

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

Dates to Note

Sat, May 3

11:30 Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon

Wed, May 7

5:45 – Bd meeting at Ebenezer United Church of Christ, West Seneca

Wed-Sun, May 28-June 1

BOOKSALE! Burlington Plaza, 1551 Niagara Falls Blvd

Wed, June 4

5:45 - Bd meeting at Ebenezer United Church of Christ, West Seneca

Fri-Sun, July 25-27

AAUW-NYS Summer Conference at Cazenovia College

Fri, Aug 8

AAUW Day at Chautauqua

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Annual May Luncheon & Meeting

Saturday, May 3

Join us at 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:

Election of Officers,

Recognition of this year's Achievement Award Winner

Barbara Park Leggett

and

Honoring 25 and 50 year branch members.

We will also present

the Buffalo Branch Recognition Award, and Educational Opportunities Fund Named Gift honorees,

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.

Sixty Sixty Sixty

60-60-60 (60 years, 60 days, 60 books) Since this is the 60th sale, we started at the end of March, 60 days before the sale, to feature one book each day on both our branch website and on our Facebook page. We'll have those books featured on their own table at the site. Stop by the site, pick up a book, and write a review. Send your reviews to Stacey Johnston.

President's Perspective

"It's impossible to be involved in all situations, but there's no excuse not to be involved in something, somewhere, somehow, with someone. Make an ounce of difference."

— Richelle E. Goodrich

At this point in the year we're looking both backwards and forward into the future of our Buffalo branch. What would those few women, back in 1890, have said if they could see into the future and find us approaching 125 years of advancing equity for women and girls? We have made, and continue to make, a difference in our community! Everyone who is involved, whether it be in the booksale, branch program planning and attendance, board participation, scholarship committee deliberations, working on Tech Savvy or Sister-to-Sister, even just having fun and learning at our interest group meetings, is helping to make a better world and, specifically, a better Buffalo area.

This month the membership renewal notices have been sent out. Please be sure to send yours in promptly. AND – please take the time to make suggestions for the coming year. What would you like to see the branch doing? What would YOU like to do that the branch can help with? What interest groups would you like to have added? What skills can you offer to make us more effective?

Our most visible activity right now is, of course, the booksale preparation. Please stop by, even for an hour or so, to help sort the piles of books that have come in just since we moved to the site! We could also use help writing book reviews for our "60-60-60" project (60 book reviews in the 60 days leading up to our 60th sale). Just stop by, pick up a book and send a brief review to Stacey Johnson for posting on our website and on our Facebook page. The signup sheet for working at the sale will also be there – we need many hands during the sale, so please sign up for as many shifts as you're comfortable with.

I hope to see many of you at our annual meeting and awards luncheon on May 3. Honor our scholarship recipients, our long-time members, and our Achievement Award winner Barbara Park Leggett – AND elect and greet our new officers.

Happy spring to all.

—Betty Preble

Give a Gift!

It's GRADUATION season, and with that comes the question of gifts. How about the beginning of a lifetime of friendship in AAUW? Through the national program you can (at no cost to yourself) give someone a FREE one-year national membership.

The website is <https://svc.aauw.org/join/gradgift.cfml>. AAUW-NYS has also chosen to waive one year's dues for "GGG" recipients. As a result, for only \$15 (our branch dues) you can gift someone a full year's membership in our branch! Please note that only members can be the providers of these gifts and they must be given within two years of the recipient's graduation. Think about it for your daughters, granddaughters, friends, nieces, etc. – a great deal for all!



BUFFALO ADVOCATE

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President: Betty Preble

Advocate Publisher | Editor: Vicki Marshall

Assistant Editors: Betty Preble, Judy Weidemann,
Barbara Carier

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

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

Achievement Award



Barbara Park Leggett has more than two decades of experience in museum work. She has led Explore & More from its start as a grassroots, neighborhood organization in East Aurora, to its current role as a regional attraction undergoing continuous growth.

The museum is a national award-winning organization (Association of Children's Museums 2013 Promising Practices Award for its immersive Culture Days program), and the museum work on Master Planning will be featured as a best practices model at the 2014 International Children's Museum Conference.

Ms. Park Leggett has been a panelist for the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services, the New York State Council on the Arts and for several local agencies. She has presented at both national and state museum conferences. Prior to working at Explore & More, she was the Director of Public Relations and Marketing at the Buffalo Museum of Science, and worked in public television at WNED and WGBH-Boston.

Barbara lives in East Aurora with her husband Julian and daughters Amelia (studying at SUNY Albany) and Claire (studying at EAHS) and dog, Tim (Bit).

Celebrating its 20th year in operation, Explore & More Children's Museum provides an environment for creative play and learning through hands-on exhibits, activities and programs that inspire creativity, curiosity and imagination. Explore & More has been nationally recognized for its cultural programming, most recently, as recipients of the Association for Children's Museum's MetLife Promising Practices Award.

Having started in just 500 square feet in a school basement in East Aurora, NY, seeing 1,000 visitors a year in 1994, Explore & More is now in 7,000 square feet, seeing nearly 60,000 visitors per year in the museum and all around Western New York. The Museum has been developing plans to open in 40,000 square feet at Canalside on Buffalo's Waterfront in 2016, where they are projected to serve nearly 200,000 visitors annually.



Happenings...

Coming events which may interest you:

Apr 29-May 4 – Disney's Beauty and the Beast at Shea's

June 6-June 22 – Les Misérables at Lancaster Opera House

June 19-15 – Evita at Shea's

June 27 & 29 – Puccini's Tosca at Nickel City Opera

July 7 – Glenn Miller Orchestra at Artpark

July 31-Aug 8 – Mary Poppins at Artpark

Aug 21 – The Kingston Trio at Artpark

Theater Contact Information:

710 Main Theater (formerly Studio Arena, now affiliated with Shea's), Main St. at Tupper, 829-1154, www.sheas.org

Amherst Symphony – 633-4606

www.amherstsymphony.com

Artpark – Lewiston 754-4375, www.artpark.net

Kavinoky Theater – 320 Porter Ave., 829-7668,

www.kavinokytheatre.com

Kleinhans Music Hall – Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, 885-5000, www.bpo.org

Lancaster Opera House – 21 Central Ave., Lancaster, 683-1776, www.lancopera.org

MusicalFare Theatre (at Daemen College), 4380 Main St., 839-8540, www.musicalfare.com

Shaw Festival – Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. 800-511-SHAW, www.shawfest.com

Shea's Performing Arts Center – 646 Main St., 847-0850, www.sheas.org

UB Department of Music – 645-2921, www.slee.buffalo.edu

UB Distinguished Speaker Series – www.buffalo.edu/dss

—Barbara Carier



Public Policy

—Marian Deutschman

SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THE AAUW PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAM!

The Buffalo News reports that there are 6,383 registered lobbyists in Albany retained for a record \$191 million. As they work behind the scenes, these special interest groups pay little attention to issues such as special protections for women in the workplace, state aid for children of undocumented immigrants, a minimum wage increase, or job creation incentives. Their primary focus may be on civil liability laws, tort insurance, regulatory rules and issues that influence their financial interests.

Although we may not have the deep pockets of some lobbyists, the right to petition government is open to anyone who wants to push for changes in laws and policies. Since AAUW's founding our members and supporters have spoken out about policies important to women and girls. Without AAUW voices, invaluable legislation such as the Family and Medical Leave Act,

the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, would have never been passed. In recent years, AAUW's policy work connects and rallies advocates at the local, state, national, and global levels to advance our work to empower women and girls. AAUW uses lobbying and grassroots efforts to push forward policies that break through educational and economic barriers for women.

The AAUW Public Policy Program for 2013-2015 underscores AAUW's mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research and speaks to women's needs, aspirations, and concerns across the life span. The work of AAUW builds upon more than 130 years of responsible public participation. Implicit in each of our principles is support for government agencies administering programs, including adequate appropriations, effective and accountable administration, and provision for citizen

participation. We advocate public discussion to ensure enlightened decisions on these principles. We work to increase the number of underrepresented populations, including women, in policy- and other decision-making positions. AAUW is committed to working in partnership with diverse allies and coalitions to break through educational and economic barriers for women and girls.

Biennial priorities for action on the federal level are chosen according to the criteria of viability, critical need, strong member support, and potential for distinctive AAUW contribution or leadership. No order of importance is implied but we support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity; achievement of economic self-sufficiency for all women; and equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society.

AAUW helps us to know the issue before launching a lobbying effort.

Renewal Time

Membership renewal notices are out. Letters will be going to everyone with their current information and a request for any updates. Please send them in as soon as possible.

Editor's Note



The deadline for each issue of The Advocate is the 10th of the preceding month. Send articles to Vicki Marshall (goya@roadrunner.com.) Please make sure to put "AAUW Buffalo Advocate" in the subject line and cc: Betty Preble (betty.preble@gmail.com.) Is there something you would like to see in the newsletter? Let us know and send a message to Vicki and Betty. Thank you.



Book Sale News

Please volunteer today for our 60th Annual Buffalo Branch Book Sale. At this point we are taking in new donations, sorting them and delivering them to tables, plus helping the table chairs set up the individual categories. We're at the site Monday-Friday 9-5, Tuesday until 8 and Saturday morning (except for May 3). Please stop by to help out – it's work, but fun, and the company is great! A lot of workers will be required once the sale opens. Three shifts must be filled each day. Judy Weidemann has the arduous task of filling them and you can make life easier for her if you volunteer sooner rather than later.

Book Sale Open House

AAUW BUFFALO BRANCH HAPPY HOUR RECEPTION

The Annual AAUW Book Sale reception will be held Tuesday, May 20, 2014 from 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm. The new Book Sale site is at the Burlington Plaza, 1551 Niagara Falls Blvd. next to JoAnn Fabrics.

All members, prospective members, and friends are invited to attend this Pre-Book Sale Event. Meet, mingle, and network, as well as buy new and used books prior to the actual book sale. And, of course, enjoy light refreshments. There is no admission fee on this date. Looking forward to seeing everyone there

Cynthia Mehary
VP Membership Recruitment

Book Sale Volunteers Needed

BOOK SALE VOLUNTEER COUPON

VOLUNTEERS WORKED 4,212 HOURS LAST YEAR.

You are needed to equal or surpass that number. We can't do it without you.

Questions about the Book Sale? Contact Judy Weidemann at jweide7170@aol.com or 655-3649.

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

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

- _____ Table Donor
- _____ 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 14052

2014 Velma Cobb Winners

—Betty Krist

Thirty-six truly amazing young women from 27 Erie and Niagara County high schools submitted applications for this scholarship. Each had a grade point average of at least 95 or 3.5! It is heartening to know our future is in the hands of such high-achieving, hard-working, multitalented women who plan to study and work in a wide range of fields.

The committee made the bittersweet decision to award each of the \$2000 scholarships to Kelsey Jaynes from Starpoint High School and Samantha Maloy from Holland Jr/Sr High School. Each is the valedictorian of her class. Even though it was not a consideration, we have again selected one woman from Erie County and one from Niagara County.



Kelsey Jaynes' goal is to pursue a career in medicine, but she also has an interest in engineering. Inspired by her research at Roswell Park Cancer Institute her undergraduate program in either chemistry or chemical engineering will not only satisfy pre-med requirements, but allow her to

continue taking additional courses in mathematics and language. Having been accepted by the University of Vermont, Kelsey will surely continue to use her considerable leadership and athletic skills for a rich collegiate life. She's been class President (grades 9-12), Varsity Soccer Captain (grade 12), and Varsity Track Captain (grades 11-12). While being a member, often in a leadership role, of many other school clubs, she still finds enthusiasm for volunteer activities like Lock In to Lock Out Cancer, teaching Sunday School, Project Prevention (helping a refugee family assimilate into America), and Hearts for the Homeless. Her awards, recognitions, and honors clearly indicate her enthusiasm for learning and service is long-standing. While in high school Kelsey was diagnosed with Lupus, but remains undaunted so her life is not determined by disease.

Kelsey concludes her personal role model essay (about Dr. Elizabeth Repasky of RPMI) explaining, "It is my goal to join the force of women making an impact in the community, and I hope that one day I can be an inspiration and a motivating leader."

Samantha Maloy aspires to become a marine veterinarian.

Fulfilling a lifelong aspiration of attending Cornell University majoring in animal science, she hopes to research various methods for rehabilitation of rescued animals.

Through leadership and volunteer experiences, Samantha has



developed the independence, task commitment, and creativity to motivate those around her to be their best. She is a member of the Honor Society (President), Key Club (President), French Honor Society (VP), Student Council, S.A.D.D. Club, Foreign Language Club, Varsity Soccer (past Captain), and Varsity Track (past Captain). Her enthusiasm for community projects and gardening inspired her to remodel the "Memory Garden" at her school. One of her most powerful volunteer activities was working with mentally disabled adults in the Kiwanis' Aktion Club wrapping presents and making stockings that they distributed to children. She describes this experience as "priceless." Samantha has been awarded numerous awards, recognitions, and honors including Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Medal and US Achievement Academy National Leadership and Service Award. She describes her mastering of time management of involvement in school, community, work, family, sports and clubs while taking a step back to be thankful for her blessings a balance between serenity and ongoing chaos "by far, my greatest achievement."

Congratulations to these exceptional women, and us.



New Members

Please welcome our newest members:

Dr. Michele Flint

156 Surrey Run
Williamsville, NY 14221
Cell Phone: 866-8881
e-mail: mflint@daemen.edu
Education:
Bachelor of Science (BS), Syracuse University,
Accounting
Master of Business Administration (MBA), St.
Bonaventure University, Accounting & Finance
Doctorate of Education (Ed.D) University of Rochester,
Educational Leadership
Occupation: Associate Professor of Accounting/MIS
Daemen College

Ms. Lisa K. Robinson

328 Highgate Avenue Tech Savvy Participant
Buffalo, NY 14215
Work Phone: 842-2586
Cell Phone: 536-6798
e-mail: snowwlion@gmail.com
e-mail: lrobinson@buffaloschools.org
Education:
BS Math & Computer Science, Virginia Union University,
VA, 1985
Ed. M. – Education
SUNY at Buffalo, 1992
LIFTS School Administration
SUNY at Buffalo, 1997
Occupation: School Administrator, Public School 115.

Sheri Scavone

6096 Wellesley Cmn
East. Amherst, NY 14051
Phones: Hm. 810-9888
Wk. 887-2777
Cell: 393-8414
E-mail: slscavone@yahoo.com
BS - Physical Therapy, Russell Sage College – 1984
MS – Executive Leader, Health Systems Administration,
RIT – 1999
Advanced Graduate Certificate (Field of Study) Palliative
Care, The Sage Colleges – 2007
Occupation: Executive Director, WNY Women's
Foundation, 742 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY

Interest Groups

CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

When: Tuesday, May 27, 2014 at
6:00 pm
Where: Bob Evans Restaurant Mtg.
Room, 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst
Book: *The Fugitive King* by Sarah R. Shaber
Discussion Facilitator: Barbara Libby
Contact: Suzanne Grossman: 716-837-8769



DINNER BY THE BOOK

When: Wednesday, May 21, 2014
Where: Bob Evans Restaurant, 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd,
Amherst, 5:30 pm.
Book: *The Shoemaker's Wife* by
Adriana Trigiani
Facilitator: Karen Howard
Discussion Leader: Sany Ihlefeld
Reservations: Fran Witnauer 688-
5708 or Grandmafran44@yahoo.com



KNITTING GROUP

When: Wednesday, May 14, 2014
from 2-4 pm.
Where: Barnes & Noble Cafe on
Transit near Main St.

What: Bring your knitting and/or crochet project
Contact: Margaret Fischer at 716-632-8269 or
margaretjf@roadrunner.com

SUNDAY BOOK CLUB

When: Sunday, May 18, 2014
Where: Sweetness 7 on Parkside, across
from the zoo from 4-6 pm
What: *Little Bee* by Chris Cleave and
discussion of new book ideas.



Contact: Karen Huffman-Kelly at 839-4754 or
kshk152@yahoo.com

FOR GENERAL QUESTIONS:

Marilyn Carmichael, mcarmichael45@aol.com or
716.228.8626 (cell) Calling on all AAUW Branch
members to attend any study group of their choice.



In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation 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.



BUFFALO BRANCH AAUW ANNUAL LUNCHEON
Westwood Country Club, Windows on the Green Restaurant
 772 North Forest Rd., Williamsville
Saturday, May 3

11:30 - Registration
 12:00 -luncheon, Awards, Annual meeting

Menu
 Vegetarian vegetable soup
 Menu Choices: Chicken and spinach salad,
 Roast pork with pan gravy, Roasted vegetable pie
 NY style Cheesecake & Beverages

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

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Chicken and Spinach salad @\$25 _____ enclosed
 Roast Pork with pan gravy @\$25 _____ enclosed
 Roasted vegetable pie @\$25 _____ enclosed

Please mail this registration form and checks by April 26 to:

Sharon Meer
 123 Kingsview Road
 Williamsville, NY 14221

www.aauw.buffalo.edu

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

Return Service Requested

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