



Buffalo Branch Advocate

NYS District 1

November 2013

<http://aauw.buffalo.edu>

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The deadline for each issue is the 10th of the previous month. Articles received after that may not appear in the next issue.

Please send articles to Vicki Marshall via e-mail:

goya@roadrunner.com

Please be sure to put "AAUW Buffalo Advocate" in the subject line and cc Betty Preble:

betty.preble@gmail.com

November Program

Visit to the Burchfield Penney Art Center

Thursday, November 14, 2013 (**Reservations by November 4—see pg 7**)

4:00 p.m. Social hour with hors d'oeuvres, slider sandwiches, coffee, tea, soda

5:00 p.m. Tour of the special exhibit focused on women artists

Cost: \$20 (cash bar available)

DISCLOSURE: WOMEN OF THE BURCHFIELD PENNEY COLLECTION

Disclosure: Women of the Burchfield Penney Collection exposes the collision of society's myths and norms against the issues and narratives defined by artists in the Burchfield Penney collection, particularly in regard to beauty, work, and motherhood. Within the exhibition, classical ideals of beauty, in portraits and reclined nudes, are in contest with representations of old age or women more concerned with reading than being objects of consumption. Familiar items such as pressed shirts, coffee pots, and toys express a tension in the domestic sphere and ask us to consider work in unrecognized economies. Longstanding



ideas of biological determinism—of women to be wives and mothers—are made more complex with scenes of protection, sorrow, and sacrifice.

Esther Lapham Hoyt Sawyer (1890-1971), *Untitled [woman and child]*, undated; charcoal on paper, 12 x 18 inches; Esther Sawyer Ewing and William B.H. Sawyer, 1978

Special Registration for BOTH November and December programs by November 4 \$25 —see pg 7.

President's Perspective

What's in a word?

Words are a form of action, capable of influencing change. Their articulation represents a complete, lived experience.

Ingrid Bengis

Rambles: According to the dictionary, one of the definitions is “blather.” Not exactly what one would want to have associated with one’s thoughts. I have been told, several times, that the title “Betty’s Rambles” was not “professional.” I have finally listened (I am a slow learner, and stubborn to boot), and cannot find any synonym for “ramble” that I’d really want associated with serious thoughts in our branch newsletter. So, a new heading. Be forewarned, though—I may still ramble, though hopefully it will be “meandering” rather than “blathering.”

Another word—**White:** According to at least one dictionary the first definition is “free from color.” Two weeks ago as I write this I had cataract surgery in one eye (went just fine, thank you.) The next day at my post-op appointment I commented on the difference in color that I’m now seeing between the two eyes (close one, see one color, close the other, see it differently.) She commented “Welcome to white!” It has been interesting comparing the vision between

the two eyes since then—the yellow-brown tinge that made me think I still had some brown in my hair was obviously a distorting cloud produced by the cataract. The right eye still thinks I’m young?!? I wonder, extrapolating a bit, how many other distorting clouds we have—in our eyes and in our minds. What is being filtered out (or obscured) as we look at the many troubles facing us in our community and in our country. Can we help our government officials see with clear vision? There are many issues facing us and they are NOT simple! Our Public Policy chair this month urges us (see pg 5) to let our “leaders” know how we feel—please do that, looking at each question from your own educated and thoughtful perspective.

The other thought I had regarding my eye experience was the realization that every person in the surgical center dealing with me was a woman. The receptionists, the nurses, my doctor, the anesthesiologist, the nurse-anesthetist—ALL of them! I was happy to have that be the case, but sorry to think that was even something that struck me as “special”! Would a man have been as comfortable? AND—did these women earn as much as a man would have for doing the same work? Hmmm.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming programs!

Betty Preble

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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President: Betty Preble

Publisher/Editor: Vicki Marshall

Assistant Editors: Judy Weidemann, Barbara Carier,
Betty Preble

For prospective or new member questions, contact

Membership Recruitment VP, Cynthia Mehary,
camehary@roadrunner.com.

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



Booksale Corner

There is an ample supply of books at the sorting site, 995 Kensington Ave. and some hard working sorters are keeping pace. They always can use more help, so drop by any Tuesday and/or Wednesday from 9:30 until noon for however much time you can spare. Also, there are lots of bookmarks available at the site if you have places where they might be doing more good.

Pat Swift-MacClennan

Buffalo Branch Study/Interest Groups

Clueless Mystery Book Club

NO MEETING IN NOVEMBER, 2013

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



Dinner by the Book

When: **Wed. Nov. 20, 2013, 5:30 p.m.**

Where: **Bob Evans Restaurant -
1925 Niagara Falls Blvd**

Book: ***The Painted Girls*** by Cathy Buchanan

Discussion Leader: **Diane Burns**

Facilitator: **Mary Crocker**

Reservations: **Fran Witnauer** 688-5708 or Grandma-fran44@yahoo.com

Sunday Book Club

When: **Sun., Nov. 17, 2013 from 4-6 p.m.**

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

Book: ***Maya's Notebook*** by Isabelle Allende

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.

Knitting Group

When: **Wed., Nov. 13, 2013 from 2-4 p.m.**

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

Contact: **Margaret Fischer** at 632-8269 or margaretjf@roadrunner.com



Happenings...

Reminders about coming events which may interest you:

Oct. 30–Dec. 1 – *Master Class* – about Maria Callas, glamorous opera diva – MusicalFare – 839-8540

Nov. 8-24 – *Promises, Promises* – Neil Simon, book, Burt Bacharach, music - Lancaster Opera House – 683-1776

Nov. 12-17 – *WarHorse* – Shea's Buffalo Performing Arts Center, 800-745-3000

Barbara Carier, Cultural Interests



Say Hello to Our New Members!

Yi Li

106 Chatsworth Avenue Apt 5

Buffalo, NY 14217

Cell: 430-5045

E-mail: liyi.never.land@gmail.com

Degrees:

Bachelor of Science, Chemical and Industrial Biological Engineering, Tsinghua University, China 2011

Ph.D. Candidate, 2016, Chemical and Biological Engineering, SUNY at Buffalo

Darcy Regan

80 Mt. Vernon Road

Amherst, NY 14226

Phone: 907-1679

E-mail: dmr289@cornell.edu

Degrees:

Bachelor of Science Chemical Engineering, SUNY at Buffalo, 2013

Master in Engineering –Chemical Engineering, Cornell University 2014

Joan Photiadis

117 Thorncliff Road

Buffalo, NY 14223

Phone: 877-1871

E-mail: joanpho@verizon.net

Degree:

Bachelor of Arts – Political Science, SUNY at Buffalo, 1990
Retired



Carol J. Cromwell

301 Parkhurst Blvd.

Buffalo, NY 14223

Phone: 862-4260

Cell: 348-0537

E-mail: lorac0917@aol.com

Degrees:

B.F.A. from U. of Mass, Dartmouth, 1973

E.D.M. – SUNY at Buffalo, 2006, Art Education and Literacy Ed.

Occupation: Buffalo Bd. Of Ed – Substitute Teacher

Sandra M. Sheppard

209 Virgil Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14216

Phone: 871-0535

E-mail: sheppasm@buffalostate.edu

www.buffalostate.edu/socialwork

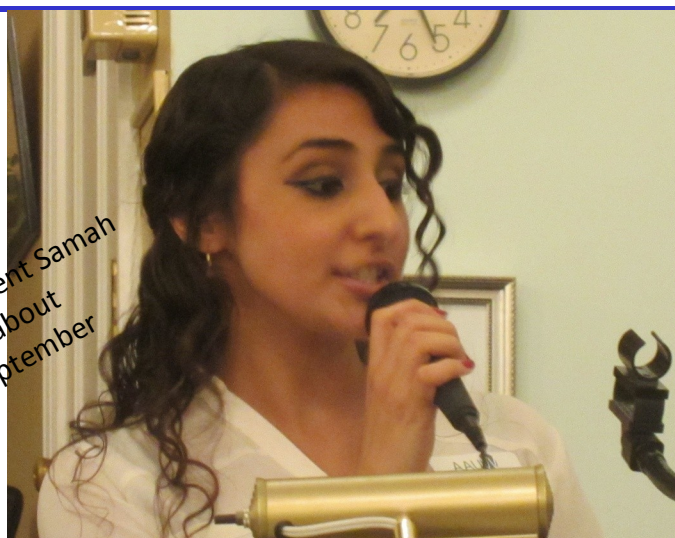
Degrees:

Ph.D. Social Welfare University at Buffalo, 2010

MSW – Social Work, University at Buffalo, 1997

BS – Psych/Education SUNY Oswego 1984

Occupation: Professor (adj.) Buffalo State College



AAUW FUNDS

Every time I read the NYS newsletter I am reminded of the scope of this organization. Our local connection, our branch, is extremely impressive in our programming: Grassroots Grants, which support important community projects; Tech Savvy; Sister to Sister; and networking with other organizations such as the League of Women Voters to advance our lives and the lives of women and girls everywhere. Beyond the branch, we have our connection with branches in WNY. Each October we have the District I conference. This is a great chance to get new ideas and ways to do things from other AAUW members who are working on the same goals we have.

On the state level our branch officers are connected to the state board, and there is a constant exchange of information. The gathering of everyone is the NYS Convention, which will be held in Ellenville in the Catskills this year. If you have never attended this event you are missing a chance to hear some great speakers, attend some wonderful workshops, and, most of all, to have the opportunity to meet many women who think as you do and are working for the same goals.

Last but not least are the national AAUW conventions which are held every two years. The closest to us are the conventions held in Washington DC. When we are in the nation's capital, we have a chance to hear some great speakers (I remember Ruth Bader Ginsberg in particular), and all the attendees go to Capitol Hill to lobby. I'm trying to think about how many I have gone to, and I can come up with at least eight – possibly more. The next one, in 2015, will be in San Diego—what a chance to network while having a great vacation! Your assignment right now is to read the AAUW *FOCUS* (the NYS newsletter) which should have arrived in your email or postal mailbox recently.

Sue Oliver, Funds Chair

Take Action!

Go to the AAUW website and become a Two-Minute Activist!

Go to www.aauw.org and join the Action Network today! Action Network is the cornerstone of AAUW's e-advocacy efforts. By signing up, you will receive urgent e-mail notices to contact your elected officials.

With the online Two-Minute Activist tool, it takes just minutes to make your voice heard! You will receive e-mail notices to contact your members of Congress right in your inbox. We ask that you take a moment to read about the latest issue in Congress. Then take one more minute to personalize and e-mail a message to your member of Congress.

For example, one recent issue - the U.S. Census Bureau announced that the wage gap hasn't budged since 2002. We know that women deserve fair pay now. You could tell your representatives that it's time for a new tool to protect women from wage discrimination.

Advocacy isn't just about AAUW lending our name to an issue or speaking up on Capitol Hill. Advocacy is about AAUW members and all citizens concerned with equity being knowledgeable and aware of the current status of important issues.

You can easily make your voice heard in Congress. On the AAUW website, you will find a list of issues. Click on the links to receive more information. The list gives you a sampling of issues which affect women and families and the current activity around those issues. You're given suggested content but you can make changes to voice your own opinion. Make your voice heard on the following:

EDUCATION – AAUW supports a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity

ECONOMIC SECURITY- AAUW advocates for all women to achieve economic self-sufficiency.

CIVIL RIGHTS - AAUW advocates for equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society.

TITLE IX - AAUW supports vigorous enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights laws pertaining to education.

For more information on our advocacy efforts, see AAUW's [Public Policy Program](#). For further information on how you can influence the debate, visit [AAUW's Action Network](#).

Marian Deutschman, Public Policy Chair



Interest-Free Loans and Grants!

Please spread the word about the following AAUW scholarships whose applications are on the AAUW website and must be post-marked by Dec. 1. Applicants must be residents of Western New York and/or attending colleges in this area:

Chamberlin Loan Funds/Scholarship was established in 1937 to help provide financial support, mainly in the form of interest-free loans, for higher education for women of good character and promising scholarship who might not otherwise be able to procure a college education.

Funds for Education was established to provide additional financial support to college students in the Western New York area in the form of specialized loans, grants. or scholarships. The funds include several named awards. Applicants, women or men, must demonstrate superior academic achievement, have potential for achieving their academic and career goals, and show financial need.

Kathleen Collins, Chamberlin/FFE Chair



Education Issues and News...

You have heard about "Common Core" recently. It's part of the arguments over student achievement levels. We all are going to hear a lot more going forward. Public schools in 46 states (including New York) are coming together with fewer but more rigorous target skills in math and English language arts.

Coming from years of disparate requirements from one state to another, the adoption of these Common Core State Standards is a *major* achievement, in that millions of students will be taught according to fewer and higher standards. Read them at www.corestandards.org. Teachers all over the country will have a consistent and clear understanding of what students are expected to learn. The standards were designed by teachers and researchers, as requested by a bipartisan group of governors and state education leaders. Objections have been raised on both the right and the left of the political spectrum, despite the fact that most of the targets have not been completed. The federal government had no role in the development of these standards.

American education has been falling behind the rest of the world since the 1970s, when the public schools were regarded as some of the best in the world. Recently the US ranked 18th out of 24 developed nations. The Common Core standards are thought to raise US education levels to those found in the world's top-ranked nations of Finland and South Korea.

Barbara Carier, Education Representative

November Highlights in US Women's History

- **November 1, 1848** - First medical school for women, the New England Female Medical School, opens, in 1874 it merges with Boston University to become one of the world's first co-ed medical schools
- **November 8, 1910** - The state of Washington passes a constitutional amendment to guarantee woman suffrage
- **November 11, 1979** - Bethune Museum and Archives opens in Washington D.C. as a center for African-American women's history, honoring Mary McLeod Bethune
- **November 14, 1946** - Emily Greene Balch, co-founder of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize
- **November 28, 1881** - The first organizational meeting is held for the predecessor group to the American Association of University Women (AAUW)



Our sympathies go to the family of **Barbara Knauer**, who succumbed to breast cancer on October 1. Barbara had been a member of the branch for almost 20 years, having joined in 1995.

She was a nurse, former director at the Schofield Residence in Kenmore and retired lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserve. An active member of several nursing associations, she had earned her nursing degree from Deaconess Hospital and a master's degree in business administration from the University at Buffalo.

December Program

Celebrate the Holidays with Friends – Come to Sing Along

Sunday, December 8, 2013, **Reservations by December 2**

5:00 p.m. Social hour with favorite festive finger foods, beverages at Christ United Methodist Church

6:15 p.m. Car-pooling to 7 p.m. Amherst Symphony Orchestra Concert, Amherst Middle School

Cost: \$10

TAKE TIME FOR TRADITION, featuring **Cristen Gregory and the 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 the Crane School of Music (SUNY Potsdam)

Reservation Form for November and/or December 2013 program(s)

Name _____ Phone _____

Guest(s) _____

November @\$20.00 _____ (deadline Nov 4) OR

December @\$10.00 _____ (deadline Dec 2) OR

Both @\$25.00 _____ (deadline Nov 4)

Return reservations by **November 4, 2013** to: Betty Krist, 116 Iris Ave. West Seneca, NY 14224

Make checks payable to Buffalo Branch AAUW

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

If you need any special arrangements or transportation OR

If you can help with either of these programs OR

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Betty Krist, kristbj@verizon.net, 675-4059

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Tuesday, Nov 5—VOTE!!!

Wednesday, Nov 6, 5:45 pm

Board Meeting at
Christ United Methodist Church,
Harlem at Saratoga in Snyder



Sat-Sun, Nov 9-10

Jamestown Branch – What’s New Fair
JCC Hamilton Collegiate Center

Thursday, Nov 14, 4pm-6pm (see pg 1)

“Women of the Burchfield Penney Collection”
Burchfield Penney Art Center

Wednesday, Dec 4, 5:45 pm

Board Meeting at
Christ United Methodist Church,
Harlem at Saratoga in Snyder

Sunday, Dec 8, 5:00 pm (see pg 7)

“Celebrate the Holidays with Friends – Come to
Sing Along”

AND—Save these additional program dates:

Saturday, January 11 – Our Favorite Diva, a private luncheon and recital by our scholarship winner, Danielle DiStefano, at Siena Restaurant

Thursday, February 6 – Meeting the New 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!

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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