



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
Wednesday, Oct 3 at 5:45.
Ebenezer United Church of
Christ, West Seneca

District One Conference
Saturday, Oct 13
9:15 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Michael's Banquet Facility
Southwestern Blvd.
Hamburg
Registration Form on page 6

Voter Registration Deadline
for general election Oct 12.

District Two Conference
Alfred University
Saturday, Oct 27

VOTE November 6
And Get Your Friends
To Vote!

June 9-12, 2013
AAUW National Convention
New Orleans, LA

ARE VOTERS LOSING THEIR VOICE IN OUR GOVERNMENT?

AAUW Buffalo is the host branch for this year's NYS District One Conference, which includes the Jamestown, Dunkirk-Fredonia, and Genesee Community College Branches. This is a joint meeting with area LWV and AAUW branches. The LWVs of Chautauqua County and Rochester are also invited to join us. The general public is welcome.

Saturday, October 13, 2012

Michael's Banquet Facility

4885 Southwestern Blvd. Hamburg**

9:15 am - 2 pm

The morning session will focus on our most pressing political issues, especially the increasing efforts to limit voter participation. The panel of experts will discuss some of the issues facing us today including voter photo id, redistricting, limitations on voter registration and voting times, the influence of PACs, and other issues.

The Panel

The **moderator, Lee Coppola**, was recently inducted into the WNY Broadcasters Hall of Fame. He retired after serving for 15 years as the first dean of the journalism school at St. Bonaventure University. Before that, he was a newspaper reporter, a television investigative reporter, and a federal prosecutor. As a journalist he won more than 30 local, New York State and national awards, including the George Polk Award, the National Press Club Consumer Journalism Award and the Investigative Editors and Reporters Award. He won the New York State Associated Press Investigative Reporting Award both as a print and broadcast journalist. He covered organized crime as a journalist and is considered a national expert in the field. His work as a reporter about the witness protection of a government informant was the basis for a book and movie, "Hide in Plain Sight."

Craig Bucki is a lawyer with Phillips Lytle and is experienced with election laws and representing political candidates in election law disputes, and challenging the constitutionality of state statutes and municipal ordinances. He has managed a campaign, graduated magna cum laude from Yale, worked with election inspectors, published articles in law journals.

Debora Michaux is adjunct professor at Buffalo State College in the teacher education program, former dean of employment and training at the One Stop Employment and Training Center, former Republican state committeeman, and delegate to the 2012 Republican National Convention. She is a certified school district administrator.

Janet Massaro is a League of Women Voters member who has led redistricting efforts on local, county, and state levels. She has been active in LWV endeavors on environmental issues and health care.

After lunch, **Dr. Sally Roesch Wagner** will enlighten the audience on some of the little-known stories of the fight for women's voting rights. Sally is the executive director of the Matilda Joslyn Gage Home in Fayetteville and her presentation is courtesy of the New York Humanities Council.

Matilda Joslyn Gage is the almost-forgotten member of the trio (along with Susan B Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton) who led the women's suffrage movement in the late 19th century. Come and enjoy the chance to network with other AAUW branches and LWV chapters. The cost, including coffee and pastries plus lunch, will be \$20. Remember that this event is open to the public. Please register by Oct 7 with the information on page 6:

**Michael's is easy to find: take the Rte. 75 exit (Hamburg exit, #57) from the I-90, turn right on Rte. 75 (Camp Rd), then turn right again at US Rte. 20 (Southwestern Blvd). The facility is about a half mile down the road on the right.

Barb's Beliefs

**"Do not fear going forward slowly; fear only to stand still."
— Chinese Proverb**

Sometimes I hear a new idea and think "What a great thing that would be for someone to do!" I've reached the point in my life where I don't usually think I'm going to be the person to carry out the good idea. The thought of the work involved in thinking, planning, organizing, implementing a new project just makes me tired. Still... the proverb says I should fear standing still.

This may be the best thing that AAUW does for me. It surrounds me with great ideas and gives me like-minded people who will help get one of those great ideas off the ground. I don't have to do it all by myself! I like the way we give scholarships. I can be on the committee that chooses the awardees! I don't have to do it alone! I'd like to play bridge. I'm sure I can find a few others who want to play too. I'd like to practice speaking the Spanish I learned so many years ago. I'd like to learn more about the famous architecture of Buffalo. I'd like to do something to influence my member of Congress to vote for my favorite issues. I'd like to help at a soup kitchen. I want to go out to dinner with some new friends. I'm just getting started now that I realize I don't have to do any of these things alone. I can pick one or two and start. I can go forward slowly and develop some interests that have been relegated to the back of my mind for a while.

This may be the best thing that AAUW does for you, too. Go ahead and make your own list. Call it your "bucket list" if you want. Even if it's just one thing you want to try, it's enough. You won't be standing still!

AAUW BUFFALO ADVOCATE

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

Betty's Rambles

"You must do the thing you think you cannot do"

—Eleanor Roosevelt

First, I must make the disclaimer that I have no connection to the Buffalo Spree other than subscribing to the magazine. (And missing the columns that our current Advocate editor used to write!) Have you seen the September issue? As I read through it, I kept thinking – "we could help with that", "we could do that", "why aren't we doing something about that"...

Involvement in our community (local and global) is so important, not just for Buffalo and Western New York, but for the world and, to be honest, our own fulfillment. The possibilities for action are endless, as these suggestions – just from this issue - illustrate. Work with the Buffalo Schools Superintendant on her new ideas for the system, see the programs the Buffalo Barn Raisers or the Larkin Square folks are producing, explore the innovative ideas being suggested for the educational system in general (learn from Finland?), learn about the squash program where Buffalo Seminary students are helping the King Center Charter School through sports education? How about helping with a school for girls in a rural African village? How about making sure that bicyclists can ride safely in the city, saving the gas that the rest of us are using? How can AAUW Buffalo help best?

But, first. Our top priority right now has to be getting out the vote. I hope you and your friends are all registered and are preparing to cast your ballots. We'll be discussing some of the issues of the current political scene at the District Conference on October 13. I hope many of you will come join us to learn and leave inspired to make a difference in some way. Keep tabs on our Facebook page for tidbits to toss out to people who think "my vote won't matter anyway!"

Delicious Swiss Cheese Dip from September Dinner

8 oz. cream cheese

6 oz. shredded Swiss cheese

2 tbsp chopped onion

1/3 cup Miracle Whip

1/8 tsp. nutmeg

1/8 tsp. pepper

Sliced almonds for topping

Mix all ingredients together. Put almonds on top. Microwave or bake in the oven until bubbly. Enjoy.

Buffalo Interest Groups — October

We are always looking for ideas for new interest groups. If you're interested in starting a new group or have an idea for one, contact Judy Malamas at tsagewood@aol.com or 632-0461 and she will walk you through the process or answer any questions you might have.

Clueless Book Club

Meets Wednesdays at 6:00 at Bob Evans Restaurant at 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd near the 290.

Wednesday *The Camel Club*
October 24 by David Baldacci
Discussion Leader Fran Whitnauer

Contact Suzanne Grossman, 837-8769 for reservations.

Knitting Group

Wednesday, October 10th from 2-4:00 at Barnes and Noble on Transit near Main. (Same location as last year.) Contact person is Margaret Fischer 632-8269 or margaretjf@roadrunner.com.

Dinner By The Book Club

Meets Wednesdays at 5:30 at Bob Evans Restaurant at 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd near the 290.

Wednesday *Breathing Lessons*
October 17 by Anne Tyler
Discussion leader Carlyn Yearly

Contact Fran Witnauer by phone 688-5708 or email Grandmafran44@yahoo.com for reservations.



Booksale News

In the booksale wrapup article last month, Judy Clare closed with "May there be a 59th!" Good news – there will be!!

A core group is picking up the reins from our tireless co-chairs Judy Clare and Judy Weidemann and will run the sale as a committee. There is so much work that a committee of about a dozen people has been set up to do the work that those two have done for the past several years.

The sorters are back at work. They have been collecting book donations as of Sept. 18 at the sorting site, 995 Kensington Ave., Kensington Bailey Neighborhood Housing Services, every Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 to 11:30 am unless announced otherwise.

Members and their friends can stop by the site on those days anytime from 9:30 am until noon to help sort books. Remember to bring boxes if possible. Liquor box size is best.

If you are interested in serving on the general committee and/or taking on a specific responsibility at the sale, please let us know. Call Betty Preble, 662-0608 or email betty.preble@gmail.com.

Just a reminder, the next sale is May 29 to June 2.

The booksale committee is looking for someone who has an interest in children's books to head that department for this year's sale. As we start sorting, it would be extremely helpful to know what GENERAL categories should be set up. The detailed arrangements can be done once we move into a site. Contact Betty Preble, 662-0608 if you're interested in handling this important section. Thanks!

Help Wanted

Jacque Walker Scholarship Presented At September Meeting

Elizabeth Johnson received the Jacque Walker Scholarship at the AAUW Buffalo Branch Dinner on September 10, 2012. Jacque Walker presented the award to her along with a check for \$5,000. The scholarship, named for Ms. Walker because of her support in publicizing the Book Sale, comes from Book Sale proceeds.

Elizabeth emerged as the clear winner among the applicants because of her high academic achievement and exemplary community service, both of which are requirements for the award. She is currently studying Communication Disorders and Sciences at SUNY Geneseo with plans to attend graduate school for a Master's degree in Speech Pathology. Her statement about her career plans touched all of the committee.

"The scholarship means a lot to me and it was so wonderful to get in contact with all the extraordinary ladies of the AAUW and Jacque Walker.

I'll keep in touch about helping with the book sale in May!"

—Lizzie



<http://www.wivb.com/dpp/news/erie/aauw-awards-annual-5000-scholarship>

Elizabeth said in her application that two of her biggest growth activities at Geneseo have been leadership in the Women's Action Coalition (WAC) which promotes education and awareness about women's issues. She has also been a part of the Livingston CARES service trips to Biloxi, Mississippi to help rebuild homes devastated by Hurricane Katrina. She has made three trips to Biloxi, has held leadership positions with CARES, and was the student leader for the 2012 trip to Biloxi.

Elizabeth has also been a volunteer and paid worker at Bornhava, a specialized Early Childhood Center for children with developmental disabilities.

Many of our members had the opportunity to meet Elizabeth and her parents at the dinner. She is indeed another Jacque Walker Scholarship winner of whom we can be proud.

Welcome New Members Cynthia Mehary, VP Membership Recruitment

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Williamsville, NY 14221
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E-Mail: pat330@adelphia.net pvmiceli@gmail.com
Degrees: Bachelors, Elementary Education, 1967 Slippery Rock
Masters, Elementary Education 1972 SUNY at Buffalo
Juris Doctor, Law 1993 SUNY Buffalo School of Law

Roberta Travis
2916 Eggert Rd.
Tonawanda, NY 14150
Phone: 716 832-4119
Cell: 716 456-0100
Degrees: Friend

* * If your mailing label has asterisks, we're afraid this will be your last issue of The Advocate. Please send in your dues if you'd like to remain a part of the AAUW family.



NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR OUTSTANDING GIVING BY THE BUFFALO BRANCH

Buffalo Branch has received the award of FIRST PLACE in TOTAL BRANCH GIVING from our National Association. This is in appreciation of our significant contributions in combined support of all of AAUW's Programmatic Areas. This is one of the Breaking through Barriers awards given to branches across the country.

We received another national FIRST PLACE FOR TOTAL GIVING to the Educational Opportunities Fund. These monies are used for fellowships and grants for women. We are targeting our contributions to the branch's American Fellowship named in honor of Hillary Rodham Clinton. Much of last year's contribution attributed to the Buffalo Branch was courtesy of a bequest from Lucille and Harold Peterson.

The branch also received the national Ninth Place award in total branch giving to the Legal Advocacy Fund. This total amount comes from individual donors, donations added to your yearly dues payment, and other local and state fundraising projects. This year's gift also included an allocation from the Carol and Charles Jamieson bequest. Last year we raised money through the purse raffle at the state convention. We contributed 7 purses for this raffle.

This year there will be another purse raffle at the state convention in Lake Placid. There are already six purses promised for this year. We also need items to go in the purses such as gloves, movie tickets, small cosmetic items, etc. Let me know if you can help with any of these items.

There will be a Chinese auction for three or four purses at the branch December luncheon. This will help to raise the amount of the branch donation and should be a possible way to either get yourself a new or vintage purse or a holiday present for someone. Stay tuned!

— Sue Oliver, Funds Chair

sister 2 sister

This event for teen girls will be held toward the end of March or near the beginning of April at Buffalo State College.

This event consists of a series of "chat rooms" where girls from the ages of 11 to 17 can talk about the issues that impact their lives such as bullying, peer pressure, teen pregnancy, relationships, making good life choices, and more. These discussions are facilitated by young women who work regularly with teen girls in schools, agencies, and organizations.

We also like to encourage them to continue their education so that they can become self sufficient adults.

There is a Parent Track to help parents guide the girls in how to make good choices with what they do with their lives.

Sister to Sister works with other organizations such as the Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers, the Girl Scouts, Prevention Focus, Every Person Influences Children (EPIC) and others.

We need the help of branch members to plan this event, help with its organization, as well as help on the day of the event.

Please contact me at 652-1230 or gsoliver@verizon.net, if you can help us in any way to make this important event a success.

—Sue Oliver, Board Liaison for Sister to Sister

District One Registration Form

Saturday, October 13, 2012

Michael's Banquet Facility - 4885 Southwestern Blvd. Hamburg

9:15 am - 2 pm



Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Names of attendees: _____

**Please send a check for \$20 for yourself and each guest,
written to AAUW Buffalo Branch, by October 7 to:**

Betty Preble, 6935 East Quaker St, Orchard Park, NY 14127

The cost includes coffee and pastries plus lunch. This event is open to the public.

Questions? Email BuffaloAAUW@gmail.com or phone Betty at 662-0608.

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

Return Service Requested

AAUW



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