



AAUW BUFFALO ADVOCATE

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

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Dates of Note

Board Meeting

Wed, Apr 3, 5:45 pm
Ebenezer UCC, West Seneca

April Program

Mon, April 22
Daemen College
(Details on this page)

AAUW NYS Convention

Fri-Sun, April 26-28
High Peaks Resort

Annual Meeting

Sat. May 4
Westwood Country Club

AAUW Booksale

Wed, May 29-Sun, June 2
Old Office Depot

AAUW National Convention

Sun-Wed, June 9-12



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

April Program

The Buffalo Branch and Daemen College

Present

An Evening with Lilly Ledbetter

Monday, April 22 - 7:30 pm

Wick Center Social Room

Daemen College - 4380 Main Street, Amherst

NO CHARGE

Please let Betty Preble (betty.preble@gmail.com)
know by April 15 if you plan to attend.

Lilly Ledbetter was born in a house with no running water or electricity in the small town of Possum Trot, Alabama. She believed that she was destined for something more, and in 1979, with two young children at home and over the initial objections of her husband Charles, Ledbetter applied for her dream job at the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Factory in Gadsden, Alabama. She got the job—one of the first women hired at the management level.

Though she faced daily gender prejudice and sexual harassment, Ledbetter pressed onward, believing that eventually things would change. Nineteen years after her first day at Goodyear, Lilly received an anonymous note revealing that she was making thousands less per year than the men in her position. Determined to challenge this, she filed a sex discrimination case against Goodyear, which she won – and then lost on appeal. Over the next eight years, her case made it all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, where she lost again: the Court ruled that she should have filed suit within 180 days of her first unequal paycheck – despite the fact that she had no way of knowing that she was being paid unfairly during those years.

Ledbetter never received restitution from Goodyear, but she has said, “I’ll be happy if the last thing they say about me after I am gone is that I made a difference.” Lilly Ledbetter’s efforts to establish equal pay for men and women resulted in President Barack Obama’s first piece of legislation – the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act.

Her talk is free and open to the public. Following her presentation, copies of *Grace and Grit: My Fight for Equal Pay and Fairness at Goodyear and Beyond* (by Lilly Ledbetter with Lanier Scott), will be available for signing and purchase.

Barb's Beliefs

**My life is my message.
— Mahatma Gandhi**

When I read this quote, I stopped. Yikes! If it's true that "my life is my message," I'm now wondering what my message is. Let's see... I guess I get points for my work for years as a teacher, and for my work at church to sponsor a student in a remote village of Uganda. Then there's my work for the AAUW Book Sale. Those proceeds go to provide education for women and girls, mostly in WNY but also around the country. OK. What else? I helped raise two productive children. That took some work! I donate to charities, even when they annoy me with too frequent mailings. I deliver Meals on Wheels every week. But these activities really leave me with a lot of time these days that I don't use to "proclaim" any message. I read, I play computer games, I don't get up at 6:30 a.m. anymore. Now I have to ask myself if my message is still important. It's time for me to reassess what I do with my time.

Your turn. Want to join me in thinking about this? You don't have to report in, or tell anyone what you're thinking. I suspect that my involvement in AAUW could make a stronger statement if I put more into it, and maybe you could too. I can't decide for you, but if your life is your message to the world about what is important, then you (and I) have to "translate" what the world is seeing from each of us.

— Barbara Carier

Betty's Rambles

**"I don't wait
for moods.
You accomplish
nothing if you do that.
Your mind must know
it has got to get down to earth."
— Pearl S. Buck**

March is always a BUSY time for the Buffalo AAUW members – and this year is no exception. As I write this I'm still enjoying the memory of our International Women's Day dinner Friday night – inspiring speeches by two young women really making a difference in the lives of some third-world citizens - plus education on the immigration issues that are so much in the news these days. I'm also looking forward to Tech Savvy, Sister-to-Sister, and getting things arranged for our big booksale. Who has time to wait until the mood strikes?

As we look forward to spring (soon, please?), let's think back on those New Year's resolutions we made not all that long ago. Was actively supporting AAUW on that list? Are you still on track with that? Or are you waiting for the right mood? Elsewhere in this issue are pleas for assistance in a variety of initiatives, the biggest obviously being the booksale. Please don't wait until you're "in the mood" to come help. Working the sale preparation is rewarding on many fronts, but most particularly the camaraderie and fun with others plus the knowledge that our sale's profits make a big difference in our community.

I look forward to seeing everyone soon – don't wait for the right mood to come join us!

—Betty Preble

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Send address changes to Freddie Cheek, 406 Maynard Drive,
Amherst, NY 14226 or email fscheek@verizon.net.

2013-2014 Program

Do you have ideas for next year's program? Come to a meeting on Wednesday, April 3 at 6:45 PM at Ebenezer UCC (after the Board meeting that evening). Or, tell Betty Krist what you've been thinking about at either 675-4059 or kristbj@verizon.net.

What could be better than spending time with long-standing or new friends doing interesting, worthwhile, and fun activities?

Buffalo Interest Groups

Sunday Book Club

When: Sunday, April 28th at 3:30 p.m.

Where: Sweetness 7, 301 Parkside (across the street from the main zoo entrance.)

Book to be discussed: *Tenth of December: Stories* by George Saunders. Please contact Karen Huffman (kshk152@yahoo.com or 830-5316) if you have any questions or would like to join in.

Knitting Group

When: Wednesday, April 10th from 2-4 p.m.

Where: Barnes & Noble on Transit near Main St.

Knitting Group contact Margaret Fischer at 632-8269 or margaretjf@roadrunner.com

Clueless Group

When: Wednesday, April 24th at 6:00 p.m.

Where: Bob Evans 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd.

The group will choose the books to be discussed in 2013-2014. Please bring a book or books you wish to recommend. To reserve call Suzanne Grossman at 837-8769

Dinner By The Book Club

When: Wednesday, April 17th at 5:30 p.m.

Where: Bob Evans 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd.

Fran Witnauer will facilitate the choosing of the books to be discussed in 2013-2014. Please bring a book or books you wish to recommend. To reserve call Fran Witnauer at 688-5708 or email at Grandmafran44@yahoo.com

WOMEN AND RETIREMENT SECURITY



Since its founding in 1881, AAUW has been committed to promoting equity for all women. As part of this effort, AAUW's 2011-2013 Public Policy Program advocates "strengthening retirement benefits and programs, including pension improvements and protecting Social Security from privatization."

The current Social Security system is more than just a retirement program; across the lifespan, it is one of the most successful anti-poverty programs in our nation's history, providing benefits to many children, disabled workers, surviving spouses, and retirees. Many older women depend on social Security as their primary source of retirement income. The traditional "three-legged stool" retirement model of Social Security, pensions, and savings for retirement is insufficient for many women because pensions and private savings options are often unavailable or inadequate for women and their work/life patterns. Reform of all three options is needed to secure financial stability for women retirees.

Continuing pay inequity results in women having fewer savings and lower pension benefits, leaving them on an unequal footing in retirement. For example, in 2009, the median income among women 65 and older was \$10,000 less than the median income for men 65 and older, and older women's Social Security benefits were 71 percent of older men's benefits.

AAUW believes that it is vital to women's economic security to provide for the long-term solvency of Social Security and to maintain its current guaranteed benefits. In addition, AAUW supports measures to increase women's ability to participate in alternate forms of retirement programs. This includes counting the time women take off as part of the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) towards vesting, promoting the availability of 401(k) and other defined contribution plans for part-time workers, and encouraging more women to work in higher wage, non-traditional jobs. AAUW strongly supports initiatives that seek to close the persistent and sizable wage gaps between men and women, and minorities as well, to further reduce the inequity in retirement security.

April 9, 2013 is Equal Pay Day, symbolizing how far into 2013 women must work to earn what men earned in 2012. Join us for the Unhappy Hour on April 9 at 5:30 at Templeton Landing in honor of Equal Pay Day.

— Marian Deutschman, Public Policy Chair



2013 BOOKSALE

Excitement is building for book sale workers, as we have a site for the 59th AAUW Scholarship Book Sale. Books have been rolling in and space at Kensington-Bailey is running out. The Book Sale committee

is asking potential donors to hold off deliveries until we are in the sale site.

WE WILL BE LOCATED IN THE SAME **PLAZA AS LAST YEAR BUT IN THE OLD OFFICE DEPOT STORE**, with twice as much space! We will need help moving books beginning April 15, setting up tables and sorting new arrivals. E-mail messages will be coming at a rapid clip and notices may be posted on the web site, so stay alert.

Volunteer workers and supervisors will be needed to maintain shifts from Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Saturday (except for May 4) from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There may be one weekly evening shift as well. Check your calendar and see when you can stop by for all or part of day.

When the sale opens May 29 we will need many volunteers to fill three shifts from 8:30 a.m. to 8:15 p.m.

daily until the last day, June 2, when the sale is open from noon to 5 p.m. The volunteer signup form can be found below. Specifically we will also need volunteers to work:

- Front Area, keeping it neat, work with empty boxes+
- Back Room, cutting up boxes for display/recycling+
- Food Department, oversee staff room during sale+

NO TIME? NO CAR? WORKING? AWAY?

We still need your support. Last year table rentals cost \$4600 – your donations could help defray this major expense. Let's try to get 100% participation from our membership. Please consider contributing a "present" if you can't share your "presence."

Write your checks to AAUW Buffalo Book Sale and send them to Barbara Libby, 93 Melody Lane, Tonawanda, NY 14150.

There are many other ways you can help and many jobs that do not require heavy lifting. There are job descriptions on aauw.buffalo.edu. To make the sale a success we need every member to make a commitment in some way. This is the branch's only fund raiser and in the past it has provided thousands of dollars for women's education and community service. It has also raised community awareness of the contributions we make.

Book Sale – Volunteer Coupon

Questions about Book Sale? Contact Judy Weidemann at JWeide7170@aol.com

For more info refer to the AAUW Website: aauw.buffalo.edu

Name _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

___ Table Donors (Day: _____ hours: _____)

___ Good Guys (Day: _____ hours: _____)

___ Refreshments during the Sale (Day: _____ hours: _____)

___ Tech Savvy Women or Men (Day: _____ hours: _____)

___ Pre-Sale Sorting and Setup (Day: _____ hours: _____)

___ Book Sale Shift Volunteer Signup (Day: _____ hours: _____)

Please send this form to:

Judy Weidemann, 21 Nye Hill Rd. East Aurora, NY 15052

Update from 2012 Velma Cobb Winner

Hi. Just thought I would give you an update on how I am doing at RIT. I am currently in my Spring quarter at RIT as a biochemistry major. I earned a 4.0 in my Fall and Winter quarter, so classes are going well. I am involved in Honors Service Committee and RIT Players. I am planning on getting involved in research in my chemistry department, so I will be gaining valuable experience in my field. I am hoping to do an internship this summer with Multisorb in their R&D department. Thank you once again for awarding me the Velma Cobb scholarship and giving me this opportunity.

*Sincerely,
Emily Thurnherr*



Networking galore at the March program celebrating International Women's Day



Family Justice Center

The Family Justice Center of Erie County provides a safe place for victims of domestic violence to get the help they need. One of the small things we do that is greatly appreciated is make up gift bags for the clients. We could use some help filling these bags. The following travel size personal care products are needed and appreciated:

Soap	Toothbrush
Shampoo	Toothpaste
Conditioner	Hairbrush
Lotion	Comb
Deodorant	Hand sanitizer

Also, any other sample size products that might be appropriate. If you would like to donate any of these things you can drop them off at the Book Sale collection site (Kensington- Bailey Center) or contact me at 662-1992 or buffwings@roadrunner.com.

—Thank you, Claudia Kania

Call to Convention

Please consider joining us at the AAUW-NYS Convention at the High Peaks Resort in beautiful Lake Placid April 26-28, 2013. The weekend will be packed with opportunities for networking, learning, and fun for all. Lisa Maatz, our dynamic national AAUW director of public policy and government relations, will be the keynote speaker Friday night. AAUW's own Addie Russell, NYS representative from the 118th Assembly District, will be the second keynoter Saturday evening. Eight great workshops, panels, speakers, and some "frivolous" time will all add to the fun. Please check the AAUW-NYS website (<http://www.aauw-nys.org/>) for details and registration forms. Plan to join us! If you would like to be a delegate from the branch, there are still openings – just contact Betty Preble (betty.preble@gmail.com) and ask to have your name added to the list. I hope to see you all there!

— Betty Preble

Grassroots Grants Program

The Buffalo Branch announces the open application period for its Grassroots Grants Program. Five to eight grants are available in amounts up to \$1500 each in three categories:

1. Individual Projects
2. Community Organizations and Neighborhood Enrichment Programs
3. High School Leadership Projects

The goal of the grants program is the promotion of equity, gender awareness, and lifelong learning for women and girls in the Buffalo Niagara Region. Details, criteria, and applications can be found at <http://aauw.buffalo.edu/grassrtgrant.htm>. Deadline for applications is April 15, 2013.

— Carol Golyski, Grassroots Grants Chair

Welcome New Members

Beverly Painter
26 Stoneybrook Dr.
Orchard Park, NY 14127
Phone: 716 662-2746
Degrees: BA and MA in Spanish, Education
1966, 1968 University of Buffalo

Lesley Kearney
5571 Hidden Pines Court
Williamsville, NY 14221
Phone: 716 636-9055
E-mail: Thehouseofkearney@yahoo.com
Also: www.THEHOUSEOFKEARNEY.com

Svetlana Erman
1356 Charlesgate Circle
East Amherst, NY 14051
Phone: 716 689-5869
E-mail: lanerman@yahoo.com
Degree: MS in Engineering from St. Peterburg
Polytech University

Biliana Popjanevski
2525 Langford Road
North Collins, NY 14111
Phone: 716 818-7174
E-mail: bipopjanevski@gmail.com
Degrees: Legal Paralegal, J.S. Economic School
Bipola, Macedonia 1987
Certificate in Travel & Tourism
Millard Fillmore College, University of Buffalo
1998
CFT Finance Program - Millard Fillmore College,
University of Buffalo 2012
— Cynthia Mehary, VP Membership Recruitment

2013-2014 Slate of Officers

The Buffalo Branch of AAUW Nominating Committee presents the following slate of candidates to be elected at the Annual May luncheon:

President - Betty Preble

Program Vice President - Betty Krist

Membership Retention Vice President - Patricia Miceli and Barbara Weber

Operations Treasurer - Tahmina Rehman

Chamberlin Loan Fund & Funds for Education Treasurer
- Nan M DiBello

Nominating Chair (one year) - Lillis McLean

Nominating Committee - Sue Licata and Yvonne Curry

* Note - Ruby Williams and Judy Weidemann will continue on the committee next year as the second half of their two-year terms.

Submitted by the Nominating Committee: Lillis McLean, Sue Licata, Ruby Williams, Yvonne Curry and Judy Weidemann.

PLEASE NOTE

Membership renewal notices will be going out soon. Letters will be going to everyone with their current information and a request for any updates. Please send them in as soon as possible. The first fifty to renew will be entered in a drawing to win a \$25 gift certificate to Salvatore's.



Annual May Luncheon & Meeting

Saturday, May 4

Join us at the elegant Westwood Country Club, Windows on the Green Restaurant, for a delicious lunch and celebration of the Buffalo Branch.

There will be much to celebrate including:

*The Election of Officers,
Recognition of this year's Achievement Award Winners
Judy Weidemann and Cathy Weiss, and
Honoring 25 and 50 year branch members.*

*We will also present
the Buffalo Branch Recognition Award and
Educational Opportunities Fund Named Gift honors,
plus Winners of our Velma Cobb and Dorothy Payne
Scholarships, and Catalyst for Change Awards.*

The meeting is open to the public and you are encouraged to bring guests.

See page 8 for Registration Form and Food Choices.

April Highlights in US Women's History

- Apr 2, 1931 - 17-year-old Jackie Mitchell, the second woman to play baseball in the all-male minor leagues, pitches an exhibition game against NY Yankees and strikes out both Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig. The next day, the Baseball Commissioner voided her contract, claiming baseball was too strenuous for women. The ban was not overturned until 1992
- Apr 5, 1911 - 100,000 to 500,000 people march in New York City to attend the funeral of 7 unidentified people who died in the Triangle Shirtwaist Company fire in late March
- Apr 7, 1805 - Sacagawea begins helping the Lewis and Clark Expedition as an interpreter
- Apr 7, 1987 - Opening of the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, DC, the first museum devoted to women artists
- Apr 9, 1939 - Marian Anderson sings an Easter Sunday concert for more than 75,000 at Lincoln Memorial
- Apr 13, 1933 - Ruth Bryan Owens is the first woman to represent the U.S. as a foreign minister when she is appointed as envoy to Denmark
- Apr 19, 1977 - 15 women in the House of Representatives form the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues
- April 22, - Earth Day - honor Rachel Carson today, a woman who changed America and greatly influenced the environmental movement; buy her revolutionary book, Silent Spring at www.nwhp.org
- April 26, 1777 - American Revolution heroine Sybil Ludington, 16 years old, rides 40 miles by horseback in the middle of the night to warn the American militia that the British were invading
- Apr 28, 1993 - First "Take Our Daughters to Work" day, sponsored by the Ms. Foundation; in 2003 it became "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work" day

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN CELEBRATING THE BUFFALO BRANCH

Westwood Country Club, Windows on the Green Restaurant, 772 North Forest Road, Williamsville

Saturday, May 4 - 11:30 a.m.

Achievement Awards • Membership Awards • Scholarship Awards

\$25.00 | person. Guests are welcome.

Registration form for May 4 luncheon

My check in the amount of \$_____ payable to the AAUW Buffalo Branch is enclosed.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Poached salmon salad @\$25_____ enclosed Chicken Piccata @\$25_____ enclosed

Roasted vegetable pie @\$25_____ enclosed

Please mail this form and checks by April 23 to

Sharon Meer

123 Kingsview Road, Williamsville, NY 14221

Moving? Please contact Freddie Cheek, 716/835-6945

Return Service Requested

AAUW



AAUW Buffalo Branch
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