

Happy Holidays

LOVE PEACE HOPE

- ❑ Join us on **Thursday, December 11, 1 p.m.** to **Explore the AAUW Buffalo Branch Archives** at UB Archives. Parking passes will be provided.
- ❑ Save the date for **Saturday, March 14, 2015** as we celebrate Tech Savvy's 10th Year: **Tech Savvy Girls: Brilliant and Resilient**. See page 6 for more details.
- ❑ The **AAUW-NYS convention** will be held **April 17-19** on Grand Island. This year's theme is "AAUW Leading The Way: Women Leadership in the 21st Century."



Advocate

BUFFALO BRANCH

December 2014

<http://aauw.buffalo.edu>

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The deadline for each issue of the *Advocate* is the 10th of the previous month. Send articles to Laurie Eikemeyer via e-mail: laurie.eikemeyer@gmail.com.

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

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

DECEMBER PROGRAM

Explore AAUW Branch Archives, December 11

Amy Vilz, University Archivist, will provide a tour of this repository of living history along with a hands-on look at the AAUW Buffalo Branch materials. You'll be amazed at our history and surely proud of our legacy. We'll meet on **Thursday, December 11 at 1p.m. in 420 Capen on the UB North Campus**. Enter through the Undergraduate Library on the first floor and take the elevator INSIDE the library to the fourth floor. Simple refreshments will be provided. Cost is \$5; please plan to pay at the event.

Parking is restricted but since this is the end of the semester, parking will be only a minor inconvenience. If you'd like a parking pass or map, call or email Betty Krist (675-4059) or kristbj@verizon.net by **December 5** and a visitor parking pass and map will be sent to you. With this pass you can park in any non-handicapped space (unless, of course, you have a handicapped plate or hang-tag.) The University does give tickets even during breaks so don't be cavalier about this restriction.

You can access a map of the North Campus at <http://www.buffalo.edu/buildings/maps/NorthCampus.pdf> Capen Hall is building 25. Fronczak B Lot is closest to your destination. It will probably take you about 10 minutes to walk from your vehicle to the Capen Hall library. Handicapped parking is along Putman Way.

Don't be intimidated by the campus. It's really not hard to get around. You're SURE to enjoy this program. As always, friends are WELCOME!!!





President's Perspective

"You have to accept whatever comes and the only important thing is that you meet it with courage and with the best that you have to give."

- Eleanor Roosevelt

Did Eleanor know what this election would bring? AAUW's interests certainly took a beating, based on what most of the winners were saying during this recent campaign. However, that is the price we pay for living in a democracy. As Eleanor said, we must accept it.

She goes on, though. She doesn't say we shouldn't keep fighting. She doesn't say we should just crawl in a hole and give up. She does say that we must meet it with the best that we have to give.

What does that mean for the months and years ahead? Several things, two of which I'll mention here. First, let's hold the feet of our new government representatives at all levels to the fire and make sure that they address (one way or the other) the issues near and dear to AAUW. Contact the people who end up on important

committees and hound them to bring things to a full body vote! Let's not let our representatives hide behind the "I never had a chance to vote on it" curtain. Then, if you disagree (or, for that matter, agree) with their stand, use the Two-Minute Activist or some other means to let them know you're watching! The other, perhaps even more important action is to fight for the right of every eligible voter to cast his/her ballot! If you don't/didn't have a driver's license would you be able to produce an "approved" picture ID? If such things are required, let's make sure there's a way for people to get one – a way that costs nothing! My own mother had a copy of her birth certificate – but it wasn't the name she used all her life. I know I disagreed with the way she voted most of the time, but I'd fight for her right to cast that ballot!

Rest assured that the national AAUW will be on top of this. But they don't know OUR legislators at every level the way we do. It's up to US to make sure that our country moves forward the way we know it must!

Betty Preble
AAUW Buffalo President

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obnfam@roadrunner.com.

Send address changes to:

Freddie Cheek, 406 Maynard Drive,
Amherst, NY 14226-2929 (fscneck@verizon.net)



Happenings...

Coming events which may interest you:

Until Dec 7 – Ain't Misbehavin' at MusicalFare

Dec 14 – American Legion Band at Riviera Theater

Dec 2-7 – Cinderella at Shea's

Dec 6-7 – The Nutcracker at UB Center for the Arts

Dec 13 – BPO Classical Christmas: Messiah and More at Kleinhan's

Dec 19-21 – BPO Holiday Pops at Kleinhan's

Jan 16-Feb 8 – The Lion in Winter at Irish Classical Theatre

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

Irish Classical Theatre – Andrews Theatre, 625 Main St., 853-4282,
www.irishclassicaltheatre.com

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

Nickel City Opera (at Riviera Theatre) – 67 Webster St., North Tonawanda
www.nickelcityoperaco.com, 692-2413
www.RivieraTheatre.org

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

The Center for the Arts at UB – 645-ARTS, www.UBCFA.org



Barbara Carier

AAUW-NYS Convention Update

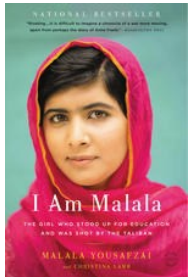
The **AAUW-NYS convention** will be held **April 17-19** on Grand Island at the Byblos Resort and Spa. This year's theme is, "**AAUW Leading The Way: Women Leadership in the 21st Century.**" We hope to have "tracks" for various categories of attendees – faculty members, students, casually involved branch members, branch leaders, etc.

Please contact **Susan McClary** (123456susan@gmail.com) if you are able to help make this year's New York State Convention in Buffalo a great success! **Let's make this the biggest and best AAUW-NYS convention ever!**



Planning for January and February Programs

While you're getting that new calendar together and thinking about a book to read for a long winter's evening, plan to fully participate in our January and February 2015 programs.



On Sunday, **January 18** our own **Sunday Book Club** will host discussion on the book, ***I Am Malala*** by **Malala Yousafzai & Christina Lamb**. This memoir by the youngest recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize details the actions of the girl who stood up for education and was shot by the Taliban. It is widely available in every format. Read it for yourself and prepare to participate in a surely lively discussion. **And, there's more!!!** We will also delight in traditional Pakistani afternoon refreshments at Kabab & Curry, our own **Tahmina Rehman's** restaurant in Williamsville.

And then thumb through your favorite recipes to determine what you might like to cook/bring when we partner with Ebenezer UCC church in the "**Taste of Ebenezer/AAUW**" on **Saturday, February 7**. Complete details will be in the January Advocate. This is our LAF fundraiser.

Here are the rules for cooks:

- warming is available on site but generally cooking is done at home
- register with Betty Krist (675-4059, kristbj@verizon.net) by **January 18**
- portion dishes and utensils will be provided
- each portion is determined by cook, each portion is one ticket
- your recipe is requested but not required
- cooks are responsible for "manning their station"

If you don't choose to cook, come to eat. Proceeds will be split proportionally between EUCC and AAUW.

FROM THE NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Thank you to our own **Diane O'Brien** for a successful November program, "Betty Crocker, Media Icon." The program was held Thursday, November 6th at Ebenezer United Church of Christ in West Seneca.



CELTIC THUNDER SYMPHONY TOUR

Wednesday, December 10 at Kleinhans Music Hall, 8:00 pm

Experience carols, traditional Irish tunes, and Celtic Thunder's signature hits with the majesty of a full orchestra. **Be there on Dec. 10 as Celtic Thunder makes its Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra debut!**

The BPO will be collecting new, unwrapped toys for **Toys For Tots** at this concert. Bring your donation to the hall and deposit it in the collection bin near the box office.



Buffalo Branch Study/Interest Groups

NOVEMBER STUDY GROUP NEWS

CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

When: **Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2014 at 5:30 pm**
Where: **Bob Evans Restaurant Meeting Room, 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst**
Book: *Except the Dying* by **Maureen Jennings**
Facilitator: **Jean Hubbard**



SUNDAY BOOK CLUB

When: **NO Meeting in December. However, check out the February book, *Blood Will Out* by Walter Kim**
Contact: **Karen Huffman-Kelly** at 839-4754 or kshk152@yahoo.com



DINNER BY THE BOOK

When: **Wednesday, December 17, 2014 at 5:30 pm for dinner**
Where: **Bob Evans Restaurant Mtg. Room, 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst**
Book: *The Invention of Wings* by **Sue Monk Kidd**
Discussion Leader: **Lillis McLean**
Facilitator: **Karen Howard**
Reservations: **Fran Witnauer** 688-5708 or Grandmafran44@yahoo.com



DINNER GROUP (New & not to be missed)

When: **Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at 6:00 pm**
What: **A monthly gathering of members and guests who want to try new restaurants and enjoy each other's company. Current events and getting to know each other are always topics of discussion.**
Where: **Mezza, 929 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo 14222**
Mezza is a Lebanese Restaurant.
Contact: **Maria Coppola** at 289-8149 or marcoppla@gmail.com



KNITTING GROUP

When: **Wednesday, December 10, 2014 from 2-4 pm**
Where: **Barnes & Noble Cafe on Transit near Main St. in Amherst**
What: **Bring your knitting and/or crochet project or questions**
Contact: **Karen Howard** 480-3652 (cell) or kkhoward@roadrunner.com



FOR GENERAL QUESTIONS

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

We cordially invite AAUW members to attend any of our marvelous AAUW study groups. And we thank all of you who are loyal and faithful.



DISTRICT CONFERENCE

On November 1, the District One Conference was held in the brand new SUNY Fredonia Science Center.

SUNY Fredonia President Dr. Virginia Schaefer Horvath welcomed us to the campus.



Dr. Holly Jon Lawson, Associate Professor of Chemistry and the "building project shepherd" for the new Science Center, spoke about the project and led us on a tour of the building.



FUNDS REPORT

This is the time of year for giving thanks for all of our many blessings. It is also the time when we reach out to help those who need our help.

As AAUW members this is the time to send our donations to the **Legal Advocacy Fund**, which is used to

help fight important cases of discrimination against women. Our organization has been right in the middle of the fight to add sections in the Violence Against Women Act to emphasize the need for stiff judgments against violence against women on college campuses and in the military.

Another area funded by LAF are the **Campus Outreach Grants** which offer up to \$750 for branches to co-host a program to educate students about gender discrimination in the workplace and in education.

Our donation to LAF comes from monies given when you pay your dues, fund raisers, and individual do-

nations. I will let you know how much money was raised for 2014 when that information becomes available .

Of course, our main donation to the Educational Opportunity Funds will be to the **Hillary Rodham Clinton American Fellowship**, which is the



fellowship we are working to fund to a stipend-producing level. This year the donation will be \$20,000!

We will begin fundraising for next year in February at a branch event on Sat. Feb. 7 at the Ebenezer UCC church in West Seneca. **Taste of AAUW and Ebenezer** will involve coming to eat and also bringing food to sell. Start thinking of what you can bring! We will be sharing the profits of this event.

Thank you for your support for this year and the future,



Sue Oliver
Funds Chair

ROSTER CORRECTIONS/UPDATES

Sharon Meer's email address has changed. She may now be reached at RSMEER@TWC.com



Laurie Eikemeyer is listed incorrectly in the "Fundraising Treasurer" spot on page 2. Her last name is "Eikemeyer" and her email is: laurie.eikemeyer@gmail.com. It is correct in her other two listings!

Danyelle Moore's apartment number changed. Her correct address is 250 Rainbow Blvd, #706, Niagara Falls, NY 14303.

HELP WANTED



eBay Aficionado

Occasionally there is a need to sell a special collection or very rare, valuable book on eBay.

Social Media Volunteer

Do you tweet? Do you love posting on Facebook? We're looking for you! We need a volunteer to assist us with our social media resources.

If you are interested, please contact Betty Preble: betty.preble@gmail.com

AAUW ONLINE RESOURCES

Buffalo Branch Website: <http://www.aauw.buffalo.edu>

State Website: <http://www.aauw-nys.org>

National Website: <http://www.aauw.org>

AAUW History: <http://history.aauw.org/>

Find us on Facebook:

Buffalo Branch:

<https://www.facebook.com/aauw.buffalo>

UB Student Branch:

<https://www.facebook.com/UniversityatBuffaloaaauw>



Find AAUW-NYS on Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/AAUWNYS>

BOOK SALE REPORT

By any measurement, the first three months of collecting and sorting books for the 2015 book sale have been a huge success. Sorters have packed hundreds of boxes and anticipate many more donations to come. The momentum may slow with the coming holiday season but it should pick up again after the New Year.



We hope all of you will be primed to participate. The holiday slowdown affects only six days when the site will be closed. They are Nov. 25th and 26th, Dec. 23rd and 24th, and Dec. 30th and 31st.

Collections in January, February, and March are crucial to the sale's success. If you have not distributed some "We Want Books" bookmarks, pick some up at the sale site or contact Pat Swift MacClennan and she will get some to you. We need to make a big push for books in early 2015.

Pat Swift MacClennan

Buffalo AAUW Tech Savvy

The Original Tech Savvy!

Tech Savvy Turns 10! Join the Planning Committee

Can you believe it? It seems like it was just yesterday that we welcomed the first middle school girls to D'Youville for Tech Savvy.

Now, as we look back on many inspired futures, we look forward to the 10th anniversary of the flagship program! So, **save the date for Saturday, March 14, 2015 as we celebrate Tech Savvy Girls: Brilliant and Resilient.** This year completes a three-year theme on essential elements for girls' success in STEM and focuses on the importance of resilience.

The planning committee met over the summer and plans are underway. Fall committee meetings (1 hour per month via teleconference) are resuming, and new members are needed for planning and for day-of activities. Extra help is needed, so if you would like to add your talents to the committee, please email Tamara at tbforaauw@cs.com or call [716-949-2413](tel:716-949-2413). The next teleconference is scheduled for Thursday, December 18, at 6 pm (Teleconference phone number [716-566-5719](tel:716-566-5719) Meeting ID: "SAVVY" or 72889)

NEW MEMBERS

Christina Giunta

38 Argosy Drive, Amherst NY 14226

Work phone: 645-8176

E-mail: clgiunta@buffalo.edu

Degree: Daemen College, BA Spanish, 2009

Degree: Canisius College, Master's College Student Personnel Administration, 2011

Dr. Katherine Johnson

126 Crestwood Ave. Buffalo NY 14216

Cell: 308-4821

E-mail: kate8835@aol.com

Degree: Buffalo State College BA Sociology 1980

Degree: SUNY Buffalo MA Sociology 1983

Degree: SUNY Buffalo PhD Sociology 1991

Patricia Masso-Welch

9645 Keller Rd., Clarence Center NY 14032

Home phone: 406-2212

Work phone: 829-5191

Cell: 725-2323

e-mail: pmwelch@buffalo.edu

Degree: Onondaga Community College, AAS math/science

Degree: SUNY College at Oswego, BS Biology 1986

Degree: Roswell Park/UB, PhD Molecular Immunology 1995



2015 - 2016 NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKING CANDIDATES

The nominating committee, looking forward to the 2015-2016 Board, is seeking candidates suggested by the membership for the following offices:

President, First Vice President (Program,) Third Vice President (Membership Retention,) Branch Treasurer, Chamberlin Loan Fund and Funds for Education Treasurer, and the Nominating Committee (chair plus two members.)

Please contact any of the current committee members with names of those you wish to nominate. Members are Sue Licata, Cynthia Mehary, Judy Weidemann, Yvonne Curry, and Lillis McLean, chair.



Achievement Gap & Policy Gap



Compared to other rich nations, the United States ranks 26th in the well-being of our children. One in four of our children are born into poverty, and our middle class is shrinking. Forty percent of our five year olds are not ready to learn. We rank 23rd in high school graduation and 19th in college graduation. Our minimum wage is flat or it has fallen while the worker has become more productive. The increase in productivity does not appear to be benefitting the income of the worker. Seventy percent of our children are living in families headed by working parents and 35 percent are raised by a single parent. These are statistics presented in a documentary series called "The Raising of America." You can view a portion of it online but it was presented at WNED-WBFO on November 10, 2014 along with a distinguished local panel of experts from various fields. The video is intended to expand the debate about what our society should do to ensure every infant the opportunity for a strong start.

The documentary carries a strong plea for guaranteed paid maternal leave, available quality childcare, and a living

wage. We must invest in parents with policy changes so that the children will not grow up in an economically stressful environment. Stress during infancy is a predictor of anxiety in the child's future. U.S. ranks 31st on availability of child care and only one in ten of these facilities are inspected.

WNED/WBFO was awarded a Ready to Learn grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The purpose is to support math and English literacy to children ages 2-8 in targeted communities. Over the course of this coming school year, the station is partnering with Buffalo's Promise Neighborhood and Read to Succeed Buffalo to deliver and support PBS Kids Lab content for Pre-K through Grade 3 classrooms at the Buffalo Promise Neighborhood Children's Academy, Westminster Community Charter School, and Highgate Heights Elementary School.

This work is accomplished by providing a 20-unit iPad Mobile Learning Lab. WNED/WBFO will be supporting other community-based activities such as

open houses, family engagement nights, and a Summer Institute in June 2015. You can get more information at the website www.raisingofamerica.org or you can contact them at [in-fo@raisingofamerica.org](mailto:info@raisingofamerica.org). There are action toolkits, discussion guides, policy guides, promotional templates, interactive magazines, downloadable/shareable clips, and other resources.

What is the connection to AAUW? The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) was signed into law by President Clinton after seven years of hard work by AAUW staff. It allows qualified employees to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave each year to care for a new baby or recently adopted child, tend to a family member, or overcome their own serious health problems. Since 1993, AAUW has worked to expand the legislation to cover more of the nation's workforce, but those lobbying efforts have been largely unsuccessful.

Marian Deutschman
Public Policy Chair

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 and ways to eliminate it.



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.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Wednesday, Dec 3, 5:45 pm - Board Meeting at Christ United Methodist Church, Harlem at Saratoga in Snyder



Thursday, Dec 11, 1 pm – “Explore the AAUW Buffalo Branch Archives,” University at Buffalo, North Campus

Wednesday, Jan 7, 5:45 pm - Board Meeting at Ebenezer United Church of Christ, 630 Main St, West Seneca

Sunday, Jan 18, 2 pm – “I Am Malala,” Kabab & Curry

Saturday, Feb 7, 11 am – “Taste of AAUW Buffalo Branch (and Ebenezer UCC),” - Ebenezer United Church of Christ, 630 Main St, West Seneca

Sunday, Mar 8, noon – “International Women’s Day” – Adam’s Mark Hotel

AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For more than 130 years, we have worked together as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women and their families.

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

Vision: *AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.*

Value Statement: *By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.*

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.

Moving? Please contact Freddie Cheek at 835-6945.

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