

*Have a Wonderful Summer!*

**We'll see you in September!**



**Are you interested in some Summer activities?**

**July 9** – AAUW Day at Chautauqua - For more information, see page 3

**July 24-26** - AAUW-NYS Summer Conference at Cazenovia College

**Fall activity:**

**September 28** - Annual "Pot Luck Dinner"



*See page 4 -5 for photos from the Branch Annual Meeting and Luncheon at the Buffalo Yacht Club*



**BUFFALO BRANCH**

*Advocate*

June 2015

<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](mailto:laurie.eikemeyer@gmail.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!



## **Fantastic 61st Scholarship Book Sale**

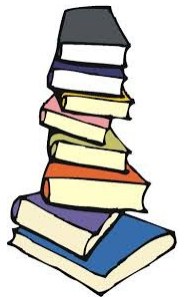
**May 27 - May 31**

**Burlington Plaza**

(same location as last year)

**1551 Niagara Falls Blvd.**

**Amherst, NY 14228**



For more information, look online at

<http://www.aauw.buffalo.edu/booksale.htm>

**The Annual Book Sale is our biggest fundraiser! Proceeds from the book sale fund scholarships and grants to assist women attending college plus our community projects, especially Tech Savvy and Sister-to-Sister.**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

*We need many helping hands during and after the sale. If you can help, please call Judy Weidemann at 655-3649.*





## President's Perspective

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

Eleanor Roosevelt

This is my last "Perspective." I state that with mixed feelings. I started my term with many goals and dreams of changes. Some have been accomplished, many have not. I think I met the challenges as well as I could, although certainly not perfectly. Our new leaders will come with a fresh perspective and dreams of their own, and I hope that the members will support them as they move the branch forward.

I would like to thank the members of the board and of the book sale committee plus those who chose not to take leadership positions but were always there with a smile and a "what can I do?" attitude. I am not going to name people here since I know I'd forget some, but please know that I appreciate everything you've done.

But, moving ahead, look around – see what needs to be done and tackle that. Don't wait to be asked to do things – jump right in! Your new officers are going to need your support. Look at the list of leadership positions in your roster and see what you might be interested in doing. What challenges might you enjoy? Call Carol Golyski or Cynthia Mehary and volunteer! In addition to those positions, many of the jobs should actually have committees – membership and program especially come to mind. Do you have ideas for branch programs, or interest groups, or membership promotion activities? Call them! Would you like to see the branch starting a member mentorship program and have ideas about how to do that? Call them! Do you know a group we should be partnering with? Call them!

Yes, we need to accept whatever comes, but we can certainly shape our own futures and challenges as well.

Signing off, but certainly not riding off into the sunset – see 'ya around!

Betty Preble

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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:**

**June 2-14 – Book of Mormon** at Shea's

**June 5 – Louis Prima Jr. & The Witnesses** at the Riviera Theatre

**June 18 - July 12 – Romeo and Juliet** at Shakespeare in Delaware Park



**Aug 2 – Bonnie Raitt** at the Center for the Arts

**Aug 5 – A Summer Outdoor Concert** in Bassett Park by Amherst Symphony Orchestra at 7 pm

**Aug 9 – Kenny G** at the Riviera Theatre

**Sept 29-Oct 4 – Newsies** at Shea's

### Theater Contact Information:

**Amherst Symphony** – 633-4606  
[www.amherstsymphony.com](http://www.amherstsymphony.com)

**Artpark – Lewiston** 754-4375,  
[www.artpark.net](http://www.artpark.net)

**Fallsview Casino** – Niagara Falls, Ontario  
[www.fallsviewcasinoresort.com](http://www.fallsviewcasinoresort.com)

**Irish Classical Theatre** – Andrews Theatre, 625 Main St., 853-4282, [www.irishclassicaltheatre.com](http://www.irishclassicaltheatre.com)

**Kleinhans Music Hall** – Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, 885-5000, [www.bpo.org](http://www.bpo.org)

**MusicalFare Theatre** (at Daemen College), 4380 Main St., 839-8540, [www.musicalfare.com](http://www.musicalfare.com)

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

**Shaw Festival** – Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. 800-511-SHAW, [www.shawfest.com](http://www.shawfest.com)

**Shea's Performing Arts Center** – 646 Main St., 847-0850, [www.sheas.org](http://www.sheas.org)

**The Center for the Arts** at UB – 645-ARTS, [www.UBCFA.org](http://www.UBCFA.org)



Barbara Carier

## Buffalo Branch June Study/Interest Groups

### KNITTING GROUP

When: **Wednesday, June 10 from 2-4 pm**

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

What: **Bring your knitting and/or crochet project**

Contact: **Karen Howard** 480-3652 (cell) or email [khoward@roadrunner.com](mailto:khoward@roadrunner.com)



Reservations: **Fran Witnauer** 688-5708 or [Grandma-fran44@yahoo.com](mailto:Grandma-fran44@yahoo.com)

### CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

When: **Tuesday, June 24 at 5:30 pm**

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

Book: **Death in the Floating City by Tesha Alexander**

Facilitator: **Barbara Weber**

Contact: **Suzanne Grossman** 837-8769



### SUNDAY BOOK CLUB

When: **Sunday, June 14 from 4-6pm**

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

On street parking available on Sundays

What: **The Scalpel and the Silver Bear: The First Navajo Woman surgeon**

*Combines Western Medicine and Traditional Healing By Lori Arviso Alvord and Elizabeth Cohen Van Pelt*

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



### DINNER GROUP NEWS

Coordinator, Maria Coppola, has indicated there will be no Dinner Group gatherings from now on. If there is anyone who would be interested in leading an "eating" group in some form, please let Marilyn Carmichael, Study Group Coordinator, know. Information below. Thank you.

**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.**

### DINNER BY THE BOOK

When: **Wednesday, June 17 at 5:30 pm**

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

Book: **Sweetness in the Belly by Camilla Gibb**

Facilitator: **Joan Spencer**

Discussion Leader: **Cherie St. Pierre**



### FOR GENERAL QUESTIONS

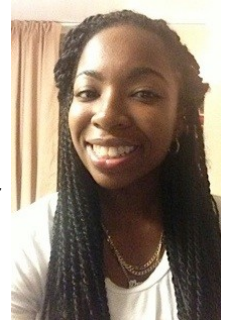
Marilyn Carmichael, [mcarmichael45@aol.com](mailto:mcarmichael45@aol.com) or 228-8626 (cell)

## ASSISTANCE FOR NCCWSL WINNERS

Two women were selected from an essay contest at UB to attend the **National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)** May 28-30 at the University of Maryland, College Park. UB and the AAUW Buffalo Branch are helping sponsor these students in their attendance. In addition, we are assisting national scholarship winner Sharia Huda with her transportation.

Xanya Harris (right) writes, *"I came to Buffalo from Westchester, NY. What attracted me the most to Buffalo was its history and diversity. My mission in life is to help grow awareness and advocate for those with communication disorders. I currently enjoy working with this population as an onsite direct care professional at a local respite center. I have my associates degree in Human Services.*

*This upcoming fall I will be a senior with a major in Linguistics and minor in Communication Science Disorders. After, I will be attending Graduate school. I'm looking forward to getting involved on the e-board of AAUW at UB this year and participating in the NCCWSL Conference!"*



Francesca D'Alessandro (left) writes, *"I am from Plattsburgh, New York. Right now my intended major is Biological sciences and I am a freshman at University at Buffalo. I love UB because of all the opportunities and organizations. Currently I am in UB Glee but next semester I plan on joining more clubs and groups in my major. I've attended Elect Her on campus and am looking forward to more opportunities that will come my way next year. I'm very excited to be attending NCCWSL and to begin my term as secretary for our UB AAUW group.*

We wish these women safe travels and a successful conference. For more information about NCCWSL, visit <https://www.nccwsl.org/>



# A Celebration of Women and the Buffalo Branch

The Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon of the AAUW Buffalo Branch was held at Buffalo Yacht Club on May 16th.

The program included a wonderful luncheon, recognition of our **Velma Cobb** and **Catalyst for Change** award recipients (highlighted in the May 2015 Advocate,) and a Branch report by Branch President Betty Preble. Afterward, the election of officers and their installation was held.



Right: Barbara Carier presents this year's Achievement Award to Dr. Donna Fernandes (Article in the May Advocate)



Above: Eileen Hartman of the AAUW National Board presided over the installation of the incoming 2015-2016 AAUW Buffalo Branch Board Members. From Left: Eileen Hartman, Barbara Carier, Carol Golyski, Lillis McLean, Barbara Weber, Cynthia Mehary, Betty Preble, Patricia Miceli, Suzanne Licata, and Judy Malamas.



Below: Recognition was given to honor our Branch past Presidents (from left) Judy Weidemann, Stacey Johnson, Barbara Olandt, Judy Malamas, Barbara Carier, Marguerite Collesano, Carolyn Day, Betty Preble, and Diane Silvestro.



Left: A special thanks to our flutists Caryn Barber and Karen Kohlhagen.





# Annual Meeting Continued...



Above: Dr. Betty Krist presents Amanda Garry the Velma Cobb Award certificate. Right: Colleen O'Connor's Velma Cobb Award certificate is accepted by her mother, Linda

## Scholarship Awards Recipients



Abpve: Dr. Betty Krist presents a gift to outgoing Branch President, Betty Preble. Betty received her gift and a standing ovation in gratitude for all of her exceptionally hard work during her term in office. Thank you, Betty!



Right: Catalyst for Change Awards were presented to Amanda Munson and Megan Stadler by Judy Malamas.

## 2015-2016 Buffalo Branch Board of Directors

- Co-President..... Carol Golyski
- Co-President..... Cynthia Mehary
- Program VP..... Lillis McLean
- Membership Recruitment VP..... Diane O'Brien
- Membership Retention Co-VP..... Patricia Miceli
- Membership Retention Co-VP..... Barbara Weber
- Secretary/Parliamentarian..... Lynne Rapin
- CFO..... Open
- Operations Treasurer..... Suzanne Licata
- EAP Treasurer..... Mary Crocker
- Fundraising Treasurer..... Laurie Eikemeyer
- Chamberlain/Funds for Ed. Treasurer..... Betty Preble
- Scholarship Director..... Carol Griffith
- Nominating Committee Chair..... Barbara Carier
- Nominating Committee..... Barbara Engler, Judy Malamas

**Special Thanks to the Luncheon Committee for helping to make the day a success:**  
**Jacki Lamb-Anderson**  
**Betty Krist**  
**Joan Eschner**

### REMINDER - DUES ARE DUE!

It's that time!!! If you have not paid your 2015-2016 dues, you must pay them soon to continue your membership benefits. Please send your check, along with any change in address/phone number/email address to **Freddie Cheek, 406 Maynard Drive, Amherst, NY 14226-2929**. Please contact Freddie or Barbara Weber or Pat Miceli if you have any questions.



## MARIAN DEUTSCHMAN HONORED

Our own **Marian Deutschman** will receive the **Joan K. Bozer Leadership Award for Outstanding League Leadership** at the League of Women Voters of New York State Annual Meeting on **Saturday June 13, 2015**.

The meeting will be held at Kotecki's Grove Restaurant, 4685 Seneca Street, Buffalo, NY 14224.

The cost of the Luncheon is \$25 for League members and \$30 for guests. The luncheon will be family style featuring chicken and vegetables.

Send reservations to LWVBN,

1271 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14209.

**Congratulations, Marian!**



Plan now to join us on July 9<sup>th</sup> for **AAUW Day at Chautauqua**. On the next page is a flyer with all of the information for this event that the Jamestown branch hosts each year at the Institution. It is loads of fun, being at Chautauqua for the day, and meeting AAUW members from different New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania branches. It's open to anyone, so feel free to bring friends and significant others. We will sit as a group in the Amphitheatre for the 10:45 am lecture and, if you choose, join everyone for lunch in the Athenaeum Hotel. Just fill in the order form on the next page (for a day ticket and lunch) and mail with your check to Barb Russell at the address indicated.

The gate ticket is good until 8 pm, so you can spend the time exploring the Chautauqua grounds, going to lectures, listening to the Chautauqua Symphony rehearse in the Amphitheatre for the evening performance, visiting galleries, and/or going shopping.

AAUW DAY AT CHAUTAUQUA

## NEW MEMBERS

**Welcome to our new members:**

### **Fern Beavers**

**Address:** 54 Jasper Dr., Amherst, NY 14226

**Home phone:** 837-2931

**Work phone:** 862-3114

**E-mail:** [fern.beavers@gmail.com](mailto:fern.beavers@gmail.com)

### **Degrees:**

D'Youville College BS Nursing

UB Masters Nursing 1972

Bethesda Maryland Post Masters Nurse Practitioner  
2001

**Occupation:** Nursing

**Interests:** event arrangement, scholarship management, book sale, diversity, scholarship committees, Tech Savvy, Dinner by the Book

### **Amanda Jackson-Jacobs**

**Address:** 200 Castlebrook Lane, Amherst, NY 14221

**Phone:** 585-764-0558

**E-mail:** [Amanda.JacksonJacobs@gmail.com](mailto:Amanda.JacksonJacobs@gmail.com)

### **Degrees:**

Northeast Louisiana University BS in Computer Science  
1986

Rochester Institute of Technology Executive Business  
MBA 2009

**Occupation:** Productivity Program Manager Praxair Inc.,  
Tonawanda NY

**Interests:** scholarship management, diversity, program committee, scholarship committees, Sister-to-Sister, Tech Savvy, Dinner by the Book, others

### **Janice Worobec**

**Address:** 91 Nottingham Terrace, Buffalo, NY 14216

**Home phone:** 874-1334

**Work:** 874-9191

**Cell:** 830-3360

**E-mail:** [jjworobec@gcamedia.com](mailto:jjworobec@gcamedia.com)

Fashion Institute of Technology AAS in Fashion Buying  
and Merchandizing 1976

**Occupation:** CFO/GC Media

**Interests:** copy editing, event arrangements, marketing, scholarship, book sale, cultural, international relations, newsletter, publicity committee, scholarship committee, Clueless Book Club, Dinner by Book



Diane O'Brien  
Membership Recruitment VP

# AAUW DAY AT CHAUTAUQUA REGISTRATION FORM

**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2015  
**Host:** AAUW Branch of Jamestown, NY  
**Theme:** Boys Will Be Boys – Then Men  
**Speaker:** Wes Moore, author of “The Other Wes Moore”  
**Place:** Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, NY ([www.ciweb.org](http://www.ciweb.org))  
**Time:** Lecture 10:45 am at Amphitheatre; Ticket good from 9 am – 8 pm  
**Cost:** \$35.25/person plus \$27.25 for lunch in the historic Athenaeum Hotel’s Parlor  
Total: \$62.50 (Make check payable to AAUW Jamestown Branch.)

To make a reservation, please fill out this coupon and mail a check made out for the total amount to **AAUW Jamestown Branch**. Include your email address so confirmation of your reservation can be sent to you. All orders must be prepaid.

**AAUW Day at Chautauqua** costs \$62.50 per person and includes lunch.

Mail your coupon and check to **Barb Russell, 2702 Salam Drive, Ashville, NY 14710**. Please email questions to [bar-russell@mail.sunyjc.edu](mailto:bar-russell@mail.sunyjc.edu). You can order ticket OR meal only. Parking (\$8.50) is paid directly by you at the parking lot.



Go to [www.ciweb.org](http://www.ciweb.org) to look up the schedule of activities for July 9<sup>th</sup> and to learn about Chautauqua Institution.

## 2015 AAUW Day at Chautauqua Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ AAUW Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

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

No. of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of enclosed check: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Check Meal selection:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Traditional Cobb Salad (w/grilled chicken breast)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Citrus Baked Cod with tomato & garlic cream sauce, roasted asparagus/basmati Rice Pilaf
- \_\_\_\_\_ Penne Pasta with Crimini Mushrooms (roasted tomatoes, peas, parmesan cream sauce)

(All meals come with iced tea, lemonade, coffee, hot tea and chef’s choice of dessert.)

**If ordering for more than yourself, supply the other names in your party, their branch affiliations, and their meal selections.** (Deadline for reservations is Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015)



## SISTER TO SISTER

### The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Sister to Sister Summit

took place on Sat. March 28 at Buffalo State College.



Sister  
-to-  
Sister  
a summit for  
and about girls



## AAUW-NYS CONVENTION FUNDS REPORT

The 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Buffalo Branch was celebrated at the state convention held at Byblos Niagara in April. I have only missed this important event a few times in the last 45 years. Why have I gone so often? Many reasons, among them the joy of seeing old friends who believe in the same values as myself. Also, we get progress updates on current issues at the state and national level. It makes us proud to belong to this great organization.



Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) always has a fund raising event which is very successful. With the help of the following people and businesses Buffalo Branch was able to contribute \$100:

Diane Silvestro – created a fairy garden

Barbara Weber – created handmade jewelry

“Buffalo” basket content contributors: Tamara Brown, Betty Preble, Cynthia Mehary, Judy Weidemann, Sue Oliver, and Carol Golyski. The basket was donated by Vidlers and the arranging and wrapping by Flowers by Nature.

We also had individual donors from the branch who contributed \$200, making our total contribution \$300. Altogether \$6000 was raised for LAF over the convention weekend!

Sue Oliver, Funds Chair



## Voting Rights and Citizenship

Last month this article addressed ways to get involved with AAUW. This month it's on ways to get involved with your responsibilities as a citizen. Last year's midterm elections had the lowest turnout in more than seven decades. In 43 states, less than half the eligible population took the time to vote. New York's turnout was an abysmal 28.8 percent. The national turnout was only 36.3 percent. The decline was especially acute among younger voters. There have been charges of continuous efforts to suppress the turnout of young, poor, and minority voters, but the link between those laws and party losses was not clear for this election. However, litigation is going on challenging requirements for voting such as photo ID, birth certificates, government-issued ID, passports, as well as registration restrictions and attempts to curtail early voting.

Some of the stated reasons for low participation are apathy, anger, and frustration with negative campaigns, while others say that they don't know enough about the candidates or the issues. Some say they only vote in presidential years and their vote doesn't make that much difference anyway. We all know that there are examples throughout history where one vote made a difference. An average of only one vote per precinct passed women's suffrage in California in 1911. A change of one vote per precinct in three states in 1968 would have made Hubert Humphrey President instead of Richard Nixon, and the list goes on.

High voter turnout and civic partici-

pation are central to a healthy democracy. We have never had easier access to information. However, we often ignore information that is available to us and simply look for views that reaffirm what we already think, and the result may be misinformation. This year we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, one of the most successful civil rights laws in American history, protecting the right to vote and com-



bating voter discrimination. Recent Supreme Court rulings such as *Citizens United* have allowed wealthy individuals and corporations to influence election outcomes and set agendas. Through gerrymandering districts, incumbents draw electoral maps that ensure their safe re-election. They choose us before we choose them. The nation faces the largest income gap in history. Big money threatens our democracy. *Citizens United* and other court rulings erased a century of campaign finance laws. Special interests dominate political funding through Super PACs and mysterious nonprofits.

**The Brennan Center** is a leading force in developing policies to counter the power of special interests. They suggest a system of small donor public financing for federal and state elections that would provide multiple

matching funds for small gifts and give ordinary voters a louder voice in presidential and congressional elections. We need to overturn *Citizens United* and to work with policy makers and activists to enact legislation, defend campaign finance laws in court, and promote public financing solutions nationwide. On June 25, 2013, the U.S. Supreme

Court overturned a provision of the Voting Rights Act, removing a critical tool to combat racial discrimination in voting. Under the landmark civil rights law, jurisdictions with a history of discrimination must seek pre-approval of changes in voting rules that could affect minorities. This process, known as "preclearance," blocks discrimination before it occurs. In *Shelby vs. Holder*, the Court invalidated a section arguing that current conditions require a new coverage formula. This Voting Rights case took safeguards away, resulting in low income citizens less likely to vote. A bill to reverse it is languishing for lack of support. To counter big money in politics, the system needs millions of new voters. We need greater use of digital technology to register all eligible citizens, automatically and permanently. Then we have to make sure we vote!

Marian Deutschman,  
Public Policy Chair



## Upcoming Dates to Remember

**May 27-31** – BOOK SALE,  
Burlington Plaza,  
1551 Niagara Falls Blvd.  
(same location as last year)



**June 3, 5:45** – Board Meeting,  
Christ United Methodist Church,  
Harlem at Saratoga in Snyder

**June 18-21** - National AAUW Convention in San Diego

**July 9** – AAUW Day at Chautauqua

**July 24-26** - AAUW-NYS Summer Conference at Cazenovia College

**Sep 28** – Fall “potluck” at Christ United Methodist Church

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 empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential .

**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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