

# Advocate

BUFFALO (NY) BRANCH

Vol. CXXVII, No. 8

April 2017

<http://aauw.buffalo.edu>



## You Are Cordially Invited to the AAUW Buffalo Branch Annual Meeting and Luncheon

**May 13, 2017**

**Protocol Restaurant  
6766 Transit Road  
Williamsville, New York 14221**

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Registration and Cash Bar at 11:30 am  
Luncheon 12:00 Noon  
Annual Meeting (See Slate of Officers on page 4)

#### Menu Choices:

- ◇ Roasted Vegetable Risotto — Dried Cherries, Sweet Peas, Mushrooms
- ◇ Chicken Marsala — Sautéed Boneless Chicken, Mushrooms, Marsala Wine Sauce
- ◇ Horseradish Crusted "Faroe Island Salmon"

Also included: Caesar Salad, Baby Red Potatoes, Rolls and Butter, Ice cream, Beverages

Cost: \$25 each

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.

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



### Annual Meeting and Luncheon Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Guests Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Menu Selections @ \$25 each                      Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Roasted Vegetable Risotto

\_\_\_ Chicken Marsala

\_\_\_ Faroe Island Salmon

Please make check payable to "AAUW Buffalo Branch" and mail to Judy Weidemann, 21 Nye Hill Road, East Aurora, New York 14052 by **May 6, 2017**.

## CAROL'S CORNER

by Carol Golyski, Co-President

"This isn't just a book sale; this is a community event!" I overheard one of our members say this last year during our annual used book sale. It is true – our annual book sale is truly a community event. The sale draws many bibliophiles into our site ranging from book dealers, book collectors, avid readers, and casual readers. Bargain hunters can purchase books along with DVDs, CDs, audio books, puzzles, and games at reasonable prices. One of the reasons I enjoy working at the book sale is that I see so many people that I know but may not see on a regular basis. Our book sale is a great time to get to know members of our Buffalo Branch. So often we do not have the time to have a conversation with members at a branch program or board meeting. It is also gratifying to know that proceeds from the sale are going towards scholarships and grants that help further the education of women and girls. As scholarships and grants are awarded to individuals at our Branch programs, I feel that each member contributes in some way. It gives me a sense of pride knowing that I was a very minuscule part of making these financial awards possible.



The annual book sale is also our Buffalo Branch's big event. This is our only fundraiser as a Branch and **every** member's help is necessary to make it a success. We are asking for a few hours of your time to donate books, buy books, tell your family and friends about our sale, help sort books, staff the sale, or assist in clean up. As a Branch, we are not asking members to pester their friends, neighbors, or relatives to purchase raffle tickets or lottery calendars. Nor do we ask members to assemble theme trays or baskets as a fundraiser. We do not ask our members to sell various items such as wrapping paper, greeting cards, candles, candy, discount coupon books, or any other promotions. We rely on the proceeds from the book sale to subsidize our Branch scholarships.

The 2017 annual used book sale will be held from May 31- June 4. We will be announcing our location very shortly. I ask **every** member to donate their time and talents to this year's sale. When contacted by one of our members to volunteer for the book sale, please respond in the affirmative and become involved in our community event!

## CYNTHIA'S INSIGHTS

By Cynthia Mehary, Co-President

The fourth month of the year brings us April Fools' Day, Earth Day, and the beginnings of the Spring season here in North America.

Earth Day has been celebrated each year since 1970 on April 22. It was **Rachel Carson**, a woman, who changed America and greatly influenced the environmental movement by her revolutionary book, *Silent Spring*. Published in 1962, *Silent Spring* was a landmark in the development of the modern environmental movement. Her perspective and rigor created a work of substantial depth and credibility that sparked widespread debate within the scientific community and the broader public about the effect of pesticides on the natural world. These discussions led to new policies that protect our air, our water, and, ultimately, our health and safety. Carson's book promoted a paradigm shift in how chemists practice their discipline and helped to establish a new role for chemists in investigating the impact of human



activity on the environment. The legacy of *Silent Spring* continues today in the chemistry community's increased focus on green chemistry practices and the public's heightened support for sustainability in all areas of our lives. Through her books, Carson wanted to make people aware of the aftermath of using these chemicals and cited the extent to which human beings had already ruined the environment.

Her second book, *The Sea Around Us*, won her a National Book Award in the Nonfiction category in 1952. This led to a documentary made by director and producer Irwin Allen, which was based on *The Sea Around Us*. It won an Oscar for Best Documentary in 1953.

Rachel Carson was posthumously honored with the Presidential Medal of Freedom by former President of the United States, Jimmy Carter.

*(Continued on page 5)*

### THE BUFFALO BRANCH ADVOCATE

is published monthly, September to June, as a bulletin of events for members and as an update on AAUW issues and programs.

April 2017, Vol. CXXVII,  
No. 8, Circulation 215

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# BUFFALO BRANCH APRIL STUDY/INTEREST GROUPS

## THE HAPPY WANDERERS

When: Thursday, April 6  
Where: Jell-O Gallery  
23 Main St., Leroy, NY  
Tour at 1:00 (\$5)/lunch at noon at the D & R Depot Diner, Leroy. If you are willing to drive, please let Suzanne Taeger know.  
RSVP: 835-8907 or email [suzannemlr3@gmail.com](mailto:suzannemlr3@gmail.com) by Apr. 4.



## DINNER BY THE BOOK

When: Wednesday, Apr. 19 at 5:30 pm  
Where: Family Tree Restaurant, 4346 Bailey Ave., Amherst. Interior closed room reserved for the book club.  
Book: We will choose our BOOK SELECTIONS for 2017-2018.  
RSVP: Fran Witnauer at 688-5708 or email [grandmafran44@yahoo.com](mailto:grandmafran44@yahoo.com).



## KNITTING GROUP

When: Wednesday, April 12 from 2-4 pm.  
Where: Barnes and Noble Café on Transit Rd. near Main St.  
What: Bring your knitting and/or crochet project.  
RSVP: Karen Howard at 480-3652 or email [kkhoward@roadrunner.com](mailto:kkhoward@roadrunner.com).



## BEAD WEAVING & JEWELRY MAKING

When: Thursday, April 20 from 1-3 pm.  
Where: Julia Boyer Reinstein Library Conference Room, 1030 Losson Rd., Cheektowaga.  
What: Bring your current project or come to learn a new hobby.  
RSVP: Barbara Weber at 668-5456 or cell 725-7839.



## WNY CULINARY DELIGHTS

When: Tues. April 18 at 6 pm  
Where: Pho Lantern  
837 Niagara St., Buffalo.  
What: AAUW Study Group for members to share dinner and conversation.  
RSVP: Barbara Libby at 836-8303 or [bplibby1@verizon.net](mailto:bplibby1@verizon.net) by Sat. Apr.15.



## CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

When: Wednesday, Apr. 26 at 5:30 pm.  
Where: Bob Evans Restaurant Mtg. Room, 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst.  
Book: We will choose our BOOK SELECTIONS for 2017-2018.  
RSVP: Suzanne Grossman at 580-7453.



## EQUAL PAY DAY: APRIL 4



Every year, we commemorate the symbolic day when women's earnings "catch up" to white men's earnings from the previous year on "Equal Pay Day." This year the national Equal Pay Day falls on April 4th. That means a woman has to work 3 additional months out of the year to earn what a white man earns. And women of color need to work even longer - African American Equal Pay Day is in August and Latina Equal Pay Day is in November.

Questions? Contact Judy Huber  
688-8170 or email [judyhuber62@yahoo.com](mailto:judyhuber62@yahoo.com)

## BOOK SALE CORNER

By Betty Preble,  
Book Sale Executive Committee

As I write this in mid-March we still do not have a site for the sale. Yes, it is getting to nail-biting time, but I have confidence that we'll be fine. In the meantime, we are still collecting and sorting Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at Calvary Episcopal Church in Williamsville. We are enjoying the company of new sorters this year and look forward to working with them during the sale.



## BOOK SALE RECEPTION CHANGE

by Diane O'Brien

There will be no reception at the book sale site this year. This event has taken away too much time from our sorters. However, if you would like to buy books before the sale, just work a shift setting up our tables of books at our new site (TBD).

See the sign-up information in the May newsletter for dates and times.

Work. Shop.



# PUBLIC POLICY

By Marian Deutschman  
Public Policy Chair

## FAKE NEWS

A news story reporting that Obama signed an executive order banning the pledge of allegiance in schools nationwide received 2,177,000 Facebook shares, comments, or reactions. Another story claiming that Pope Francis endorsed Donald Trump for president had 961,000 responses. Fake news headlines fool American adults about 75% of the time, according to a large-scale news survey conducted by Ipsos Public Affairs for BuzzFeed News. The survey also found that people who cite Facebook as a major source of news are more likely to view fake news headlines as accurate. "The 2016 election may mark the point in modern political history when information and disinformation became a dominant electoral currency," said Chris Jackson of Ipsos Public Affairs. "Public opinion, as reflected in this survey, showed that fake news was remembered by a significant portion of the electorate and those stories were seen as credible."

People don't know what to believe. We hear outrageous statements based on flimsy premises and insane extrapolation. The pledge of allegiance and the endorsement by Pope Francis are classic examples of fake news. Stories may be invented for

profit or propaganda. President Trump accused the media of fake news because they don't cite sources, but that doesn't make it fake news. These may be highly vetted stories with anonymous sources rather than made-up nonsense. Scientific polls are not fake news. Some polls are better than others, but they are not fake news. Fabricated content with 100 percent false stories defines fake news.



Wikipedia defines fake news as a type of hoax or deliberate spread of misinformation via the traditional news media or via social media, with the intent to mislead in order to gain financially or politically. It often employs eye-catching headlines or entirely fabricated news stories in order to increase readership and online sharing. Profit relies on advertising revenue generated regardless of the veracity of the published stories. Easy access to ad revenue, increased political polarization, and the ubiquity of social media, primarily the Face-

book newsfeed, have been implicated in the spread of fake news. According to Wikipedia, anonymously hosted websites lacking known publishers are also implicated, because they make it difficult to prosecute sources of fake news for libel or slander.

The Pew Research Center, a respected source, found that nearly 50 percent of self-described conservatives now rely on a single news source, Fox, for political information they trust. As for the liberals, they trust only that they should never watch Fox, and have MSNBC, CNN, and Media Matters to confirm their biases. But then there are the conspiracy-peddling Breitbart and other overtly fake-news outlets that don't even pretend that they use fact-based reporting. A team of reporters at Politico listened to every single word of Trump's speeches during the primary season and found that he offered a lie, half-truth, or outright exaggeration approximately once every five minutes for an entire week and it didn't hinder him in the least from winning the nomination or the election.

Does the fact that we have so many reporters from a wide array of outlets delivering news at a rapid pace 24/7 contribute to the problem? We may have achieved more transparency but has accountability come with it? We need to look for complete and well-balanced information and try to ignore the false and sensational information presented as fact.

## NOMINEES FOR AAUW BUFFALO BRANCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>President:</b>	Betty Preble	<b>Chamberlin/Funds for Education Treasurer:</b>	Kate Collins
<b>VP Programs:</b>	Lilyen Mascellino	<b>Nominating Committee Chair:</b>	Marguerite Collesano
<b>Co-VP Membership Retention:</b>	Jean Hubbard	<b>Nominating Committee</b>	Judy Hendee
<b>Co-VP Membership Retention:</b>	Berni Lewis		Marilynn Todd
<b>Branch Treasurer:</b>	Sue Licata		Lynne Tauriello



## CYNTHIA'S INSIGHTS *(continued from page 2)*

The idea for a national day to focus on the environment came to Earth Day founder Gaylord Nelson, a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, after he witnessed the ravages of the 1969 massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. The first Earth Day in 1970 enlisted support from Republicans and Democrats, rich and poor, city slickers and farmers, tycoons and labor leaders. By the end of that year, the first Earth Day had led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts.



As 1990 approached, a group of environmental leaders asked Denis Hayes, who was selected by Senator Gaylord Nelson to organize the first Earth Day, to organize another big campaign. This time, Earth Day went global, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries and lifting environmental issues onto the world stage. Earth Day 1990 gave a huge boost to recycling efforts worldwide and

helped pave the way for the 1992 United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. It also prompted President Bill Clinton to award Senator Nelson the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1995)—the highest honor given to civilians in the United States—for his role as Earth Day founder.

Today, the fight for a clean environment continues with increasing urgency, as the ravages of climate change become more manifest every day.

**The year 2020 will mark the 50th anniversary of the first Earth Day. In honor of this milestone, the Earth Day Network is launching an ambitious set of goals to shape the future of 21st century environmentalism.**

Once again, we see the importance of women like Rachel Carson in initiating, affecting, and bringing about positive change in our lives.

Register Online at  
<http://aauw-nys.org>

**American Association of  
University Women  
New York State  
2017 Convention**

**April 21 to 23, 2017  
At DoubleTree by Hilton  
Syracuse**

6301 State Route 298  
East Syracuse, New York 13057  
Phone: (315) 432 - 0200

(Late Registration Fee Applies)



### Fern Beavers

Fern recently completed **AAUW Start Smart/Work Smart Facilitator Training** and is currently serving as Catalyst for Change chair on the Buffalo Branch Board of Directors.



### Cherie St. Pierre

Please join us in congratulating Buffalo Branch member Cherie St. Pierre whose art submission, *Bamboo Forest - Kyoto Surroundings, Japan*, was selected as one of the winners of the **2017 AAUW Art Contest**. Cherie's winning entry will be featured in a collection of note cards that will be mailed to members in the spring.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING

BY Judy Weidemann



### Amherst Chamber Ensemble

Trinity Performing Arts Center, 711 Niagara Falls Blvd., just north of Longmeadow, Amherst, NY  
String Orchestra Concert  
Sunday, May 21, 3:00 pm  
AAUW member Phyllis Galie is a member of this string orchestra.

### Burchfield Penny Art Center

SUNY Buffalo State  
1300 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14220  
"Mabel Dodge Luhan & Company, American Moderns and the West" through May 26.

### Irish Classical Theatre

625 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14203  
853-1380  
"The Winslow Boy"  
through May 14  
Thursday 7:30 pm, Friday 7:30 pm,  
Saturday 3:00 pm and 7:30 pm, Sunday  
2:00 pm

### The Kavinoky Theatre

320 Porter Avenue, Buffalo, NY  
829-7668  
"The Father"  
April 28 - May 21  
Thursday, Friday, Saturday 7:30 pm  
Saturday 3:00 pm, Sunday 2:00 pm.

### Shea's Theatre

646 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14202  
847-1410  
"Cabaret" April 25 - 30  
Friday 8:00 pm, Saturday 2:00 and 8:00 pm, Sunday 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm

### MusicalFare Theatre

4380 Main Street, Amherst, NY 14226  
(on Daemen College Campus)  
"Million Dollar Quartet"  
April 19 - May 28  
Wednesday - Thursday 7:00 pm, Friday  
7:30, Saturday 3:30 and 7:30, Sunday  
2:00 pm

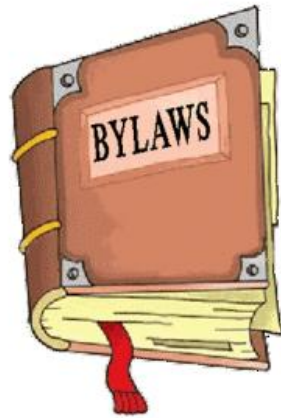
# NATIONAL BYLAWS CHANGE PROPOSALS

By Betty Preble

## *"It's My Voice - I Will Be Heard"*

The above title was the theme of the AAUW Action Fund effort during the 2014 election campaign to get the "millennials" to vote. However, it should also apply to us as members during the upcoming AAUW voting season. Soon you will be receiving information on the candidates for the national board, proposed bylaws changes, and our Public Policy platform. Please be aware of these proposals and prepare to cast your votes!

I urge all of you to go to the national website to review the board candidates, by-laws proposals, and Public Policy priority proposals. The URL is <http://www.aauw.org/resource/national-election/>. This leads to all our voting options and the comments on each proposal. I'm mentioning only a few bylaws proposals here. They fall into several categories, and I don't know at this point how they will be presented for votes. Here are some of the more controversial ones:



1. Membership qualification.
  - a. There is a proposal, endorsed by the national board, to add "advocate" to the list of membership categories. "Advocate" is not defined in any way in the proposal. The online comments are unanimously opposed, mostly due to the lack of definition.
  - b. There are several member-proposed amendments to define a new membership category. The suggestions range from completely opening full membership to all, to creating a separate category (similar to our own "friends"), to keeping the requirements as they are (Associate's or higher degree.)
2. Dues. There is a proposal, not endorsed by the national board, to create a "senior" dues category of \$19.20 for national dues (to commemorate women winning the right to vote.) Note – the board has had full control over the dues amount for seven years.
3. Voting rights. The proposals, endorsed by the national board, would effect two changes – the quorum for the national election would be reduced from 5% to 3% and the Public Policy priorities would be moved from membership vote to board-of-directors control. (Note that the current national Public Policy committee opposes this.) One of the comments suggested returning to the old system of voting by convention delegates only.

There are other proposals as well. These are important to the future of our organization. If you care, **VOTE!**

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



### **Abigail Reed**

126 Crestwood Ave.  
Buffalo, NY 14216  
Phone: (541)613-5190  
E-mail: [reeda0430@gmail.com](mailto:reeda0430@gmail.com)

Degrees:  
Rogue Community College AA Transfer/ Spanish 2016  
Southern Oregon University BS Biomedical Sciences 2016  
D'Youville College MS Physician Assistant 2019  
Interests: Cultural, Diversity, Educational Equity/Legal Advocacy, Human/Civil Rights, Public Policy, Scholarship Committees, Sister-to-Sister, Tech Savvy.  
Study/Interests: WNY Culinary Delights, Bead Weaving, Happy Wanderers, other.

### **Kristin Stapleton**

241 Depew Ave.  
Buffalo, NY 14214  
Phone: 837-0570  
E-mail: [sikunlun@yahoo.com](mailto:sikunlun@yahoo.com)  
Degrees:  
University of Michigan AB Asian Studies 1985  
Harvard Ph.D. History 1993  
Occupation: UB History Dept.  
Interests: Copy Editing, Book Sale Committee, Community Action, Cultural Interests, Diversity, Educational Equity/Legal Advocacy Study/ Interest groups: Dinner by the Book, Sunday Book Club, ¡Adelante! Book Club, Happy Wanderers.

**Dues Reminder:**  
Renewal Notices will be sent out in April. Please send your dues in promptly



# EVENT PHOTOS



**International Women's Day**  
**March 8, 2017**



Guest Speaker: Qiong Liu



**February Program at the Colored Musicians Club**  
**February 18, 2017**



# Upcoming Dates to Remember

**Apr. 5 at 6:15 pm - Board Meeting** at Daemen College

**April 21-23 - AAUW-NYS Convention** in Syracuse

**May 13 - Annual Meeting and Luncheon** at Protocol Restaurant

**May 31-June 4 - Annual Book Sale** - location TBA

**June 14 - 17 - AAUW National Convention** in Washington, DC

**July 21 - 23 AAUW-NYS Summer Conference** at Cazenovia College



**Women Making  
a Difference**

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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