



March 2014

<http://aauw.buffalo.edu>

# BUFFALO BRANCH ADVOCATE

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The deadline for each issue of the *Advocate* is the 10th of the previous month. Send articles to Vicki Marshall via e-mail: [goya@roadrunner.com](mailto:goya@roadrunner.com).

Please be sure to put "AAUW Buffalo Advocate" in the subject line and cc Betty Preble: [betty.preble@gmail.com](mailto:betty.preble@gmail.com).

Something you'd like to see in the newsletter? Let us know—send a message to those same two people!

## *International Women's Day 2014*

### *Tea Social*



**Saturday, March 8, 2014**  
**Christ United Methodist Church - Parlor**  
**350 Saratoga Road**  
**Amherst, New York 14226**  
**(Corner of Harlem & Saratoga Roads)**

#### **Registration/Punch**

11:30 am to noon

#### **Welcome**

Buffalo Branch International Relations Chair

#### **Presentation**

History of Tea  
Patricia Dowling

#### **Guest Speaker**

Kimberly Szewczyk  
Chief of Interpretation and Education,  
Women's Rights National Park  
Seneca Falls, New York

#### **Catering by Cheryl Gill**

*Everyday Gourmet*

Finger Sandwiches, Assorted Gourmet Baked Goods, Tea & Coffee

**RSVP before February 28, 2014**

**Cost \$22.00**

Please make checks payable to AAUW Buffalo Branch and mail to Carol A. Griffith, 18 Union Common, Williamsville, NY 14221. For more information/Special Accommodations, call Carol at 810-0269.



## President's Perspective

**"Accept that all of us can be hurt, that all of us can—and surely will at times—fail. Other vulnerabilities, like being embarrassed or risking love, can be terrifying too. I think we should follow a simple rule: if we can take the worst, take the risk."**

Dr. Joyce Brothers

As we approach Women's History Month, let us think about those brave women of the 19th century were willing to take the worst and chose to take the risk of fighting for women's rights. I wonder if Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Martha Wright, and Mary Ann McClintock, meeting at a tea party at Jane Hunt's house in 1848, realized what a struggle they had ahead of them. I'm sure they knew it wouldn't be easy, but I do wonder how bad they thought "the worst" might be.

And now, well over a century later, has everything been accomplished? I don't think so!!!!

Now, what are we doing to carry on the work of our feminist sisters of many years ago? There are lots of opportunities within this wonderful organization—look through this issue and see how you can best help!

Betty Preble

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### Dr. Linda Brodsky, LAF litigant & Buffalo Branch member dies

Dr. Linda Brodsky, a renowned pediatric ear, nose, and throat surgeon and an advocate for gender equality in the workplace, died on February 13, 2014.

In 1996 Dr. Brodsky discovered that she was paid less than her male colleagues and was passed over for a less-qualified male candidate for chair of the otolaryngology department at the UB Medical School. She filed suit and eventually won that suit. The AAUW Legal Advocacy fund (LAF) gave her financial support during this ordeal.

Dr. Brodsky won numerous awards and honors. She was author or co-author of more than 100 scientific papers and 27 book chapters.

Our sympathy goes to her husband, Dr. Saul Greenfield, and her three children.

### Suggestions/Ideas Wanted!

For over forty years, the Buffalo Branch has honored one or two women from the community (some AAUW members, some not) who have made a difference in the life of this area. We welcome suggestions for our honoree for this year. Send suggestions to Betty Preble—betty.preble@gmail.com or 662-0608.



### AND

The Department of Senior Services is seeking nominations for Erie County's Senior of the Year, an individual that has made a noteworthy contribution to the community, and who exemplifies the characteristics of "positive aging" including energy, vitality, creativity, and compassion.

The application form is on the web:

[www2.erie.gov/senior-services](http://www2.erie.gov/senior-services)

Or call Jennifer Wood (858-7532) for nomination forms. The deadline is March 7!

### AND—Can you help?

During this unusually cold winter, the women and children at Haven House could really use some warm clothing. The knitting group will be providing some hand-knit items, but the need is more widespread than that. If you can help out with mittens, hats, sweaters, etc, please contact Karen Howard (khoward@roadrunner.com or 874-1389) OR bring them to the knitting group meeting on March 12 and join the group for the afternoon!

**AND**—Don't forget Tech Savvy (details last month). If you can help, please contact Elizabeth Casciani, ecalice@hotmail.com.

**THE BUFFALO BRANCH ADVOCATE** is published monthly September-June as a bulletin of events for members and as an update on AAUW issues and programs.



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For prospective or new member questions, contact:

Membership Recruitment VP, Cynthia Mehary, [camehary@roadrunner.com](mailto:camehary@roadrunner.com).

Send address changes to: Freddie Cheek, 406 Maynard Drive, Amherst, NY 14226-2929 ([fscheek@verizon.net](mailto:fscheek@verizon.net))

## Buffalo Branch Study/Interest Groups

### CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

When: **Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at 6 pm**

Where: **Bob Evans Restaurant Mtg. Room,**  
1925 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst

Book: ***Fresh Disasters*** by Stuart Woods

Reviewer: **Karen Howard**

Contact: **Suzanne Grossman: 837-8769**



### DINNER BY THE BOOK

When: **Wednesday, March 19, 2014 at 5:30 pm**

Where: **Bob Evans Restaurant,**  
1925 Niagara Falls Blvd, Amherst

Book: ***Everybody Matters*** by Mary Robinson

Discussion Leader: **Judy Malamas**

Facilitator: **Leona Barback**

Reservations: **Fran Witnauer 688-5708** or

[Grandmafran44@yahoo.com](mailto:Grandmafran44@yahoo.com)



### KNITTING GROUP

When: **Wednesday, March 12, 2014, 2-4 pm**

Where: **Barnes & Noble Cafe** on Transit near Main St.

What: **Bring your knitting and/or crochet project or just come to be inspired and join our conversation. We'd love to welcome you!**

Contact: **Margaret Fischer** at 632-8269 or  
[margaretjf@roadrunner.com](mailto:margaretjf@roadrunner.com)



### SUNDAY BOOK CLUB

When: **Sunday, March 23, 2014, 4 – 6 pm**

Where: **Sweetness 7** on Parkside, across  
from the zoo

Book: ***People of the Book***  
by Geraldine Brooks

Contact: **Karen Huffman-Kelly** at 839-4754 or  
[kshk152@yahoo.com](mailto:kshk152@yahoo.com)



### FOR GENERAL QUESTIONS:

**Marilyn Carmichael**, [mcarmichael45@aol.com](mailto:mcarmichael45@aol.com) or 228-8626 (cell)

**Calling on all AAUW Branch members to attend any study group of their choice. Have you checked one out yet? The groups are well worth your time. You will enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow AAUW members.**

## Booksale Corner

### 60-60-60!

This year is the 60th anniversary of our first AAUW Buffalo Branch book sale. How far we have come from that first sale!

To celebrate this anniversary 60 books will be chosen. We hope that you will consider writing a short description for one or more books chosen by those sorting the 2014 books for the book sale.

We will display the book with the blurb at a special table at the sale. Thus, 60 books, 60 blurbs in 60 days is the goal.

I hope you will consider helping with this project by taking one or more books and writing blurb(s). Call Stacey Johnson at 885-2486, or email [jhnsn@buffalo.edu](mailto:jhnsn@buffalo.edu) for more information and to arrange for getting a book.

*Stacey Johnson, 60-60-60 Coordinator*



## Looking Ahead: Fiscal Fitness!

Our April branch program will be built around the need for all of us to be more knowledgeable about our finances.

Daemen College will be co-sponsoring this event with AAUW and it will be held Saturday, April 12, 2014, on the Daemen College campus, time 9:00 am-1:00 p.m. Scheduled speakers:

- Professor Tony Szczygiel from the University of Buffalo Law Department presenting *Women and Social Security*;
- Melissa Bader, Esq. presenting *Women and Estate Planning*;
- Diane R. Bessel, PhD. LMSW, CNM Assistant Professor at Daemen College presenting *Working Women and Poverty*; and
- Karyn Hausknecht-Yetman from Belmont Housing of WNY presenting *How to keep your identity safe*.

Details and a registration form will be in the April *Advocate*.

*Ruby Williams is chairing this meeting.*





**2014 NYS AAUW Convention**  
**April 25 – 27, 2014**  
*A World of Wellness*  
**Honor's Haven Resort**  
**Ellenville, NY**  
See [aauw-nys.org](http://aauw-nys.org) for details  
Registration open NOW!!

*Sister  
-to-  
Sister*  
a summit for  
and about girls

The 17<sup>th</sup> **Sister to Sister Summit** will be held on Sat. March 22 at the Bulgur Communication Bldg. at Buffalo State College. Once again we could use some volunteers for this important event. We need people from 8 am until 3:30 pm or any amount of that time that you can spare. Please let me know if you can help so that I can send you more info and directions. Thank you so much for your support.

*Sue Oliver,*

*Volunteer Coordinator for Sister to Sister*

## Meeting to Select Velma Cobb Scholarship Winners

Everyone is invited to participate in the selection of Velma Cobb Scholarship winners on Thursday, March 27 at 2 pm in the library of Ebenezer United Church of Christ, 630 Main Street, West Seneca. We expect to be finished by 5 pm.

Park in the lot across the street and enter through the main vestibule (glass doors). The library is downstairs and to the left. If you're planning to come, please tell Betty Krist [kristbj@verizon.net](mailto:kristbj@verizon.net) or 675-4059. Thanks for participating in this important activity.

## LAF NYS Convention Fundraiser

Your help is needed to get some items ready for the NYS Convention. Once more we have been asked to bring baskets or purses for the LAF fundraiser. Whatever our items bring will be attributed to our branch for the next year.

I have a couple of dress purses which should do nicely. What is needed are things to go in the purses. Some suggestions would be scarves, perfume, movie tickets, gift cards etc. You can use your imaginations! Do keep in mind that these are fairly small purses.

Thank you for your help.

*Sue Oliver, Funds Chair*

## AAUW and the Family Act

**AAUW supports the Family and Medical Insurance Leave Act (FAMILY Act), which would create a national insurance program funded by employee and employer contributions.**

The **FAMILY Act** would provide eligible employees with up to 12 weeks of paid leave to care for situations such as their own serious illness, the serious illness of a child, parent or spouse (including a domestic partner), and the birth or adoption of a child. Employees who work full time at small organizations would be covered, and the program would be funded by employee and employer contributions that would amount to less than \$1.50 per week for the average worker.

The **FAMILY Act** is sponsored by Representative Rosa DeLauro of Connecticut and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand of New York. Its wage replacement rate builds on lessons from state paid leave programs with a strong record of success in California and New Jersey. **FAMILY Act** benefits would be portable and there is nothing in the bill that requires that all 12 weeks be taken all at once. Public employees who pay into and are eligible for Social Security benefits would also pay into and be eligible for these benefits. Private sector workers and self-employed people who have a basic level of work and earnings history would be eligible to apply. Although The **FAMILY Act** insurance program would be self-funded through employee and employer payroll contributions, a one-time appropriation from general revenues would be necessary to cover initial benefits and administrative cost. Under the law, this would have to be paid back in 10 years.

*Marian Deutschman, AAUW Public Policy chair*





## Happenings...

Coming events which may interest you:

**Until Mar. 30 - The Who's Tommy** at MusicalFare

**Mar. 11 – 16 Gershwin's Porgy and Bess** at Shea's

**Apr. 11 & 12 – Hotel California: Tribute to the Eagles** at Lancaster Opera House

**Apr. 14, 7:30 PM—"Flowers and Plants of the Bible"**  
Dr Bonnie Flickinger at St. Benedict's Church,  
1317 Eggert Rd. For information and reservations  
contact Sue Maslow at 833-9413.

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

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

**July 7 – Glenn Miller Orchestra** at Artpark

**July 31-Aug 8 Mary Poppins** at Artpark

**Aug. 21 – The Kingston Trio** at Artpark

*Barbara Carier*

## Think Spring!

Join us at the elegant Westwood Country Club Windows on the Green Restaurant (772 North Forest Rd, Williamsville) for a delicious lunch and celebration of the Buffalo Branch. The meeting is open to the public and you are encouraged to bring guests.

There will be an election of officers and recognition of this year's Achievement Award winner(s?). In addition, we will be honoring 25 and 50 year branch members. We will also present the Buffalo Branch recognition award, the Educational Opportunities Fund named gift recipients, plus winners of several of our local scholarships.

There is a large parking lot available in front of the restaurant.

**Date: Saturday, May 3**

### Agenda:

11:30 - registration

12:00 - luncheon, awards, annual meeting

### Menu:

Vegetarian vegetable soup

Choice of:

Chicken and Spinach Salad

Roast Pork with Pan Gravy

Roasted Vegetable Pie

NY style cheesecake

Soda, iced tea , coffee, and tea



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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Chicken and Spinach Salad \_\_\_\_\_ @\$25 \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

Roast Pork with Pan Gravy \_\_\_\_\_ @\$25 \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

Roasted Vegetable Pie \_\_\_\_\_ @\$25 \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

Please mail this form and checks by April 26 to:  
Sharon Meer, 123 Kingsview Road, Williamsville, NY 14221

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

**Tuesday, March 4, 5:45 pm**

Board Meeting at  
Christ United Methodist  
Church,  
Harlem at Saratoga in Snyder  
**(Note non-traditional date!)**



**Saturday, March 8** – International Women’s Day  
(see pg 1)

**Saturday, March 15** - Tech Savvy

**Saturday, March 22** - Sister-to-Sister Summit

**Wednesday, April 2, 5:45 pm**

Board Meeting at Ebenezer United Church of  
Christ, 630 Main St. in West Seneca

## AND—Save these additional program dates:

**Saturday, April 12** - Fiscal Fitness!

**Friday-Sunday, April 25-27** - AAUW-NYS Convention in  
Ellenville, NY (see aauw-nys.org)

**Saturday, May 3** - Annual Meeting and Awards  
Luncheon (see pg 5)

**Wed-Sun, May 28-Jun1** - BOOKSALE!

**Fri-Sun, July 25-27** - AAUW-NYS Summer Conference at  
Cazenovia College

*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 .*

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

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