

BUFFALO BRANCH ADVOCATE



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

NYS District 1

716.559.3037 - aauw.buffalo.edu

June 2012

AAUW 58TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP BOOK SALE

Wed., May 30 – Sun., June 3, 2012

2309 Eggert Road, Tonawanda, NY, former Office Depot Plaza
(just north of Sheridan Drive)

Sale Hours: 9 am – 8 pm Wednesday through Saturday
Noon – 5 pm on Sunday

Admission: Wednesday morning (until 1 p.m.) \$10.00
Wednesday afternoon and evening \$5.00
Thursday through Saturday \$1.00
Sunday – Free

Proceeds benefit the national AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund, local scholarships, loans, & grants, and community outreach projects such as

Tech Savvy and Sister-to-Sister.

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SECOND ANNUAL AAUW DAY AT CHAUTAUQUA

Sponsored by the Jamestown, NY Branch

Date: Monday, July 23, 2012

Host: AAUW Branch of Jamestown, NY

Theme: Pakistan: Straddling the Boundary between Asia and the Middle East

Speaker: Fareed Zakaria, Host, "Fareed Zakaria GPS" CNN (<http://www.fareedzakaria.com>)

Place: Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, NY (www.Clweb.org)

Time: Lecture 10:45 am at Amphitheatre; Ticket good from 9am – 8pm

Cost: \$27/person plus \$12.25 for a box lunch. (Make check payable to AAUW Jamestown Branch)

Contact: Maggie Irwin, mirwin@stny.rr.com.

Send your name, address, number of tickets wanted and a check (\$39.25 per person) to her: Maggie Irwin, 33 LaSalle, Ave, Jamestown, NY 14701



PRESIDENTS' MESSAGES

Barb's Beliefs

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give. *Winston Churchill*

Recently I went to a luncheon given for people who have volunteered their time in service to the senior center in my town. The number of people there who were being honored was quite amazing. It all made me think about quality of life – mine and other people's. The above quotation from Winston Churchill has been stuck in my head lately.

AAUW asks us to give some things. The dues require some financial resources, not always easy for everyone. The agenda of AAUW doesn't require, but instead strongly suggests you give some of your time. That's easier for some than for others. The basic *raison d'être* of AAUW is probably the reason you joined, so your support gives courage and aid to those who are able to struggle against the inequities and barriers we women face. Are you providing that support?

Maybe you can find the money, the time, the support for AAUW and its causes. Are you able to do more? Can you make a better life for yourself and others by devoting some thinking, some planning, some extra effort? There are always public policy issues with which you might become involved. We always need help with the scholarships and loans we give to worthy students. We need a Public Relations person. There are special events that need a coordinator. Those special events need committee workers.

If you have thought about your priorities and really can't do more just now, it's not a problem. There are times in our lives when we can't give any additional money, or time, or effort. Our lives are full and demanding. AAUW's outreach promises to keep you informed of our pertinent issues so you will be aware. When the time is right, we hope you will be able to become more involved. It will enrich your life as well as improving many lives beyond ourselves.

Barbara Carier

Betty's Rambles

"Year's end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us."
Hal Borland

The end of the year. Do you remember back when we were in school? May and June always brought cheers as we approached the "no more pencils, no more books, no more teacher's dirty looks" season. Now it's sad to see the AAUW year end - and it has been a great year! Increased membership, many scholarships awarded, outstanding Sister-to-Sister and Tech Savvy conferences, fantastic programs, new interest groups tried, and a booksale that promises to be the best ever!

Planning has already started for next year and there is MUCH work to be done. Barb has already listed many of the "pieces" that make up the whole that is our AAUW Branch. Want to be a part of the fun? Our new and continuing officers welcome your assistance. The officers are:

Co-Presidents – Barb Carier and Betty Preble
 Program VP – Joan Trinchera
 Membership Recruitment VP – Cynthia Mehary
 Membership Retention VP – Marguerite Collesano
 Secretary – Taylor Page
 CFO – Michelle Norris
 Operations Treasurer – Joan Eschner
 Ed Accounts and Program Treasurer – Ruth Fierro-King
 Chamberlin/FFE Treasurer – Claudia Kania
 Fundraising Treasurer – Barbara Libby
 Scholarship Director – Susan McClary
 Nominating Committee Chair – Lillis McLean.
 Nominating Committee Members – Sue Licata, Yvonne Curry, Judy Weidemann, Ruby Williams.

Please contact any of these wonderful women to talk about how YOU'd like to get more involved!

Finally, a big THANKS to all our wonderful members who have done so much this year. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!

Betty Preble

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.

- Co-Presidents: Barbara Carier, Betty Preble
- Publisher/Editor: Selma Bektesevic
- 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.

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.

June 2012
 Vol. XXXII, No. 10
 Circulation 200

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

When: Wed, June 27, 2012, 6 pm
Where: Bob Evans, 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd.
Book: *Material Witness* by Robert K. Tanenbaum
To Reserve: Suzanne Grossman, 837-8769

Dinner by the Book

When: Wed. June 20, 2012, 5:30 pm
Where: Bob Evans, 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd.
Facilitator: Julianne LaMar
Book: *Mudbound* by Hillary Jordan
To Reserve: Fran Witnauer, 688-5708 or Grandmafran44@yahoo.com.

The Knitting Group

When: Thurs. June 14, 2-4 pm
Where: Barnes & Noble on Transit near Main St.
Contact Leader: Margaret Fischer, 632-8269 or margaretjf@roadrunner.com
 All knitters – beginners or advanced – are welcome to join us.

Restaurant-of-the-Month Group

No meeting.

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



The AAUW-NYS Summer Conference
 July 20 - 22, 2012
 Cazenovia College
 Cazenovia, NY

July 20 – 22, 2012

Cazenovia College, Cazenovia, NY

Come and enjoy a workshop on Personal and Professional Development Strategies for Success. Your \$100 registration fee will include two nights stay at the college and six meals. You will learn to apply new strategies to AAUW programming, help plan the AAUW-NYS Convention for 2013, and participate in a computer workshop or learn more about exciting programs. There will also be time for an ice cream social, movie, and other occasions to get to know AAUW members from around the state. The registration form and information can be found at http://www.aauw-nys.org/Cazenovia_2012.htm. All are welcome – please join us! If any questions, please contact Margaret Nijhuis, margaretnijhuis@gmail.com or 845/635-8612.

NEW MEMBERS

Melissa A. Bader, Esq
 Lawyer for Rolabate and Galbo
 4199 Foxwood Lane, Williamsville, NY 14221
 Phone: [716 631-2532](tel:7166312532)
 E-mail: melish8@gmail.com
 Degrees: Graduate Law Degree

Brenda J. Commodore
 44 Weston Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14215
 Phone: 838-5947
 E-mail: kischara@verizon.net

Maria Tripi-McCarthy
 2402 Colvin Boulevard Ext. Apt 1, Tonawanda, NY 14150
 Phone: [716 480-4695](tel:7164804695)
 E-Mail: mtripimcca@roadrunner.com
 Degrees: Associates in Science English/Sociology in 2002, Presently Sociology, Empire State College NFC



BOOKSALE

The AAUW 58th scholarship book sale opens in just a few days and there is still plenty of time for you to get in on the action.

Starting Wednesday, May 30, members will be staffing the sale site from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. every day until Sunday, June 3, when the site will be open from noon until 5 p.m. There are openings for all kinds of jobs on each of the three shifts on Wednesday through Saturday and, of course, everyone wants to be part of the finale on Sunday afternoon.

Your special talents are needed as cashiers, checkers, greeters, hostesses, interviewers. If you love handling money try being a cashier, if you like to work with people take on a job as greeter, hostess, dealer support or interview the customers and update their information in our files. If keeping everything in tip top shape is your fetish, volunteer as a floor worker and make sure the books and tables look as orderly as 9 a.m. on opening day. A bonus in this job is interacting with the customers, most of who are in a contagiously happy mood and looking for that special book with its ridiculously low price. What a great feeling when you can help them find it.

There is no pay check but, as anyone who has worked on the sale will tell you, the rewards are bountiful.

The biggest reward may be maintaining the Buffalo Branch's outstanding leadership in support of educational opportunities for women and girls. Proceeds from the sale also provide funds for the branch's philanthropy and community projects.

If you have not signed up for a job, contact Judy Weidemann, 655-3649.



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **Wed-Sun, May 30-June 3 – BOOKSALE!!!**
- **Wed, June 6, 5:45 pm –Buffalo Branch Board Meeting**, Ebenezer United Church of Christ, West Seneca
- **Fri.-Sun., July 20-22 – AAUW-NYS Summer Conference**, Cazenovia College, Cazenovia, NY
- **Mon, July 22 – Second AAUW Day at Chautauqua**, Chautauqua, NY
- **Aug. 8–19** – we'll be on display at the **County Fair!**
- **Mon., Sep 10 – Fall Potluck**, Christ United Methodist Church. Details in the Sep issue!



COME TO THE FAIR! WE'LL BE THERE – BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Laura Wright, our booksale children's section guru, has volunteered to put together an exhibit showing off our AAUW branch in the Historical Building at the Fair. We'll especially be featuring our scholarships, but it will also include information on our many other activities. For security purposes we are required to have someone there at all times. All volunteers receive free fair admission and free parking! Period costume is encouraged (and there is a dressing room), but not required. Below are the shifts still available at press time. Our schedule must be turned in by July 15. Please contact Betty Preble (662-0608 or betty.preble@gmail.com) to sign up for one or two shifts. Think about taking two shifts the same day with a break in between for "cruising" the fair. Thanks in advance!

- Wednesday, August 8: 4-7, 7-9
- Thursday, August 9: 10-1, 7-9
- Friday, August 10: 10-1, 1-4, 4-7, 7-9
- Saturday, August 11: 10-1, 7-9
- Monday, August 13: 10-1, 1-4, 4-7, 7-9
- Tuesday, August 14: 1-4, 7-9
- Wednesday, August 15: 1-4, 4-7, 7-9
- Thursday, August 16: 1-4, 4-7, 7-9
- Friday, August 17: 10-1, 1-4, 4-7, 7-9
- Saturday, August 18: 10-1, 1-4, 4-7, 7-9
- Sunday, August 19: 10-1, 1-4, 4-7, 7-9

LAF NEWS FROM THE NYS AAUW CONVENTION

The speakers at the LAF Luncheon were Edith Arana, who is a named plaintiff in the anti-discrimination suit Walmart vs. Dukes. Arana had more than 10 years' retail experience including supervisory and management experience before she joined Walmart. During the six years she worked for Walmart, she never rose above a support manager position despite her consistent "above average" or "exceeds expectations" performance reviews. With her was Noreen Farrell, who is the Executive Director of Equal Rights Advocates, a national non-profit law firm that advocates for the civil rights of women and girls. She is serving as counsel in the Dukes vs. Walmart case.

When you hear directly from the litigants and their attorneys about the struggle of women to be financially self-sufficient and are thwarted by their gender – it makes you happy to know that the Buffalo Branch of AAUW was number 1 in contributions in NY AAUW this year with a donation of \$3,678.73! This was a combination of donations given when dues were paid, individual direct donors, and the money from the Carol and Charles Jamieson bequest.

With the help of the branch members who donated five unique purses filled with appropriate "goodies" we helped the purse raffle at convention to be a success. I don't have the exact figure as yet but we raised over \$1500. Thank you to everyone who helped: Joan Trinchera, Laura Wright, Lois Meyer, Susan McClary, Betty Krist, and the Booksale Committee.

Since it is never too early to think about next year, I am already looking for donations for the 2013 NYS AAUW convention to be held in Lake Placid. If we get enough purses donated early, we could have a branch silent auction to raise money for our donation as well as 3 or 4 purses to take to the convention fund raiser.

Sue Oliver

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER!

If you haven't sent in your dues for next year to Freddie Cheek, please do so as soon as possible. If you still have the form that was sent out please include it. If not, please just update any information that's not correct in the current roster and send that along.

Marguerite Collesano

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Refugee Needs Forum Update

On March 24th I had the pleasure of attending on behalf of AAUW the Refugee Needs Forum sponsored by the Zonta Club. Although the faces of immigrants have changed over the past 50 years, I didn't realize that this would be a trip down memory lane for this proud first generation American. Whereas in the 50s and 60s immigrants still came mainly from Europe, the vast numbers coming to the Buffalo area are from Burma/Myanmar, the Sudan, and Bosnia. These people have come to our country legally and are fleeing oppression. The forum was very worthwhile and provided some eye opening information on the plight of these refugees.

The forum consisted of presentations from the Refugee Relocation non-profits, which included Jewish Family Services, Catholic Charities, and the International Institute. Representatives from Journey's End and Jericho Road, the other two members of the Western New York Refugee Assistance Collaborative (WNYRAC), were unable to attend. Five minute presentations were provided by the women's organizations in attendance. They included the area Zonta Governor, Bonnie Crogan-Mazur, WNY Women's Foundation, Erie County Commission on the Status of Women, the Junior League, Every Woman Opportunity Center, and me wearing two hats as AAUW rep and HUD rep. The forum was lively and representatives were truly dedicated to the cause.

I would like to emphasize that this could be an opportunity for the AAUW membership to expand our networking and collaborative capacity with other women's organizations. Even more significant, this could further offer us additional prospects for making a difference for women in need, either through volunteer work or charitable contributions.

One example of this is a program sponsored by the International Institute called "Buckets of Love." (See http://www.iibuff.org/clientuploads/Refugee_Buckets%20of%20Love.pdf) Contributions of warm clothing, cleaning supplies, new bedding, personal hygiene products, and school supplies are welcomed for the new arrivals to our country.

Peggy Meinl

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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Moving? Please contact Freddie Cheek, 716.835.6945