



Above: Group photo with period dress on Friday night. Great fun!
More **Convention Photos**—See page 7

AAUW BUFFALO BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING/LUNCHEON

Saturday, May 16, 2015

Buffalo Yacht Club

1 Porter Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14201

Reservations Due by MAY 6th, see page 4 for more information

AAUW
BUFFALO BRANCH

Advocate
May 2015
<http://aauw.buffalo.edu>

IN THIS ISSUE

- Pg 1 - May Events
- Pg 2 - President's Perspective, Cultural Happenings
- Pg 3 - Book sale, National Dues Drawing
- Pg 4 - Study/Interest Groups, Annual Meeting
- Pg 5 - Annual Meeting/Luncheon Registration Form, New Members
- Pg 6 - Velma Cobb Scholarship Winners
- Pg 7 - AAUW-NYS Convention Report and Photos
- Pg 8 - Sister to Sister, Tech Savvy Thank you, Adoptive/Foster Parents needed
- Pg 9 - Public Policy, Ways to Get Involved with AAUW (Marian D. article), AAUW makes a difference.
- Pg 10 - Dates to Remember



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!

ANNUAL BOOK SALE!

AAUW Buffalo Branch 61st Annual Book Sale

May 27 - May 31, 2015

*Burlington Plaza, 1551 Niagara Falls Blvd.
Amherst*

(Same location as last year)



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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We need lots of help at the book sale site, prior to the book sale. Please stop by to help any time Monday-Friday 9 am to 5 pm, Tuesday until 8 or Saturday 9-noon.

We also need many hands during the sale itself. See the Volunteer Registration Form for Book Sale Volunteers on page 3

MORE INFORMATION AND VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION FORM ON PAGE 3

Too often the great decisions are originated and given form in bodies made up wholly of men, or so completely dominated by them that whatever of special value women have to offer is shunted aside without expression.

Eleanor Roosevelt

As the 2016 presidential election race starts up, it is time to think about what kind of people we want in charge next year. The president, of course, but there are many other races also run in those fall presidential election periods, and in most governmental bodies women are woefully under-represented.

As a national, state, or branch AAUW entity we cannot endorse or support candidates for any political office. However, that does not mean that we can't take positions on ISSUES that the candidates propose. It also does not mean that we as INDIVIDUALS cannot support candidates. We only have two limitations:

We cannot say we're supporting or endorsing any candidate in the name of AAUW.

We cannot support or endorse in the name of AAUW any position that is contrary to the public policy positions of AAUW.

That brings us to AAUW Public Policy, and bylaws, and the national board. These are the people and the policies that present the national face of AAUW. All of these are chosen by the membership every two years – and this is one of those years. The spring issue of "Outlook" had all the information on proposed bylaws changes, the Public Policy platform, and the candidates for the national board. It is up to US – each of US – to choose the path we want AAUW to be taking. The "big" bylaws proposal is to do away completely with the educational requirement for membership. I know that there are members with strong feelings on this issue – both ways. This is your chance to make your voice heard. Every member is entitled to a vote, but two years ago less than 10% of the membership exercised that right. The easiest way to vote is online – but if you want a paper ballot, please just call the national office (800.326.2289) and request one. The deadline for requesting one is May 8.

I hope to see you all at the annual meeting on May 16 and several times at the book sale site. Happy spring!

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: Laurie Eikemeyer

Assistant Editors: Judy Weidemann, Barbara Carier, Betty Preble

For prospective or new member questions, contact:

Membership Recruitment VP, Diane O'Brien,
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:

April 24 - May 17 The Beauty Queen of Leenane at Irish Classical Theatre

May 1-24 – She Loves Me at Kavinoky Theatre

May 1-17 – Rodgers and Hammerstein's CAROUSEL at Musicallyfare Theater



May 2 – Bond and Beyond: 50 years of 007 - BPO at Kleinhans

May 2 – Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons at Seneca Niagara Casino

May 9 – Becca Stevens Band at Center for the Arts, UB

May 22-23 – Patriotic Pops - BPO at Kleinhans

June 2-7 – Book of Mormon at Shea's

Aug 2 – Bonnie Raitt at The Center for the Arts

Aug 9 – Kenny G at the Riviera Theatre

Theater Contact Information:

710 Main Theater (formerly Studio Arena, now affiliated with Shea's), Main St. at Tupper, 829-1154,
www.sheas.org

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

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

Seneca Niagara Casino - Niagara Falls, NY,
www.senecaniagaracasino.com/entertainment

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

Tralf Music Hall -- 622 Main St. Second Floor, 852-2860



ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP BOOK SALE

In just a few short days the Branch's only fund-raising project will be underway. The 61st annual book sale looks to be one of the largest in its history and the task of pulling this off is daunting. It will require an all-out effort on the part of every member. There is still much sorting to be done and a great need for members to work during the five-day sale.



I cannot say it any better than Betty Preble did in her recent e-mail to the membership:

"We urge everyone to come in at least once or twice a week to help with the sorting. Last year we were completely caught up when we moved to the site, but this year we had a huge influx of books over the last couple of weeks at "K-B", so there is a huge pile to be sorted. We need everyone's help! Of course, please also be ready to say "yes" to Judy Weidemann and her crew when they call you to help during the sale, or use the coupon below to volunteer. There are plenty of jobs to be done, including many which do not require a lot of standing or walking."

If you missed that message, you have it now.

Many of the jobs do not require hard physical labor, but if health issues preclude active participation, please consider a donation to cover some of the sale's expenses.

FREE NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP CHANCE!

The national AAUW "Shape the Future" program gives each participating branch one "free" national membership for each two new members who join through the program, up to a total of five. Our branch is entitled to three, which must be used for the coming fiscal year. Those three "free" national memberships will be awarded through a drawing at the May Luncheon on May 16. The names entered in the drawing will be those of **members who had renewed their memberships (checks received!) on or before May 9, 2015**. The three names drawn will each have \$49 of their dues refunded. You should have received your membership renewal notice by now - get your dues payments in early and be entered in the drawing!

Book Sale Volunteer Registration Form

Use this form to sign up for shifts during the book sale from May 27 - May 31.
Please consider volunteering for three shifts.



Name _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

Please check all Shift Days/Times you are willing to work:

May 27 8:45 am - 1:00 pm 12:45 pm - 5:00 pm 4:45 pm - 8:00 pm

May 28 8:45 am - 1:00 pm 12:45 pm - 5:00 pm 4:45 pm - 8:00 pm

May 29 8:45 am - 1:00 pm 12:45 pm - 5:00 pm 4:45 pm - 8:00 pm

May 30 8:45 am - 1:00 pm 12:45 pm - 5:00 pm 4:45 pm - 8:00 pm

May 31 11:45 am - 3:00 pm 2:45 pm - 6:00 pm

OTHER TIME _____

OTHER HELP _____

Please return this form to: Judy Weidemann, 21 Nye Hill Rd. East Aurora, NY 14052 or JWeide7170@aol.com. Questions, call Judy at 655-3649.

A description of the jobs available can be found on the AAUW Website:

aauw.buffalo.edu. Feel free to indicate your preference. We are also looking for Table Donors, Refreshment Donations during the Sale, Tech Savvy Men and Women, and Strong Men and Women to help with heavy tasks. Indicate on this form if you can help in any of these ways.

Buffalo Branch May Study/Interest Groups

KNITTING GROUP

When: **Wednesday, May 13** 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 kkhoward@roadrunner.com



CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

When: **TUESDAY, MAY 26** at 5:30 pm.

(**Please note this change of date because the Book Sale begins on May 27th)

Where: **Bob Evans Restaurant Mtg.**

Room, 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst

Book: **Die in Plain Sight** by **Elizabeth Lowell**

Facilitator: **Kate Collins**

Contact: **Suzanne Grossman** 837-8769



SUNDAY BOOK CLUB

When: **Sunday, May 17** from 4 – 6 pm.

Where: **Sweetness 7 Cafe** on Parkside, across from the zoo. On-street parking available on Sundays

What: **Into Thick Air** by **Jim Malusa**

Contact: **Karen Huffman-Kelly** at 839-4754 or email 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. Contact information is listed below. Thank you.

DINNER BY THE BOOK

When: **Wednesday, May 20** at 5:30 pm.

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

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

Discussion Leader: **Leona Barback**

Reservations: **Fran Witnauer** 688-5708 or email Grandmafran44@yahoo.com



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.

FOR GENERAL QUESTIONS

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

AAUW BUFFALO BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING

When: **Saturday, May 16, 2015**

Where: **Buffalo Yacht Club**
1 Porter Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14201

11:30 - Registration

12:00 - Luncheon, Awards, Annual Meeting (including election of officers)

Menu: (each selection is \$20.00)

Rolls and Butter

Coffee, Tea, and Soft Drinks

Choice of:

- ◇ **Grilled Balsamic Chicken salad** – Mixed greens, Sliced apples, dried cherries, crumbled bleu cheese, candied nuts, balsamic vinaigrette Or
- ◇ **Vegetarian Quiche** – served over Mixed Greens

Dessert



**Please return the
Reservation Form
on the next page
by MAY 6th**

AAUW Buffalo Branch Annual Luncheon Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please indicate your meal selection:

____ Grilled Balsamic Chicken Salad Or ____ Vegetarian Quiche @ \$20.00

My check in the amount of \$ _____ payable to **AAUW Buffalo Branch** is enclosed

PLEASE MAIL THIS REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK BY MAY 6, 2015 TO:

Joan Eschner, 30 Meadowbrook Drive, Elma, NY 14059

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome our new members:

Mrs. Madeeha Almashhadany

Address: 864 Wehrle Dr., Williamsville, NY 14221

Phone: 986-1100

Work: 688-7622

Cell: 986-1100

E-mail: madeharehman@hotmail.com

Degrees:

University of Buffalo BS Nuclear Medicine Technology 2005

Canisius College BS Child Psychology 2000

Occupation: Nuclear medicine technologist

Interests: event arrangements, book sale, cultural interests, diversity, international relations, Sunday Book Club

Elizabeth Eisenhauer

Address: 354 Colvin Ave., Buffalo, NY 14216

Cell: 903-1523

E-mail: EAE11@yahoo.com

Degrees:

Buffalo State BA Anthropology 1998

University of Buffalo MA Geography 2003

Kacie Johnson

Address: 34 Woodward Dr., West Seneca, NY 14224

Phone: 677-4844

Cell: 341-2982

E-mail: kaciejohnson1@aol.com

Degrees:

Buffalo State College BA Business Administration 2015

Buffalo State College BA Economics and Finance 2015

Interests: desktop publishing, event arrangements, book sale committee

Nancy Langer

115 Woodbridge Ave.

Buffalo, NY 14214

Cell: 984-5146

Work: 836-5188

E-mail: nmlanger@aol.com

Degrees:

Niagara University BA History 1978

University of Buffalo JD 1991

Occupation: Education

Interests: marketing, scholarship, Tech Savvy

Dr. Jennifer Stoll

Address: 16 Kingston Circle, Lockport, NY 14094

Phone: 439-8939

Work: 433-6714

Cell: 913-8117

E-mail: jstoll@ywcaniagara.org

Degrees:

Emmanuel College Boston BA Developmental Psychology 1990

University of Buffalo MA Geography 2004

University of Buffalo PhD Geography 2012

Occupation: Research, development and grants @YWCA of Niagara

Interests: Scholarship management, grants, public policy, Tech Savvy, Sunday book club



Introducing Our 2015 Velma Cobb Scholarship Winners



Forty truly amazing young women from 30 Erie and Niagara County high schools submitted applications for this scholarship. Each had a grade point average of at least 95 or 3.5! It is heartening to know our future is in the hands of such high-achieving, hard-working, multitalented women who plan to study and work in a wide range of fields.

The committee and the Board of Directors made the bittersweet decision to award each of the \$2000 scholarships to **Colleen O'Connor** from Orchard Park High School and **Amanda Garry** from Alden Central High School. Even though young women from Erie County and Niagara County were eligible, both our winners this year are from Erie County and both have been chosen for the George Eastman Young Leaders Award.



Colleen O'Connor's participation in the Confucius Institute's Summer Study Program in China in July 2014 surely influenced her plans to major in Government with a focus on International Relations when she studies next year at Dartmouth College. Having Chinese as a minor and choosing suitable business courses will support her options of international business in China or diplomatic work between China and the United States. As a class officer each year in high school (President twice) her leadership and communication skills are obvious. She is President of Orchard Park Educational Outreach, a club whose objective is "to provide a helping hand in our local and global communities" and works on projects with VIVE La Casa, Journey's End Home Again, City Mission, Cornerstone Manor, and a school supply project collecting over two tons of school supplies to send to girls' schools in Afghanistan. In addition to being on the NYS Council on Leadership and Activities Board, and a 10-year SPCA Volunteer, she is an All-WNY Scholar Athlete. While in high school, Colleen was diagnosed with a life-threatening autoimmune disease. "I am the person I am today because of the battle I had no choice but to fight." Colleen's last reported GPA is 100.806!



Amanda Garry aspires to become a school counselor by studying Psychology at Niagara University. Through leadership and volunteer experiences, Amanda has developed the independence, task commitment, and creativity to motivate those around her to be their best. As President of Students Against Destructive Decisions, VP of the Peer Wellness Pillar, President of the School Band, Treasurer of Youth to Youth, Founder and President of ACHS Bible Study Group, and member of Honor Society and Key Club, Amanda learned the importance of staying organized and being well prepared. As a participant in the First Baptist Church of Marilla Puppet Team, Meals on Wheels Volunteer, and Scholar Athlete, she learned mastering time management. Her involvement in school, community, sports, and church also encouraged her to take a step back to be thankful for her blessings. Undaunted by family crisis, Amanda has found that surrounding herself with positive people and being involved in school is a good way to deal with hard times. Amanda's last reported GPA is 4.0!

Congratulations to these exceptional women, and to us.

Betty Krist
Velma Cobb Scholarship Chair

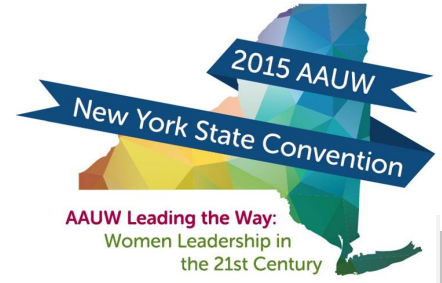
AAUW-NYS CONVENTION



Above: Marian Deutschman and Barbara Carier at the registration table



Center: Installation of State Officers . From the left is Laurie Ginnitti (Secretary/Bylaws), Peg Tiffany (Membership VP), Donna Seymour (Public Policy VP), and Ruth Fierro-King (NYS treasurer & Buffalo Branch member). Installing them is Erin Prangley, from the national office.



Right: Mary Crocker, Sue Oliver, and Marian Deutschman at the registration table



Above: Buffalo Branch President Betty Preble, NYS President Edwina Frances Martin, Esq., and Assistant Convention Director, our own Susan McClary.

A huge thanks to all the Buffalo Branch members who helped welcome our guests from across the state and made the AAUW-NYS Convention a success. Most of all to:

- ◆ Susan McClary, who was the local coordinator of everything
- ◆ Kate Collins, who (with her students) produced a fantastic video celebrating our 125 years as a branch
- ◆ Lillis McLean, who outdid herself with BEAUTIFUL centerpieces
- ◆ Barbara Carier, who managed the credentials numbers
- ◆ Sue Oliver, manager of the registration table and organizer of our branch LAF “baskets”
- ◆ Joan Eschner, photographer extraordinaire
- ◆ Betty Preble, online registrar

I hope everyone had a great time and will plan to attend more conventions in the future – next up is Saratoga!



Joan Eschner in period dress on Friday evening. Bustles!



Above: Lillis McLean’s Artful Arrangements...so lovely!



Above: Judy Huber, Sue Licata, Mary Crocker, Lynne Rappin, and Laurie Eikemeyer at the LAF Luncheon on Saturday



Right: Jan Vine and Ruth Auer

SISTER TO SISTER

The 18th **Sister to Sister Summit** took place on Sat. March 28 at Buffalo State College. The presenters were excellent, the speaker was good, the food was good, even if a bit late. The theme this year was to expand your horizons, be organized, and set goals.

One of the presenters, **Zandra Azairah**, is 14 and has her own cosmetics business. She started this when she was 9. Now she has a studio on Great Arrow Dr. I asked her if she had ever watched Sharktank on TV. Her mother said that she was "getting ready for that!"

Other topics included Financial Literacy, College Readiness, Decision Making, Leadership Skills, Interviewing Tips/ Importance of First Impressions, and Good Nutrition. I might have missed one or two but you can get the overall picture.

Girls 11 – 13 covered most of these topics but were in their own groups. Sometimes the way topics are discussed, it is better to separate the older from the younger girls.

Sister -to- Sister

a summit for
and about girls

We had a great day but the numbers were down. We only had 100 girls. It is time to rethink. The needs are there but we have to look at how and when we should address them.

I want to thank everyone who is involved with this wonderful project as they do this above and beyond everything else they do in their busy work lives.

Sue Oliver



Thank
You

*Thank you to all of those who volunteered
for any part of **Tech Savvy**
and to those who lent their support via
notes and email! You are all responsible
for making many girls (and adults)*

Tech Savvy!

Tamara Brown

"I'M A FEMINIST.
I'VE BEEN A FEMALE FOR
A LONG TIME NOW.
IT'D BE STUPID NOT
TO BE ON MY OWN SIDE."

MAYA ANGELOU

FOSTER / ADOPTIVE PARENTS NEEDED

Erie County Department of Social Services is currently recruiting potential foster and adoptive parents. They service youth from birth to 21 years of age. At this time they are in dire need of loving, supportive homes for all of their youth.

Would you be interested in hearing more about becoming foster and/or adoptive parents? If so, please contact Tracey McCafferty to discuss a possible presentation or forwarding of appropriate information.



Tracey McCafferty
Senior Caseworker
Erie County Department of Social Services
(716) 858-6080

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED WITH AAUW

How can you become more involved with AAUW? Check aauw.org/get-involved to find **12 ways to become more active with AAUW** – see a partial list below. The website begins by asking if you’re an activist. It reminds us of AAUW’s mission – advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Wikipedia defines advocacy as “a political process by an individual or group that aims to influence decisions within political, economic, and social systems and institutions.”

AAUW branches can work together in their communities for the greater good of women and girls. The organization is a network of nearly 1,000 branches across the US, including Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, and Puerto Rico.

In addition to [national opportunities](#) offered to all AAUW members,

branch members enjoy networking at the local level, serving in local and state leadership roles, sponsoring community action projects, and lobbying for AAUW priority issues. If you enjoy this level of activism, then engagement is the right choice for you! You can have a role in addressing the gender pay gap, sexual assault, lack of women in political positions, and a multitude of other issues that relate to women and girls. Take advantage of AAUW resources to do the right thing.

1 - [Take Action Online](#) - In just two minutes, you can urge your members of Congress to support the Paycheck Fairness Act or other legislative issues.

2 - [Share the Issues on Facebook](#) - Each time we push for change, we chip away at the barriers standing in the way of women and girls.

3 - [Make a Donation](#)

Make a difference in the lives of women and girls with a donation.

4 - [Get the Facts](#) - Read, discuss, and share the latest findings on community colleges and sexual harassment.

5 - [Host an Event](#) - Use one of AAUW’s step-by-step guides for events to tackle women’s issues.

6 - [Support AAUW](#) - There are many ways to give back. Find the one that works best for you.

Check the online AAUW Annual Report “The Story of 2014” to learn about the inspirational stories of women who made a difference.

Marian Deutschman,
Public Policy Chair



AAUW MAKES A DIFFERENCE

About forty years ago, a college student, with two young boys to raise, was struggling to finish the last few required courses to complete her BA and obtain NYS teacher certification. Money was tight; tuition and books were stretching the budget. And then she saw it...a very small notice in the Buffalo Evening News advertising a scholarship for non-traditional students. She applied for this AAUW scholarship, and the rest, as they say, is history.

That college student became my colleague and life-long friend, Susan Stapell. Susan’s career has included teaching at the high school and collegiate level as well as acting as an administrative assistant to the CEO of a locally owned international business. She is currently on the Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity – Buffalo.

Although Susan doesn’t recall the amount awarded to her or the specific title of the scholarship, she remains grateful to the AAUW-Buffalo Branch for making a difference in her life. (And she still wonders about the odds of her noticing that tiny little notice in the paper years ago.)

Lynne Rapin
Secretary/Parliamentarian



Upcoming Dates to Remember

Wednesday, May 6, 5:45

pm – Buffalo Branch Board Meeting at Ebenezer United Church of Christ in West Seneca



Saturday, May 16 – AAUW

Buffalo Annual Meeting, Buffalo Yacht Club

Tuesday, May 19, 5:30-7:00 pm – New and Prospective Member Reception (all are invited – bring friends!), Book sale site

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

June 18-21 - National AAUW Convention in San Diego

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

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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