

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

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**Wednesday, Dec 4, 5:45 pm –**  
Board meeting at Christ United Methodist Church, Harlem at Saratoga in Snyder

**Sunday, Dec 8, 5:00 pm –**  
Branch program - “Celebrate the holidays with Friends – come to sing along”

**Saturday, Jan 11 –**  
Branch program – luncheon at Siena Restaurant with our own Danielle DiStefano serenading us with a private recital

**Thursday, Feb 6 –**  
Branch program – a presentation by new Buffalo-Niagara Partnership CEO and President, Dottie Gallagher-Cohen and a tour of the offices

**Fri-Sun, April 25-27**  
AAUW-NYS Convention, Honors Haven Resort, Ellenville, NY

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## *Celebrate the Holidays with Friends & A Sing Along*



Bring in the upcoming Holiday season with a traditional Sing Along on

**Sunday, December 8, 2013**

Social Hour with festive finger foods and beverages at 5 p.m

Christ United Methodist Church

6:15 Carpool to 7 p.m. Concert

Amherst Symphony Orchestra Concert, Amherst Middle School

**\$10 per person**

**Deadline for reservations: December 2**

## *Take Time for Tradition*

featuring Cristen Gregory and Williamsville North Choirs

(and our own Marion Fay is on the Board and Carolyn Day plays cello)

Cristen Gregory has performed all over the world winning standing ovations and rave reviews. A foremost voice teacher in WNY, she is a member of the faculty of Niagara University’s Theatre Department

and Canisius College’s Fine Arts Department.

The Williamsville North Concert Choirs and Choraleers Ensembles consist of top vocal musicians in grades 10-12. These groups have received top honors at national festivals and are led by Marnie Salvatore, graduate of Crane School of Music (SUNY Potsdam)



Reservation form on Page 8

# President's Perspective

*"Power can be seen as power with rather than power over, and it can be used for competence and co-operation, rather than dominance and control."*

--Anne L. Barstow

*"Unless you choose to do great things with it, it makes no difference how much you are rewarded, or how much power you have."*

--Oprah Winfrey

These quotes caught my eye as I was thinking about the results of this past election. Here in Orchard Park one of the races was nastier than anything I can remember. Then I was dismayed by the disturbing comment of one of the county powers-that-be that "he (Poloncarz) can't shove his agenda down anyone's throats." And then the response "If they want to go out and throw bombs in the majority,..." And here I thought that the major problems were at the national level!

Have we truly come to this? It's "my way or the highway"? There's no middle ground, no way to see the big picture and find a way that we can agree on to get to the goals we share? Surely there are at least a few people who can see past their party labels? Let's work with them and argue with the rest so that our elected leaders know that they have an intelligent constituency that cares!

The national AAUW website, with its Two-Minute Activist, makes it easy to weigh in with our congressional representatives and senators on a variety of issues. Pick the "current hot topics" or the ones that are YOUR passion. At the local level, call your legislators and town/village leaders, write to them, write letters-to-the-editor or longer columns for the opinion pages. If we all work together, perhaps we can bring some sanity to our political system.

We are, mostly, women - thinking, reasonable women. Keep in mind this other thought from a contemporary leader:

*"There is a growing strength in women but it's in the forehead, not the forearm."*

--Beverly Sills

I look forward to seeing you for our holiday gathering on December 8! Remember, the registration deadline is Monday, Dec 2!

—Betty Preble, President

## Tech Savvy Volunteers Needed

Tech Savvy 9 is expected to be held March 22, 2014 at the University at Buffalo. This year's conference focuses on the importance of confidence as girls and women pursue STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) careers.

We have begun committee conference calls (2 x per month). Help is needed during planning and on the day of the program.

If you would like to help, please send an email with the subject "TS9 committee" to Tamara Brown at [tbforaauw@cs.com](mailto:tbforaauw@cs.com).

See you in March!

## AAUW BUFFALO ADVOCATE

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President: Betty Preble

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Send address changes to Freddie Cheek, 406 Maynard Drive, Amherst, NY 14226 or email [fscheek@verizon.net](mailto:fscheek@verizon.net).

For prospective or new member questions, contact Cynthia Mehary, VP Membership Recruitment, at [camehary@roadrunner.com](mailto:camehary@roadrunner.com).

# WELCOME Returning Members

## Please add to your rosters:

**Nicole Hamm**, 4408 Milestrip Road, Suite 70, PMP 334, Buffalo, 14219-2553, 649-5198, Nahamm@aol.com

**Ingrid Wetherbee**, 2220 Eck Road, Attica, NY 14011-9534, 585-535-7948, imweth@gmail.com

**Grace Mukupa** (gracemuk@buffalo.edu). (She's abroad this year, so email is about the only way to reach her.)

# BOOKSALE News

## WE NEED BOOKS!

We can always use more books for our sale. Please urge your friends to bring in their contributions as soon as possible. Call Betty if you need bookmarks to distribute at your gym, beauty parlor, nail boutique, office, etc. Note that sorting will be suspended during the holidays of Christmas and New Year's and will resume on January 7, 2014. Thank you.



## C'mon, We've Been at This Forever! (132 Years, to Be Exact)

**November 15, 2013**

On Monday, the New York Times published an article about an exhibit, "Honoring Female Pioneers in Science," now on display at the Grolier Club in New York City. It's awesome that the newspaper is acknowledging such an important topic. It's also heartening that the article appeared on the Times' Most Popular web page this week. If AAUW's founders were alive today, no doubt they would be thrilled about women in science making national news! Then again, perhaps AAUW members of yore would not be surprised to see some of the same women they supported featured in the Times. After all, AAUW has been recognizing and supporting women in science since our inception in 1881. Read More: <http://www.aauw.org/article/honoring-female-pioneers-in-science/>

## December Highlights in US Women's History

**December 1, 1955** - Rosa Parks refuses to give up her seat on a bus to a white person; her arrest sparks the modern civil rights movement in the US

**December 5, 1935** - Mary McLeod Bethune creates the National Council of Negro Women

**December 7, 1941** - Capt. Annie Fox receives the first Purple Heart awarded to a woman for her service while under attack at Pearl Harbor

**December 10, 1869** - Wyoming is the first territory to give women the right to vote

**December 10, 1938** - Pearl S. Buck receives the Nobel Prize for Literature for *The Good Earth*

**December 13, 1993** - Susan A. Maxman becomes first woman president of the American Institute of Architects in its 135 year history

**December 14, 1961** - President's Commission on the Status of Women is established to examine discrimination against women

**December 14, 1985** - Wilma Mankiller is sworn in as principal chief of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma - the first woman in modern history to lead a major Native American tribe

**December 17, 1993** - Judith Rodin is named president of Univ. of Pennsylvania, the first woman to head an Ivy League institution

**December 28, 1967** - Muriel Siebert becomes the first woman to own a seat on the N.Y. Stock Exchange





## AAUW Has Gone Global

The trend toward globalization and the dominant role of the United States in world affairs inspire AAUW to seek strategic opportunities to increase awareness of issues affecting women and girls worldwide. Through targeted activities and projects at all levels, AAUW promotes programs that address issues of concern to women, hosts international visitors, and promotes global linkages.

When a woman is educated and empowered, she starts to make a difference in her community. This is true all over the world. But women still face barriers that keep education and security out of reach. Only through community support and access to resources like education, health care, and career opportunities will women have the chance to succeed. That's why AAUW has given fellowships to more than 3,000 women in 134 countries and why we regularly speak out on behalf of women and girls at the United Nations and in critical global coalitions.

AAUW is a member of many coalitions that support human rights and equality for women and girls. Collaborations include a strategic partnership with the Clinton Global Initiative and special consultative status with the United Nations, which means we have influential U.N. privileges that other nongovernmental organizations don't have. AAUW also funds projects that address the needs of women and girls in communities around the world.

As our world shrinks and our global community expands, AAUW members and their friends can embark on international trips designed to teach about gender equality issues in other cultures. AAUW sent delegations of members to three continents to learn about the unique challenges in specific countries.

As part of AAUW's International Series on Culture and Gender Roles, delegations of members, staff, and guests have traveled to China, Israel, Cuba, and South Africa. These delegations participated in research, dialogue, cultural events, and educational initiatives.

Check out AAUW Delegation 2014: Cuba to Explore Women's Issues, Challenges, and Opportunities. Cuba is close geographically, but severe travel restrictions still keep most U.S. citizens from visiting. On January 4–12, 2014, an AAUW delegation visits not only Havana, but several cities in the countryside such as Cienfuegos, the heart of Cuba's agricultural area, and Trinidad, a UNESCO world heritage site. They will participate in high-level meetings with important women's groups in Cuba to learn more about the role gender plays in the lives of our Cuban neighbors.

By participating in an AAUW Delegation, you'll share in an open dialogue and help break down the barriers of misinformation about women all over the world.

—Marian Deutschman, Public Policy Chair



## Education Issues

Everyday it seems we hear more about the dangers of concussion in student athletes. Many districts have developed protocols for dealing with concussions, which have increased significantly in recent years. High school and college athletes seem to be reluctant to self-report the symptoms, but it's hard to deny the obvious short- and long-term dangers of confusion, headache, dizziness, nausea, loss of consciousness, amnesia, and more. Brain injuries from blows to the head may have symptoms for up to a year later, or even life-long implications. Study after study reports abnormal brain scans or other physical problems months after a concussion.

If an injury occurs on school grounds, most teachers are required to report and oversee the recovery. Parents are learning to monitor their children's functioning after an injury which occurs outside the school, and to report any need for accommodations in the learning environment. Additional time for taking tests, wearing sunglasses in bright lights, and excused participation in physical education are possible needs of students recovering from head injuries.

—Barbara Carrier, Education Chair



## Looking Ahead to Saturday January 11, 2014 Our Favorite Diva



We will have a private luncheon and recital at Siena, a fine dining restaurant serving contemporary Italian food. In keeping with the

heritage of Siena, Italy as an important center of arts and learning, Ms. Danielle DiStefano, one of our scholarship recipients, will sing for us. "She's planning a program of jazz and love songs and will try to accommodate some requests as well." In addition, she'll tell us about her schooling, career, and future plans. Danielle contacted us and in appreciation for our generosity will perform at no charge.

Antipasti and registration will start at 11:45 followed by lunch and dessert at 12:15. Danielle's performance will follow. Cost is \$28 (cash bar available). See the registration form for details. As this will be a plated meal, on time reservations are critical. Friends, as always, are welcome!

Ms. Danielle DiStefano is a classically trained vocalist. Her ability in singing operatic, sacred music, musical theater, jazz, ballads, and Bollywood has brought rave reviews and many encore performances from her audiences as one of Western New York's finest vocal performers. With a range of songs from "At Last" to La Traviata's "Brindisi," we are sure to be wowed. Danielle's studies have included some of the finest vocal teachers in Buffalo and New York City, including Andy Anselmo, vocal coach for Lisa Minnelli, Tony Bennett, Julie Andrews and many other legendary stars. She has been performing throughout Western New York for the past six years.

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### Reservation Form for January 11, 2014 Program

Siena, 4516 Main St., Snyder, NY 14226

Luncheon includes antipasti, homemade breads, coffee, tea, cookies, and cannoli.

#### **Entrée choices**

Chicken breast stuffed with spinach, prosciutto and fontina cheese (chicken)

Farfalle pasta with asparagus, Portobello mushrooms and lemon zest (pasta)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ entrée choice \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_ entrée choice \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_ included @\$28. \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Buffalo Branch AAUW

**Return reservations by January 2, 2014 to**  
Betty Krist, 116 Iris Ave. West Seneca, NY 14224

# AAUW ACTION FUND

The deadline for our yearly donations to Educational Opportunity Funds and the Legal Advocacy Fund is the end of December. We are giving \$20,000 to EOF designated for the Buffalo Branch Hillary Rodham Clinton American Fellowship. We have several more years to get this to stipend producing level.

We also always support the Legal Advocacy Fund which supports women who are fighting discrimination. In order to increase our branch giving to LAF, you will have the opportunity to give whatever you can at our December event. There will be receptacles clearly labeled LAF placed at strategic places at our gathering location at the United Methodist Church at Saratoga and Harlem Rd.

Thank you in advance for your help for this very important cause.

—Sue Oliver, Funds Chair

## SISTER TO SISTER SUMMIT

The first planning meeting for the 2014 Summit has taken place and many great ideas were shared. The Summit will take place on Sat., March 29 at Buffalo State College. At this time, including the Buffalo Branch, some of the other organizations who will be working on this event are Girl Scouts of WNY, Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers, Native American Community Services, NY Dept. of Health, Buffalo Chapter of Links, and the AAUW group at UB. Others will be added in the next couple of months.

I will be calling for volunteers to work the day of the Summit. Put the date on your calendars!

—Sue Oliver, Volunteer Coordinator

## This 'n That:

### Upcoming programs. Mark your calendars:

**Thursday, February 6** – Meeting the CEO & President, Buffalo Niagara Partnership, Dottie Gallagher-Cohen, at Partnership offices

**Saturday, March 8** – International Women's Day  
Watch the *Advocate* for details and registration information. Guests are ALWAYS welcome!



“Lucy” entertains us at the District I Conference in Jamestown

### Help will be needed this spring!

All our local scholarship and grant programs have their application deadlines in the spring. Committees will have to be formed to go over the (hopefully) many applicants for each one. We know that several of you have your "favorites" and we can count on you to help with those. If you're willing to be in the "evaluator pool", though - a group of people that any of the scholarship chairs might call on, please let us know. Notify either scholarship director Maureen Kanaley (Kanaley@buffalo.edu), or president Betty Preble (betty.preble@gmail.com).

## CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

When: Tuesday, December 3, 2013 at 6 pm. (note change of day)  
Where: Bob Evans Restaurant Mtg. Room  
1925 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst  
Book: *The Cold Dish* by Craig Johnson  
Reviewer: Fran Witnauer  
Contact: Suzanne Grossman: 837-8769

## DINNER BY THE BOOK

When: Wednesday, December 18, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.  
Where: Bob Evans Restaurant, 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd, Amherst  
Book: *Daughters of Rome* by Kate Quinn  
Discussion Leader: Diane Burns  
Facilitator: Mary Crocker  
Reservations: Fran Witnauer 688-5708 or  
Grandmafran44@yahoo.com

## KNITTING GROUP

When: Wednesday, December 11, 2013 from 2-4 p.m.  
Where: Barnes & Noble Cafe on Transit near Main St.  
What: Bring your knitting and/or crochet project  
Contact: Margaret Fischer at 632-8269 or  
margaretjf@roadrunner.com

## SUNDAY BOOK CLUB

When: No Meeting in December, 2013  
Where: Sweetness 7 on Parkside, across from the zoo  
Looking ahead: January 19, 2014 from 4-6 pm...begin reading  
*Happiness, Like Water* by Chinelo Okparanta  
Contact: Karen Huffman-Kelly at 839-4754 or  
kshk152@yahoo.com

## FOR GENERAL QUESTIONS:

Marilyn Carmichael, mcarmichael45@aol.com or 228-8626 (cell)

**Calling on all AAUW Branch members to attend any study group of their choice.**



L to right > Karen Huffman-Kelly, Stacey Johnson, Judy Malamas, Marilyn Carmichael

The Sunday Book Club discussion featured Jeanette Walls' book entitled, *Half Broke Horses*. We all loved the lead character, Lily Casey, and the adventures in her life. A highly recommended 'read'.



L to Right> Kate Collins, Mimi Haskins, Barbara Libby

## Buffalo Interest Groups

The November meeting of Dinner by the Book featured an excellent review and discussion of Condoleeza Rice's memoir of her parents, entitled *Extraordinary Ordinary People*. Mary Crocker led the spirited discussion with many points of view.



L to Right> Jan Marino, Joan Spencer, Maryann Hope, Diane Burns



L to Right> Marilyn Carmichael, Leona Barback



Suzanne Grossman, Leader of the Clueless Mystery Book Club

The Clueless Book group shared a spirited discussion of Charles Finch's novel, *A Death in Small Hours*. They want to remind everyone that the December meeting will be on a Tuesday rather than the regular Wed. So please set your calendars so you don't miss it.

# AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

*Celebrate the holidays with friends & A Sing Along*

Christ United Methodist Church - 350 Saratoga Road (Harlem at Saratoga) - Amherst

**Sunday, December 8, 2013 - 5:00 PM**

**\$10.00 | person. Guests are welcome.**

**Registration form for December 8 Holiday Celebration and Concert**

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Guests \_\_\_\_\_

**Social Hour at 5 PM, Concert starts at 7 PM**

**Mail to: Betty Krist, 116 Iris Ave., West Seneca, NY 14224 by December 2.**

If you wish to bring a favorite festive finger food to the program OR

If you need any special arrangements or transportation OR

If you can help with the program OR

If you have any questions or comments, please contact

Betty Krist, kristbj@verizon.net, 675-4059

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

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