

UPCOMING PROGRAMS



Dec. 12 - Holiday Program
at the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site

Jan. 16, 2016 - Muslim in America at Kabab and Curry,
Williamsville

Feb. 6, 2016 - Exercise and Nutrition = Health
at the Aquatic Center, Tonawanda

Apr. 15-17, 2016 - AAUW New York State Convention
In Saratoga Springs



Advocate

November 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.

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!

Questions About AAUW? Thursday, November 12th 7-8:30 pm



Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library
2580 Harlem Rd.
Cheektowaga

For newer members, inactive members, curious prospective members, significant others, friends... anyone!

Come ask questions about all those confusing acronyms, where the dues money goes, what our Public Policy positions are about the important issues of the day, who does what... or anything you are interested in finding out. Come to discuss or just listen. Past presidents Betty Preble and Barbara Carier will provide an overview and hopefully send you away with an even more enthusiastic attitude about our organization. Find out why we have so many members who have been with us for 30, 40, 50 and more years!!

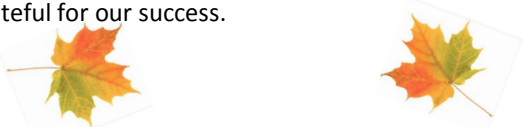
This is not a regular program, just a casual gathering. The Library doesn't allow refreshments so it will be short. Bring your questions, your pet peeves, your problems, and/or your curiosity. If you have a tablet or laptop, feel free to bring it along as the library has free wi-fi and we might want to look at the various websites (NOT REQUIRED!!!!)

Historians have documented that the first Thanksgiving took place in the autumn of 1621 as a feast with the Native Americans in celebration of a good harvest. When the Pilgrims landed in Plymouth Rock in December of 1620, they experienced a harsh winter and many perished. The Pilgrims would not have survived without the help of the Native Americans. It was most fitting that Pilgrims and Native Americans celebrated together their bountiful summer crops of the following year.



Many accounts tell that the celebration lasted three days. In subsequent years, several US presidents declared a national day of Thanksgiving and in 1941 Thanksgiving was sanctioned as a national holiday by the United States Congress. As a holiday, it means different celebrations to different people. Many think of a family dinner complete with turkey and stuffing followed by pumpkin pie for dessert. Others may think of huge parades, while others think of football games. Celebration of a national holiday is not unique to the United States. Many countries have a national holiday of giving thanks.

As an organization, our Buffalo Branch of AAUW has much for which to be thankful. We are part of an association that was founded in 1881 to advocate for equity for females. We have a strong national organization that shapes our policies and is tireless in promoting advocacy for women and girls. Our Buffalo Branch is celebrating its 125th year as a local organization. We have many hardworking members as evidenced by the success of our programs. The proceeds from the annual used book sale provide scholarships, loans, and grants to women and girls in our community. The Tech Savvy program has earned national recognition. May we as a branch continue to be grateful for our success.



Carol Golyski
Co-President

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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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 (fsc cheek@verizon.net)



THE STEM CAREER

Women are continuing to make even greater strides in every career. Since I first became a member of AAUW, I have been very impressed with and looked forward to the Tech Savvy Program held each March. Tech Savvy is supported by AAUW and PRAXAIR Corporation as well as the University at Buffalo and other local companies, WTS and Baxter. The objective is to encourage girls to pursue careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM.)



An October 5, 2015, *Buffalo News* article caught my eye. The caption read: "City Honors Grad Played Key Role in Determining Water Exists on Mars." The article went on to highlight Jennifer Hanley's achievements and her role as a scientist. In the interview she stated that she grew up in Buffalo, NY, and attended schools here. She credits Buffalo Public Schools with helping to prepare her for where she is today. She said that she was always encouraged to pursue science while participating in programs with Roswell Park. City Honors High School prides itself in mandatory requirements for accelerated and college coursework which results in young women who are fearless, confident, and supported when it comes to STEM studies and careers. City Honor girls are encouraged to enroll in higher level STEM courses and are not made to feel that these courses are for boys only. Everyone must take these courses.

Hanley has not been the only young woman to graduate from City Honors to pursue a career in science. One other female City Honors graduate she mentions who pursued a STEM career is Megan Smith, who now serves as US Chief Technology Officer of the Office of Science and Technology Policy with the US government. Ms. Hanley said that as you go up the ranks to post-doctoral and professional degrees, the percentage of women decreases. Then she continued with "There is a need to help women along with Paid Parental Leave" to help more women continue their STEM careers.

Ms. Hanley had been doing research at the Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, Colorado. when asked to join the team researching water on Mars. I do not know this young lady, but I applaud her and feel proud that she is one of Buffalo's STEM graduates from Western NY's schools. As AAUW co-president, I know for sure we are going in the right direction by encouraging girls in the areas of STEM and advocating for Paid Family Leave.

Cynthia Mehary
Co-President

WNY CULINARY DELIGHTS

When: Wednesday, November 11th at 6 pm
Where: Fiero Restaurant, 408 Evans St.,
 Williamsville. Menu and directions at
www.fierorestaurant.com

Dinner: New AAUW Study Group for members to share dinner and conversation

RSVP: Barbara Libby by phone 836-8303 or
 Email bplibby1@verizon.net by **November 9th**



KNITTING GROUP

When: Wednesday, November 11th from 2-4 pm
 (Second Wednesday of each month)

Where: Barnes and Noble Café on Transit Rd. near
 Main St.

What: Bring your knitting and/or crochet project

Contact: Karen Howard at 480-3652 or email
khoward@roadrunner.com



SUNDAY BOOK CLUB

**** NO MEETING in NOVEMBER & DECEMBER, 2015**



¡ADELANTE! BOOK CLUB

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



2015 - Native American Heritage Month

When: Tuesday, November 17th from 1-3 pm
Where: Baptist Manor's Library, 276 Linwood Ave., Buffalo 14202
 Parking available in the back of the lot or on Linwood Avenue

Book: *The Cherokee Rose* by Tiya Miles featuring a guest reviewer from the Native American Cultural Center. This book examines slaveholding by Southern Creeks and Cherokees and its legacy in the lives of three young women on a Georgia plantation. The story is based on historical sources.

Facilitators: Sylvia Volk 881-1424, volks@roadrunner.com
 and the guest reviewer from the Native American Cultural Center

DINNER BY THE BOOK

****Note change in location!**

When: Wednesday, November 18th starting at
 5:30 pm

Where: **Family Tree Restaurant, 4346 Bailey Ave., Amherst**
Interior closed room reserved for the book club

Book: *The Girls of Atomic City* by Denise Kiernan

Leaders: Margaret Fischer, Facilitator and Marilyn Carmichael,
 Discussion Leader

RSVP: Fran Witnauer at 688-5708 or grandmafran44@yahoo.com



BEAD WEAVING & JEWELRY MAKING

When: Thursday, November 19th from 1-3 pm
Where: Julia Boyer Reinstein Library, Conference
 Room, 1030 Losson Rd., Cheektowaga

What: Bring your current project to work on

RSVP: Barbara Weber at 725-7839
 Or email blweber50@verizon.net



CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

**** No meeting in November, 2015**



THE HAPPY WANDERERS

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

When: Thursday, November 19th at Noon
Where: AK Café inside the Albright-Knox Art Gallery
 Admission cost to the gallery is \$12 for adults and \$8 for seniors, with no charge for members.

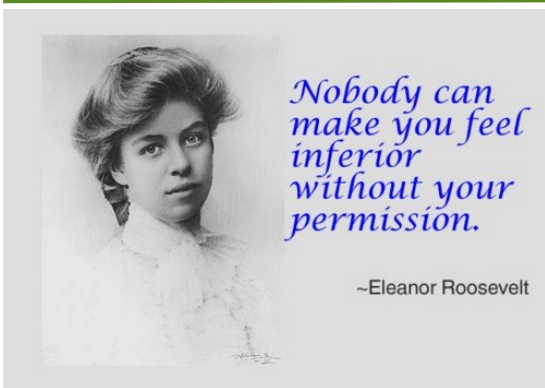
What: Featured Albright-Knox Art Exhibits including
 "Monet and the Impressionist Revolution, 1860-1910"

RSVP: By Nov. 17th please contact Betty Preble at 662-0608 or email betty.preble@gmail.com. Note - if there are 12 or more interested members we can request a private tour! Suggestions for future trips most welcome!

Parking: Parking is \$3 for members, \$5 for others.



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



FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER DONATIONS

Thank you to all who donated to the Family Justice Center. Your contributions will let those suffering from domestic violence know that others in the community care about them. We will have ongoing collections throughout the year. You can bring your donation to any branch board meeting or program.



Public Policy and You



For several years, I have been one of the presenters in the *University Express* programs that are coordinated by the Erie County Department of Senior Services. If you have not attended any of these classes I encourage you to go to at least one of a large number of sessions on diverse subjects presented by people with special expertise in their field. My area of expertise happens to be in communication so I've done programs on male/female communication, body language, communication for caregivers, voting rights & citizenship, suffragists, generational differences, and the latest one is on gender imbalance in politics, government, and business.

I always hope participants learn some new kernels of information from each of my sessions but I'm delighted to find that I may learn even more than they do. Preparing a presentation requires some research so that process uncovers new discoveries. And then the audience members provide insights and information that contribute to my knowledge base. I learned how to properly pronounce gerrymandering from a relative of Gerry. I met the man in the audience who brought Hospice into the area. I met the woman whose husband developed the E-Z Pass. A retired Congressman shared his story about male/female communication among celebrities. Several elderly African-American women provided personal experiences about the perils of voting. The helpful suggestions for caring for someone with Alzheimer's were both heart-warming and heart-breaking.



To bring this back to the subject of public policy and my latest presentation on gender imbalance I ask (and try to answer) the following questions:

Are the gender imbalances in power destructive to both men and women?

Is the political ambition gap between genders getting wider?

Women make up the majority of low-wage earners. Are women's rights and interests protected if men rule and women have a reduction in their voice and influence?

Why do women gravitate away from STEM programs?

What are the barriers to true equality?

Last month I asked if you would provide feedback on the AAUW public policy issues that have had any impact on you and persuaded you to take action. I received one response. Perhaps I will hear from others who would like to discuss the questions I've posed here for your consideration.

Marian Deutschman,
Public Policy Chair
deutschmt@buffalostate.edu

JACQUIE WALKER SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The Jacquie Walker/AAUW Book Sale \$5000 Scholarship for 2015 has been proudly presented to **Kaely Kwitek**. Kaely is a junior at the State University of New York at Buffalo, majoring in accounting. Her goal is to become a Certified Public Accountant.

At Orchard Park High School, Kaely, an active junior, met a bump in her ideal life—a diagnosis of Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphoma. She was determined not to let this stand in the way of her dreams and aspirations but would face this challenge head-on. She realized she lacked a mentor—another teen girl who had gone through this experience. Finally, while waiting for her second chemo treatment, she saw a girl named Emily sitting with her parents. She was half-way through her treatment and offered some advice to Kaely. This gave Kaely an idea that she could become someone else's Emily.

Kaely then founded a 501(c)(3) organization named **Kaely's Kindness Foundation** focused on providing emotional, social, educational, and peer support to teen girls with cancer. They have monthly events such as a Back to School Spa Day, yoga classes, pottery making, and healthy eating. They mentor newly diagnosed teens with practical advice. They share their stories and face their cancers together. Even their parents meet other parents and find support. They meet newly diagnosed teens in the hospital. And presently are assisting 36 girls.



Jacquie Walker and Kaely Kwitek



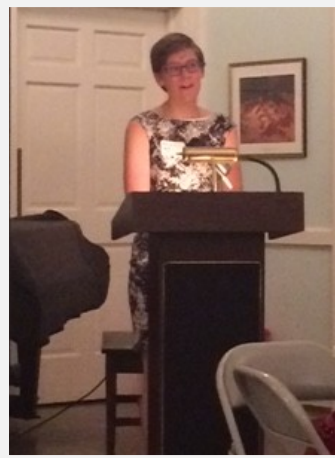
Community Service has become so important to Kaely that she is studying to become a CPA in order to more effectively work for her foundation to keep it viable. Her recommenders commented on her devotion to this work, and on her strength to lead, keep up her class work, and not seek sympathy or excuses for herself. At this point she has conquered her challenge and is determined to continue as a cheerleader, role model, and leader in her chosen path of service to those who have been given difficult challenges.



Introducing our 2015 Olga Lindberg Scholarship Award Winners:

\$10,000 award winner - ABIGAIL SPOHN of Getzville.

Outstanding academic record in mechanical engineering at the University of Dayton with wide interests from aerospace (NASA employment is a goal) to river ecology, outdoor activities, and fitness. Her skills in science extend to sustainability of the environment. Abigail is a leader in the Society of Women Engineers and was selected by faculty to head a leadership institute. She has served as a math tutor at her college, enjoys teaching STEM subjects, and has volunteered in community activities such as Habitat for Humanity.



Abigail is a "graduate" of our own Tech Savvy where she developed a "parent guide" to help their daughters prepare for education and a career in science. In short, Ms. Spohn's contributions to learning and leadership are exemplary.

\$5,000 award winner - ASHLEY WESELAK of Depew.

An MS graduate student with a sterling academic average in English education at Buffalo State University, Ashley's background in ESL, inquiry-based learning, and education in other countries has led her to study in Educational Culture: Policy and Society program at UB. She has experience substitute teaching at Lafayette High School, remedial freshman writing courses at Medaille College, and summer English language study in Italian schools.



Ashley's ultimate goal is to teach refugees in the US, especially in Buffalo and, to do this effectively, she has briefly studied abroad (England, Ireland) at institutions concerned with language acquisition. To successfully educate those of other cultures, Ashley is fully aware that a sensitivity to, and knowledge of, the refugees' backgrounds is necessary. She has become part of an NGO program in Rwanda where she is helping in a school of 60 homeless children. Ashley, through her study and experiences, has become an advocate not only for meaningful learning, but also for cultural understanding and peace relations among diverse populations.

We need books! If you have been thinking of weeding out your home library, this would be a great time to add some of those books to the sale's collection. At the moment donations are barely keeping up with the productivity of our many sorters. It is important to keep the pipeline flowing, so if you know people who intend to contribute, please tell them now is a good time to beat the crowd. You can help by distributing as many of our bookmarks as possible. They are available at the sorting site, 995 Kensington Ave. Sorters will be there every Tuesday and Wednesday morning from 9:30 to noon, including the week of Thanksgiving.

Pat Swift-MacClennan
Book Sale Committee

NEW MEMBERS

Please extend a warm welcome to our new members:

Mette Hata

62 Edge Park Ave., Buffalo, NY 14216
Phone: 834-8799 Cell: 560-0220
E-mail: mahata8@gmail.com

Degrees:
University of Lund, Sweden 1988 BA Liberal Arts
SUNY Buffalo 1993 BFA Print making
Pratt Institute 1996 MFA Painting
Occupation: certified art teacher
Interests: Sunday Book Club

Ashley Weselak

376 Penora St., Depew, NY 14043
Phone: 863-9200
E-mail: ashleyweselak@gmail.com

Degrees:
Buffalo State College 2013 Bachelor's English Education
Buffalo State College 2016 Master's English Education and ESL
Occupation: graduate assistant at Buffalo State
Interests: desktop publishing, marketing, book sale, community action, cultural interests, diversity, educational equity, human/civil rights, international relations, Sister-to-Sister, foreign languages



Tina Mogavero

62 Tremaine Ave., Kenmore, NY 14217
Phone: 875-8021 Work: 816-4360 Cell: 863-6452
E-mail: tmogavero55@aol.com

Degrees:
Buffalo State 1977 special education
Occupation: Special Ed Teacher, Riverside H.S.
Interests: book sale, community action, educational equity, Clueless Book Club, Dinner by the Book

Diane O'Brien
Membership Recruitment VP

SEPTEMBER "POT LUCK" DINNER PHOTOS



Jacquie Walker and the Walker scholarship winner Kaely Kwitek. ⬅



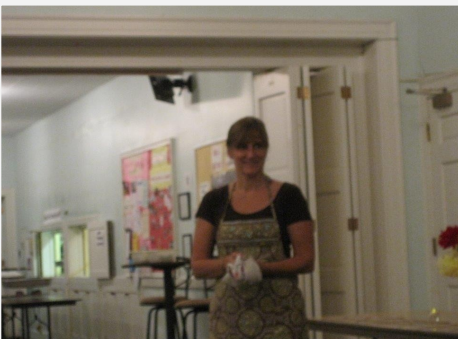
Above, Cynthia Mehary, Jacquie Walker and Janet Ostrow.

Mistress of Ceremonies for the evening, Co-President Cynthia Mehary ⬇



Jacquie Walker and husband, Mike Beato ⬆

Below: Members enjoying getting together after a long summer!



Thank you to our hostess Michele Sciolino ⬆



Branch members socializing before dinner



Hostess par excellence Michele helping serve a delicious dinner! ⬆



Marilyn Carmichael, Interest Group Chair ⬆



The "Jacquie Walker" team setting up.



Pauline Dyson, Olga Lindberg Scholarship Chair

AAUW FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

AAUW has a long and distinguished history of advancing educational and professional opportunities for women in the United States and across the globe.

Fellowship and grant recipients perform research in a wide range of disciplines and work to improve their schools and communities. Their intellect, dedication, imagination, and effort promise to forge new paths in scholarship, improve the quality of life for all, and tackle the educational and social barriers facing women worldwide.

American Fellowships

Who may apply: Women pursuing full-time study to complete dissertations, conducting postdoctoral research full time, or preparing research for publication for eight consecutive weeks.

Funding: \$6,000–\$30,000

Deadline: November 15

International Fellowships

Who may apply: Women pursuing full-time graduate or postdoctoral study in the United States who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Funding: \$18,000–\$30,000

Deadline: December 1

Career Development Grants

Who may apply: Women pursuing a certificate or degree to advance their careers, change careers, or reenter the workforce and whose bachelor's degree was received at least five years before the award period.

Funding: \$2,000–\$12,000

Deadline: December 15

Selected Professions Fellowships

Who may apply: Women pursuing full-time study in a master's or professional degree program in which women are underrepresented, including STEM, law, business, and medicine

Funding: \$5,000–\$18,000

Deadline: January 10

International Project Grants

Who may apply: Alumnae of AAUW's International Fellowships program who are living in their home countries and pursuing community-based projects to improve the social advancement and economic empowerment of women and girls

Funding: \$5,000–\$7,000

Deadline: January 15

For more information, visit <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/>

AAUW RESOURCES

AAUW STARTSMART

salary negotiation for students

AAUW is working hard to bridge the gender pay gap with the **STARTSMART** program, designed for college students about to enter the job market, and **WORKSMART** program, designed for working women. Both programs teach women salary negotiation skills through discussion, group activities, and role-play exercises lead by trained AAUW Salary Negotiation Facilitators.

According to an AAUW study, women one year out of college are earning 82 percent of what their male counterparts receive. The **STARTSMART** program is designed to train college women to:

- Negotiate their starting salary and narrow the gap early,
- Improve their lifelong earning potential,
- Articulate their value,
- Build confidence in their negotiation style,
- Sharpen their budgeting skills.

Similarly, the **WORKSMART** program is an interactive workshop that teaches working women to evaluate, negotiate, and articulate their worth confidently in the job market in an effort to reduce the gender wage gap.

The workshops are lead by trained AAUW facilitators. If you are interested in hosting a workshop or becoming an AAUW **STARTSMART** and **WORKSMART** facilitator, visit the AAUW website at:

<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/salary-negotiation-workshops/>

AAUW
WORKSMART
salary negotiation for women

"You can often change your circumstances by changing your attitude"

— Eleanor Roosevelt

AAUW ONLINE

FIND AAUW ON THE WEB:

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

New York State: <http://aauw-nys.org>

National: <http://aauw.org>

ON FACEBOOK:



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

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

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



ON TWITTER:



New York State: <https://twitter.com/AAUWNY>

National: <https://twitter.com/AAUW>

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Nov. 4 - Board Meeting at Daemen College at 6:15 pm

Nov. 12 - **All About AAUW** at Anna M. Reinstein Library at 7 pm

Dec. 12 - **Holiday Program** at Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site

Jan. 16, 2016 - **Muslim in America** at Kabab and Curry, Williamsville at noon

Feb. 6, 2016 - **Exercise and Nutrition = Health** at Aquatic Center, Tonawanda

Feb. 10, 2016 - **Celebration of Susan B. Anthony's Birthday** in Rochester

Apr. 15-17, 2016 - **AAUW New York State Convention** in Saratoga Springs

Jun. 1-5 - **Annual Book Sale**



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

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