in November, compared with 600,000 women. This gain was primarily in retail, a field traditionally dominated by women, with retailers hiring 216,900 men compared to about 9,000 women.

Continued on Pa. 7

WASHINGTON UPDATE,

Continued from Pg. 6

Faced with a still-bleak job market, women are dropping out of the labor force in large numbers, many to pursue graduate and professional education. The New York Times [reports](#) that among all age groups, unemployed women are 35 percent more likely to leave the workforce than are unemployed men. Both men and women are entering higher education programs at higher rates than in the past. However, in the last two years, the number of women in school age 18 to 24 rose by 130,000 while the number of men age 18-24 rose by only 53,000.

AAUW [believes](#) that to promote economic recovery, the president and Congress must focus on creating jobs, training our workers, and ensure that those jobs are good ones — the kind that pay equitably and provide economic security. AAUW strongly believes that access to high-wage, high-skill jobs should be a right for women and girls from diverse racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, age, and disability backgrounds and that access includes training for nontraditional jobs. Additionally, any job creation legislation must promote equal pay — women who work full time earn about 77 cents on average for every dollar men earn.

NEW LAF FUND RAISER, AAUW NYS CONVENTION

Branches are invited to raise funds for LAF while adding to the fun at the convention by submitting purses for a drawing. We are honoring Susan B. Anthony, for whom a purse was a symbol of a woman's economic success. Purses can be interpreted to include designer bags, small purses, shoulder bags and carrying bags. They may contain other items.

We can submit up to 5 purses. The deadline for submission of information describing the purses is due by Friday, March 30.

Please let me know if you have a purse to submit for the drawing and/or ideas for submissions. Thanks in advance for your help.

Sue Oliver, 652 1230 or gsoliver@verizon.net

AAUW-NYS CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

- ✦ A tour of the **Susan B. Anthony** House on Friday afternoon
- ✦ Friday night keynote speaker AAUW National Lobby Corps Chair **Kathy Kelm**
- ✦ Saturday night keynote speaker Congresswoman **Louise Slaughter**
- ✦ National AAUW Director at Large **Dot McLane**
- ✦ **Deborah Hughes**, Executive Director of the Susan B. Anthony House
- ✦ **Sally Roesch Wagner**, Executive Director of the Matilda Joselyn Gage House
- ✦ **Tammy Duchesne**, Superintendent of the Women's Rights National Historical Park
- ✦ **Karen Hill**, Executive Director of the Harriet Tubman House
- ✦ **Coline Jenkins**, direct descendant of Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- ✦ **Jane Roberts**, Founder of "34 Million Friends of the United Nations Population Fund"
- ✦ **Peggy Brooks-Bertram and Barbara Seals Nevergold** of "Uncrowned Queens"
- ✦ New Paltz Town Supervisor **Susan Zimet**
- ✦ Incentives including **two \$500 scholarships** and a drawing for time at the hotel **spa**
- ✦ Multiple **workshop** presenters who will connect you to the convention theme
- ✦ An **LAF litigant** who will inspire you
- ✦ LAF and EOF **drawings** for PURSES as fundraisers, a new idea instead of baskets for auction
- ✦ Bath Branch members performing in a play known as "**Momoirs**"
- ✦ Trails and sidewalks for a refreshing outdoor excursion and leisure time
- ✦ Friendships, fun, food
- ✦ A pool to use for exercise and fundraising combined
- ✦ More, more, more! See the convention schedule for details

For more info: www.aauw-nys.org

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN



Breaking through Barriers

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.

Return Service Requested



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