# Advocate

BUFFALO (NY) BRANCH

## **April 2016**

http://aauw.buffalo.edu

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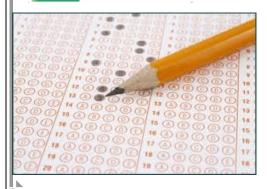
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PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAM

Sunday, April 24, 2016 at 1:30 PM Christ United Methodist Church 350 Saratoga Road (at Harlem Rd.)

Presenter **Anne Ryan** Is Executive Director of "Read to Succeed," a program to support and train teachers and students in the Buffalo public schools.







**Dr. Marian Deutschman**, Chair of the Public Policy committee for the AAUW Buffalo Branch poses the question for discussion:

"Who Should Be Held Responsible for Student Performance: Teachers, Students, Parents, or Government?"

laurie.eikemeyer@gmail.com.

Please be sure to put "AAUW Buffalo Advocate" in the subject line.

Something you'd like to see in the newsletter? Let us know! Send a message to Laurie Eikemeyer!



|                                                                                                                             | Public Policy Program Reservation Form |      |                              |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------|------------------------------|------|
| Name                                                                                                                        |                                        |      | Phone                        |      |
| Names of guests                                                                                                             |                                        |      |                              |      |
|                                                                                                                             |                                        |      |                              |      |
| Number of reservations                                                                                                      | (@\$2 each) To                         | otal | Checks to: "AAUW Buffalo Bra | nch" |
| Send reservations: Diane O'Brien, 81 Ponderosa Dr., Williamsville, NY 14221-2409<br>Questions? Marian Deutschman (634-2412) |                                        |      |                              |      |
|                                                                                                                             |                                        |      |                              |      |

## AAUW BUFFALO BRANCH ANNUAL LUNCHEON AT THE ROYCROFT INN

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2016

Please mail registration form on page 6 and checks by April 30, 2016 to Judy Weidemann 21 Nye Hill Road, East Aurora, NY 14052



## CAROL'S CORNER

esterday, I spotted a robin. Today, I noticed a crocus in bloom. Spring is here!!! Although we experienced a relatively mild winter in Western New York this year, we are enjoying the above normal temperatures these past few days. Many people experience a "Spring Fever" at this season.

Spring is often considered a time for new growth or renewal. Flowers begin to emerge from the ground, the grass becomes a glorious shade of green, and trees start to bud, giving growth to fragrant flowers and leaves. It is such a refreshing time of year. The longer hours of daylight and warm sunshine bring people outdoors after staying inside over the winter. We may see neighbors that we have not talked with since late autumn.

Spring can also be a time to get more involved in AAUW. If you have been in hibernation over the winter, spring is a good time to renew your participation in our organization. Our Buffalo

Branch is busy getting ready for our annual book sale and help is always needed. The AAUW NYS annual convention will be



held April 15th-17th in Saratoga Springs, New York. Our April program will be held on Sunday, April 24th featuring the topic "Who Should Be Held Responsible for Student Performance: Teachers, Students, or Government?" The Branch's Study/Interest Groups have several exciting meetings and activities planned. The annual awards luncheon will be held on May 7th.

I hope that your spring fever will result in greater involvement in our Buffalo Branch!

Carol Golyski,

#### 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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Co-Presidents: Carol Golyski and Cynthia Mehary

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, email: obnfam@roadrunner.com.

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

## CYNTHIA'S INSIGHTS



pril Fool's Day comes on April 1st. We can plan a joke to play on someone or someone could play a joke on us. But there is no fooling around when it comes to our pay checks.

Equal Pay Day is April 12, 2016. Equal Pay

Day was originated by the National Committee on Pay Equity (NCPE) in 1996 as a public awareness event to illustrate the gap between men's and women's wages. Because women earn less on average than men, they must work longer to earn the same amount of pay. The wage gap is even greater for most women of color. Women on the average earn 77 cents for every dollar men earn. For African American women, that figure is only 63 cents. Latinas earn even less – 53 cents for every dollar. Traditionally, Equal Pay Day falls on a Tuesday in April. The NCPE encourages women to wear red on this day, to symbolize how working women are "in the red" with their pay.

## Timeline — Did you know?

- 1930s Federal government required that female workers be paid 25 percent less than male workers.
- 1950s Equal Pay Bills were introduced but not passed.
- 1963 President John F. Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act.
- 1980s /90s A gradual rise in women's earnings and more female college graduates
- 2000s More women in substantial long term careers
- 2015 The closing in the wage gap has slowed. At the current rate, it will take another 124 years to close the gap.

## Efforts to speed up closing the gap in wages include:

Supporting flexible work schedules; encouraging women to pursue careers in engineering, science, math, and computing/technology; urging Congress to pass the stalled Paycheck Fairness Act; and, lastly, joining AAUW to promote the focus on achieving Pay Equity.

Cynthia Mehary, Co-President





We welcome all current and prospective members to attend any of our

study group activities.

## FOR GENERAL QUESTIONS

Marilyn Carmichael, mcarmichael45@aol.com Or call 228-8626

## BUFFALO BRANCH APRIL STUDY/INTEREST GROUPS

#### **KNITTING GROUP**

When: Wednesday, April 13th

from 2-4 pm

Weather permitting.

Where: Barnes and Noble Café on Transit Rd.

near Main St.

What: Bring your knitting and/or crocheting

project

Contact: Karen Howard at 480-3652 or

email kkhoward@roadrunner.com

#### **WNY CULINARY DELIGHTS**

When: Wednesday, April 13th at

6 pm

Where: MISS HOT Café,

3111 Sheridan Dr., Amherst

RSVP: Barbara Libby by phone 836-8303 or

email BPlibby1@verizon.net by

April 11th

#### **DINNER BY THE BOOK**

### \*Note new location through June, 2016

When: Wednesday, April 20th

starting at 5:30 pm
Where: Family Tree Restaurant,

4346 Bailey Ave., Amherst

\*Interior closed room reserved for the

book club

#### **BOOK SELECTION for 2016-2017 SEASON**

All members are asked to bring suggestions. RSVP: Fran Witnauer at 688-5708 or

email grandmafran44@yahoo.com

#### **BEAD WEAVING & JEWELRY MAKING**

When: Thursday, April 21st from

1-3 pm.

Where: Julia Boyer Reinstein Library,

Conference Room

1030 Losson Rd., Cheek-

towaga

What: Bring your current project to work on

RSVP: Barbara Weber at 725-7839

Or email blweber50@verizon.net

#### **CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB**

When: Wednesday, April 27th at

5:30 pm.

Where: Bob Evans Restaurant,

1925 Niagara Falls Blvd.

## **BOOK SELECTION for 2016-2017 SEASON**

All members are asked to bring suggestions Contact: Suzanne Grossman at 580-7453

#### **iADELANTE! BOOK CLUB**

AAUW'S diverse group of books that highlight women's issues. Join us whether you have read the book or not. We welcome all members and prospective members.



When: Tuesday, April 26th from 1-2:15 pm.

Where: Baptist Manor's Library Room, 276 Linwood Ave., Buffalo 14202. Parking available in the back of the lot

or on Linwood Ave. Ring for the Office to be let in at the entrance.

Book: A HOUSE IN THE SKY: A Memoir by

Amanda Lindhout and Sara Corbett.

Note: This book is chosen in honor of Sexual

Assault Awareness Month. A special

invited guest may be in attendance. Facilitator: Sylvia Volk at 881-1424 or

email volks@roadrunner.com

#### THE HAPPY WANDERERS

New AAUW Interest Group to explore WNY treasures, well-known and otherwise.



When: Friday, April 29th at 11 am
What: Tour the museum then enjoy a

sociable lunch at Chef's

Where: Buffalo Transportation Pierce Arrow

Museum, 263 Michigan Ave.,

Buffalo. 653-0087

Admission: \$10 then lunch

nearby at Chef's.

RSVP: Betty Preble at 662-0608 or email

betty.preble@gmail.com

### **SUNDAY BOOK CLUB**

The Sunday Book Club is taking a vacation and will be looking for a new leader for the group. Special thanks to Karen Huffman-Kelly for all the years of devotion and inspiration she offered the AAUW members who attended. If you would be interested In taking over the leadership of this wonderful book club, please contact Marilyn Carmichael. Thank you.





## PUBLIC POLICY

## THIS MAY BE THE YEAR FOR PASSAGE OF PAID FAMILY LEAVE

"This year, our state has a chance to take a historic step forward to restore fairness, opportunity and economic security to working families," said Governor Cuomo as he referred to the proposed policy of 12 weeks of paid family leave that would support working parents. This is intended to give a parent time off to bond with their new child or give others time off to care for a loved one who is seriously ill. The Governor sees this program as a benefit to businesses while correcting an injustice that especially hurts women and lowincome workers. Currently, about 60 percent of workers are guaranteed up to 12 weeks of unpaid family leave, but that can be a problem if you can't put food on your table.

The United States has fallen behind the rest of the developed world in supporting working families. The Governor wants New York to set the example with a robust program to support our workers, whom he credits as among the most productive in the world.

The proposal would cost employers nothing. The program would be paid for by a small deduction from employees — about 70 cents per paycheck in the first year of the program, and \$1.47 per paycheck when fully implemented in 2021. If an employer needs to hire temporary help or rely on overtime work while a worker is out, that employer would have the ability to do so because he or she wouldn't be paying the worker's salary. There would be no negative impact on a company's bottom line.

A survey of businesses in California five years after that state enacted a paid family leave policy found that the overwhelming majority of businesses — 92.8 percent — experienced a positive or neutral impact on employee turnover. Large and small businesses in New Jersey also experienced no effect on their profitability or performance once that state's paid family leave was implemented. And there have been no reported instances of workers abusing the program.

Paid family leave will help parents give babies a better, healthier start. Businesses will have to continue to adjust when serious illnesses occur. This program can change how those moments impact the financial well-being of



the people of this state.

There really is no solid argument against this proposal. It saves businesses money by reducing turnover and strengthening the workforce, and because it is employee-funded, it will cost the private sector nothing. It brings fairness and decency and reassurance to workers so they don't have to choose between caring for a child or sick relative and maintaining their basic financial security. Many cultures have rules for new mothers and babies. In the United States, the time for rest, bonding, and recovery often is determined not by tradition, or even by a doctor's recommendations, but by the new mother's employment situation.

I attended an event in Buffalo where I spoke to the audience about Paid Family Leave. One attendee shared her experience of suddenly losing her husband and faced with raising three children on a \$22,000 annual income. She couldn't afford to lose her job. She had to fight to get time off while she tried to address the many childcare and financial issues she faced, finally having to produce proof of depression from a psychologist!

Marian Deutschman, Public Policy Chair

AAUW Public Policy Committee

*Are you interested in public* policy or community action? I am hoping that we could schedule a meeting to discuss possible strategies and tactics for involvement on specific AAUW public policy issues. This effort is not restricted to new members. I would like to hear from others with an interest in more local action on many critical issues facing women. Please indicate your *interest in joining our effort* by calling me at 634-2412 or email:

deutscmt@buffalostate.edu.

## **BOOK SALE LOCATION FOUND!**

At press time the book sale committee has secured a site for the 2016 book sale. We will move into the former Carolina Furniture **Store in Northtown Plaza** (3155 Sheridan Drive, Amherst) beginning the week of April 4. Keep an eye out for e-mails, and watch the www.aauw.buffalo.edu for updat-

ed information. If you can help with cleaning, setting up tables, moving boxes of books, etc, the week of April 4 please contact Betty Preble - betty.preble@gmail.com. As of April 11 we will be sorting at the site, NOT at Kensington-Bailey. In the meantime please hold off taking books to the Kensington Ave. location.



Also, if you know someone who wants to donate, please advise them to wait until the move has taken place.

We are also still looking for someone to take the "left-overs" at the end of the sale. The sale is June 1-5 and we need to be completely

cleaned up by June 10. Contact Betty Preble if you have suggestions.

> Pat Swift-MacClennan, **Book Sale Committee**

## OUR MEMBERS MATTER

## **Our Vision is Simple**

We bring people together for the common goal of breaking through educational and economic barriers for women and girls.

### **Our Mission is Sound**

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## **Meghan Kloss**

9430 Brookside Drive, Clarence Center, NY 14032

Cell: 308-5495

E-mail: klossm@my.canisius.edu

Degrees:

- Daemen College BA Psychology 5/15
- Canisius College Masters Mental Health Counseling Fall 2017

Interests: Community Action, Cultural interests, Diversity, Educational Equity/Legal Advocacy Committee, Human/Civil Rights, Public Policy, Publicity committee, Scholarship Committees, Sister-to-Sister Summit

Interests: 'Clueless' Mystery Book Club, 'Dinner by the Book' Club, Sunday Book Club, Well/ Health, etc. group

#### **Julia Lindner**

920 Amherst St Apt. 8, Buffalo, NY 14216 Cell: 732-567-1202

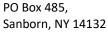
E-mail: Julialin@Buffalo.edu

Degrees:

- University of Buffalo BA Speech & Hearing Science 2013

- University of Buffalo Doctorate of Audiology 2017

Groups: Community action, Sisterto-sister Summit, 'Dinner by the Book club,' others: downtown lunch group, professional networking, cooking, foreign language



**Annie Mandart** 

Work phone: 845-7000 x345

Cell: 631-252-7086

E-mail: mandartannie@gmail.com

Degrees:

- Hobart & William Smith, Women's Studies \*Writing & Rhetoric 2014
- Pennsylvania State University MPA Public Administration 2017

Occupation: WNED/WBFO 140 Lower Ter-

race, Buffalo, NY 14202

Skills: copy editing\*, event arrangements, marketing/publicity/public relations, scholarship management, writing

Groups: community action, cultural interests, diversity, education equity/legal advocacy, human/civil rights, newsletter, public policy, Sister-to-Sister \* -I love this! Tech Savvy, Other: professional networking

### **Tatyiana Nelson**

74 David Ave Upper, Cheektowaga, NY 14225

Friend of Branch Cell: 563-8158

E-mail: tat.nelson02@gmail.com Occupation: Quality Enhancement Specialist GBUAHN Health

Home

Skills & Interests: Marketing/ publicity, Community outreach, Human/Civil Rights, Sister-to-



## **AAUW BUFFALO BRANCH ANNUAL LUNCHEON**

## The ROYCROFT Inn

40 South Grove St., East Aurora, NY Saturday, May 7, 2016

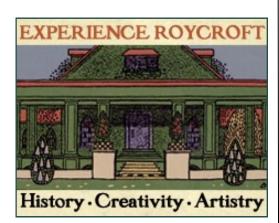
11:30 Registration 12:00 Luncheon, Awards, Annual Meeting

#### Menu

Seasonal Salad Inn Baked Breads

#### Entrees:

- ♦ Victory Garden Penne Peas, broccoli, greens, mushrooms, parmesan and olive oil
- Roasted Salmon Served with lemon herb beurre blanc
- Crepes "Fleur de Bois" Wild mushrooms, shallots, chicken and Fontina cheese with a light cream sauce



Dessert: Craftsman Strawberry Rhubarb Roulade

Freshly brewed coffee, decaffeinated coffee, and tea - served to guests seated at tables Beverage Station: - coffee, tea, iced tea, and assorted non alcoholic beverages

| My check in the amount ofenclosed. | payable to "AAUW Buffalo Branch" is |  |  |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Name                               |                                     |  |  |
| Address                            |                                     |  |  |
| PhoneEmail                         |                                     |  |  |
| Name(s) of Guest(s)                | _                                   |  |  |
| Victory Garden Penne @ \$25        | enclosed                            |  |  |
| Roasted Salmon @25                 | enclosed                            |  |  |
| Crepes "Fleur de Bois" @25         | enclosed                            |  |  |

## **SPECIAL EVENT**

THE ROYCROFT INN HAS OFFERED A COMPLIMENTARY TOUR OF THE ROYCROFT INN FOR 20 ATTENDEES. SOME HISTORY OF THE ROYCROFT MOVEMENT WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE TOUR.

SIGN BELOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THE TOUR STARTING AT 2:00 pm.

I would like to attend the Roycroft tour. Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this registration form and checks by April 30, 2016 to: Judy Weidemann, 21 Nye Hill Road, East Aurora, NY 14052

## Achievement Award Selection for 2016 Announced

The Achievement Award Committee is pleased to announce that **Dr. Teresa Gessner** has been selected to receive the AAUW Buffalo Branch Achievement Award for 2016.

Teresa was informed of this honor on February 27, 2016 and reports that she is truly humbled by this honor. Teresa was actively involved with the AAUW Buffalo Branch for many years, as a member of the founding committee of the AAUW Buffalo Branch celebration of International Women's Day and Public Policy Chair. Teresa will be honored at the AAUW Buffalo Branch luncheon to be held on May 7, 2016, at the Roycroft Inn, East Aurora, New York.

See next page for Dr. Gessner's biography.

## Dr. Teresa Gessner To Receive 2016 Achievement Award

Dr. Teresa Gessner was born on the eve of World War II near Lwów in a part of Poland that was ceded to the U.S.S.R. at the end of the war. When the Russians invaded this area of Poland, Dr. Gessner was taken with her family as a prisoner of war to Kazakhstan, escaping 2 years

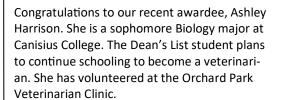
later to Tehran with the Polish Army. She went later to Beirut, and finally landed in England in 1949 as a refugee of war.

Upon learning English, Dr. Gessner graduated from high school and in 1956 from the University of London from which she received her Bachelors of Science in Chemistry (with honors.) She then pursued her Doctorate in Organic Chemistry also from the University of London. She received this in 1959 and immediately emigrated to America with her husband, Dr. Peter Gessner.

From 1959-1962 she worked as a researcher at BF Goodrich in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1962 she moved to Buffalo to take up a position as Research Associate and then Lecturer in the Department of Medical Chemistry at the School of Pharmacy at U.B.. From 1972-1995 Dr. Gessner worked as a Cancer Research Scientist and Lab Director at Roswell Park Memorial Cancer Institute. She is an author and co-author of over 100 teaching publications. She is also the mother of two daughters.

The AAUW Buffalo Branch
Achievement Award is given
annually to a woman in the
Western New York area who
has made outstanding contributions to her community and/
or her profession. This woman
is not required to be a member
of AAUW.

## CHAMBERLIN LOANS AND SCHOLARSHIPS



Applications for Chamberlin Loans and Scholarships are being accepted from students who are sophomores in college and beyond. This scholarship has aided Western New York stu-



dents since 1937. Forms can be downloaded at <a href="http://aauw.buffalo.edu/chamberlin.htm">http://aauw.buffalo.edu/chamberlin.htm</a>. They are due May 1st.

## CATALYST FOR CHANGE SCHOLARSHIP MEETING SCHEDULED

#### **REMINDER**

The Catalyst for Change Scholarship meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday**, **April 5**, **2016** at Carol Griffith's office at the Buffalo VA Hospital, 3495 Bailey Avenue – Veterans Service Center – First floor - **at 5:30 pm.** Please circle the date on your calendar and join us.





## UB STUDENT ORGANIZATION HOSTS ELECT HER, COLLECTS ITEMS FOR #HAPPYPERIOD



speech, craft messages, simulate a campaign, and more. Several local public officials attended. Assembly member Jane Corwin served as the keynote speaker. Overall, it was a fantastic and extremely empowering event for all.

Additionally, UB's AAUW Chapter is hosting a feminine hygiene product donation drive for the Buffalo City Mission, and will be accepting donations until Friday, April 15th. Donations can be dropped off in 17 Norton Hall on UB's North Campus between 9 am-5 pm.

Please email **Victoria Robbins** at <a href="mailto:vcrobbin@buffalo.edu">vcrobbin@buffalo.edu</a> if you have any questions.

The University at Buffalo hosted its second **Elect Her** on Saturday, February 27, a daylong program that encourages and trains college women to run for student government and future political office. The goal of the program was to address the need to expand the pipeline to women running for office and to diminish the longstanding political leadership gender gap.

UB is among 50 campuses across the nation chosen by the American Association of University Women to host Elect Her.

The program included workshops and exercises to help participants perfect their elevator or drop them off at 17 Norton
Hall on UB's North Campus.
The last day to contribute is
Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.

UB is among 50 campuses

across the nation

chosen by the American

Association of University

Women to host Elect Her.

# AAUW STUDENT ORGANIZATION SPONSORS EVENT AT DAEMEN COLLEGE

Wednesday, April 20 (Academic Festival event--time TBA, after the Academic Festival Calendar is finalized), Daemen College, 4380 Main Street, Amherst.

#### Acknowledgement of World Hijab Day

Have you ever wondered what it means to wear a hijab? Or what you'd look like covered? Or how to put one on? Explore the answers to these questions at Academic Festival with the members of the AAUW Student Organization.

Sponsored by Daemen's AAUW Student Organization.

For more information, contact:

Brianna Zichettella at (<u>brianna.zichettella@daemen.edu</u>) or Dr. Penny Messinger at (pmessing@daemen.edu)



# AAUW NYS LAF BASKETS/PURSES FUNDRAISER AT CONVENTION

Save the Date!
Join us at
Cazenovia!

Building Success with Smart Ideas

Focus on Programming and Leadership



Summer Leadership Conference July 22-24, 2016 Cazenovia College Cazenovia, NY

- ➤ 3 days of learning, planning and fun
- ► AAUW members from across the
- ► Beautiful upstate location
- ► All members of AAUW are invited

The AAUW NYS will once again hold a raffle and auction to support the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) at the state convention in April. Each Branch within New York State is being asked to donate a basket or purse. At our March Board Meeting we discussed filling a basket with regional items from our Buffalo Branch. Donations will be collected at the April 6<sup>th</sup> Board meeting which will be held in the Business Building at Daemen College at 6:15 pm. If you are not on the Board and would like to contribute an item, you may stop by either before or after the meeting. Also you may contact any officer or board member to make arrange-



ments to collect your donation. The LAF works to challenge sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.

## FROM TECH SAVVY

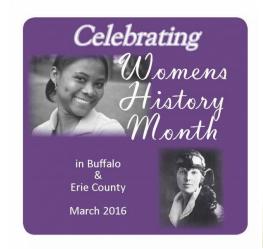


AAUW members and community volunteers gathered at the United Way on March 4th to prepare registration bags for the Tech Savvy event.

The event was held Saturday, March 19th from 8:30 am to 4:45 pm at SUNY Buffalo North Campus Student Union.

## ERIE COUNTY COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Women's History Month "Kickoff" on March 3, 2016 was attended by AAUW Buffalo Branch members Carol Griffith and Marian Deutschman. Carol distributed gazettes and bookmarks from the National Women's History Project (founders of the Women's History Month Celebration) and Marian distributed information about the AAUW Buffalo Branch activities such as activities of the organization, bookmarks for the upcoming book sale, and scholarship information. Contacts completed during the outreach table event totaled 28.



## **Upcoming Dates to Remember**

**Apr. 6 at 6:15pm - Board Meeting** at Daemen College

**Apr. 15-17 - AAUW New York State Convention** in Saratoga Springs





Apr. 24 - April Program: "Read to Succeed" at Christ United Methodist Church

May 7 - AAUW Buffalo Branch Annual Meeting/Awards Luncheon at the Roycroft Inn in East Aurora

Jun. 1-5 - Annual Book Sale in Northtown Plaza

Jul. 22-24 - Summer Leadership Conference at Cazenovia

\*\*Sister to Sister at Buff State has been rescheduled to October\*\*

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.

Return Service Requested

Mon-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Buffalo, NY Permit No. 1078

