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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!



AAUW BUFFALO BRANCH 63rd ANNUAL BOOK SALE



May 31 – June 4, 2017

Burlington Plaza,
1551 Niagara Falls Blvd.
Amherst

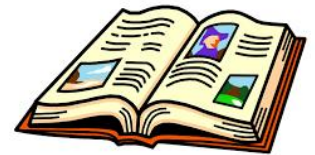
(Same location as two years ago)

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 BEFORE THE BOOK SALE!

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.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED DURING THE SALE!

Shift Days and Times:

May 31 - June 3: 8:45 am - 1:00 pm, 12:45 pm - 5:00 pm, 4:45 pm - 8:00 pm

June 4: 11:45 am - 3:00 pm and 2:45 pm - 6:00 pm

MORE INFORMATION AND VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION FORM ON PAGE 4

The book sale is fast approaching and at this time, we do not have a chair for the



Religion/Philosophy Category. This is a huge, very popular category and is comprised of 18 tables so it is not a job for the faint-hearted. People are willing to help but no one has yet stepped forward to say she would be chair. What about you? Are you up to the challenge? Please call Judy Huber ASAP. 688-8170.

AAUW BUFFALO BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON

Time is running out!

If you haven't registered for the Branch Annual Meeting and Luncheon on May 13th at Protocol Restaurant, please register by May 6th using the form in the April Advocate or contact:

Judy Weidemann at 655-3649 or email JWeide7170@aol.com

CAROL'S CORNER

by Carol Golyski, Co-President

National Women's Health Week (NWHW) begins each year on Mother's Day and this year the week will be celebrated May 14th - 20th. This week serves as a reminder for women to make health a priority by taking care of themselves. The goal is to encourage women to assess their current health status and to take steps to ensure healthy behaviors. So often in their busy lives, women often ignore or delay addressing their health needs as they are busy caring for family members.

There are many things that women can do to promote their own good health. Some suggested steps for better health include:

- Visiting your health care provider for a yearly well visit and preventive screening
- Keeping physically active
- Eating healthy food choices
- Maintaining good hydration
- Getting adequate sleep and relaxation
- Managing stress
- Paying attention to mental health changes
- Avoiding unhealthy behaviors such as smoking, excessive alcohol consumption, texting



while driving, not wearing a seat belt or bicycle helmet

There are three categorical ways that women can participate in NWHW. The first is online participation and these activities include logging on to women's health-orientated web sites to learn more about specific strategies for maintaining a healthy life style.

Reliable on-line sources include:

- The Office of Women's Health, US Department of Health and Human Services: www.womenshealth.org
- The World Health Organization: www.who.int/topics/topics/womens_health/en
- Women Health Organization: www.womenhealthorganization.org
- International Women's Health Coalition: www.iwhc.org
- Spreading the word about women's health through social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
- Send a podcast or Health-e-card to important women in your life. A good source

(Continued on page 6)

CYNTHIA'S INSIGHTS

By Cynthia Mehary, Co-President

WE NEVER KNOW WHAT IMPACT WE WILL HAVE ON OTHERS

The mission of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. The following story shows the impact that AAUW had on this person's career choice.

Telling Black Women's Untold Stories

"I am Negro and I am a female simultaneously —I cannot separate what I am."

Nationally renowned academic, Patricia Bell-Scott, Ph.D., has dedicated the majority of her professional life to advancing the women's studies field, concentrating in particular on women of color. She is a professor emerita at the University of Georgia, a co-founder of the National Women's Studies Association, and a co-editor of the first published comprehensive collection of black feminist scholarship, *All the Women Are*

White, All the Blacks Are Men, But Some of Us Are Brave: Black Women's Studies.



Decades before she built her impressive résumé, Bell-Scott was once unsure of her professional path. "I was at a crossroads in my career and was deciding whether to continue pursuing a career in academia," she said. **Then, in 1984, she was awarded an AAUW American Fellowship.** AAUW, a charter member of the Collaborative to Advance Equity, **has a history of supporting women scholars like Bell-Scott** who work to create space for the stories of marginalized groups in academia. **"Receiving the AAUW fellowship gave me the support I needed to continue ... and I have never looked back."**

When asked what had inspired her to begin a career in the field of black women's studies, Bell-Scott pointed to the charged social and political

(Continued on page 7)

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.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

BY Judy Weidemann

Albright-Knox Art Gallery

1285 Elmwood Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14222
882-8700

"Menagerie Animals on View"
Through June 4, 2017.

Amherst Chamber Ensemble Trinity Performing Arts Center

711 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst, NY
"String Orchestra Concert"
May 21, 2017 3:00 pm.

Burchfield Penny Art Center

SUNY
1300 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, NY
14220.

"Mabel Dodge Luhan & Company
American Modernism and the West"
Through May 26, 2017.

The Kavinoky Theatre

320 Porter Ave.,
Buffalo NY.
829-7668

"The Foreigner"
April 27 - May 20,
2017.

Thursday, Friday, Saturday 7:30 pm,
Saturday 3:00, Sunday 2:00 pm.



Shea's Theater

646 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14202.
847-1410
"Wicked"

Starting May 17, 2017

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 7:30
pm, Friday 8:00 pm, Saturday 2:00
pm, 8:00 pm, Sunday 2:00 pm, 7:00
pm.

MusicalFare Theatre

4380 Main St., Amherst, NY 14226
(On Daemen College Campus)

"Million Dollar Quartet"

Through May 28, 2017

Wednesday, Thursday 7:00 pm, Friday
7:30 pm, Saturday 3:30 pm, 7:30 pm,
Sunday 2:00 pm.

BUFFALO BRANCH MAY STUDY/INTEREST GROUPS

KNITTING GROUP

When: **Wednesday, May 10 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.



BEAD WEAVING & JEWELRY MAKING

When: **Thursday, May 18 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: **Wednesday, May 10 at 6 pm.**

Where: Lucy's Ethiopian Restaurant
915 Tonawanda, (corner of
Crowley) Buffalo 14207. Entrance on
Crowley St.

What: AAUW Study Group for members to
share dinner and conversation.

RSVP: Barbara Libby at 836-8303 or
bpilbby1@verizon.net.



THE HAPPY WANDERERS

When: **Thursday, May 11**

Where: Lunch at **noon at Emerson**

Commons, 70 W. Chippewa between
Franklin and Delaware Ave. is a
cafeteria-style restaurant operated by
the Buffalo Public School students
being trained in the culinary arts. It
features innovative and delicious food
at reasonable prices.



Babeville Tour at **2:00** - Babeville is
the former Asbury Methodist Church
on Delaware at Tupper which was
scheduled to be demolished. It was
saved through the efforts of Scott
Fischer and Ani DeFranco and turned
into a conference hall, art gallery, and
performance space.

RSVP: Barb Carier at 839-0933 or
bcarier@roadrunner.com.

DINNER BY THE BOOK

When: **Wednesday, May 17 at 5:30 pm.**

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

Book: *The Lake House* by Kate Morton
Facilitator: Leona Barback

Discussion Leader: Frances Witnauer

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



CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

When: **Wednesday, May 24 at 5:30 pm.**

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

Book: *The Tooth Tattoo* by Peter Lovesey.

Facilitator: TBA

RSVP: Suzanne Grossman at 580-7453.



We welcome all current and
prospective members
to attend any of our
study/interest group activities.

Questions? Contact Judy Huber 688-8170
or email judyhuber62@yahoo.com

AAUW NATIONAL ELECTIONS



Who will lead our organization? What will
our public policy platform be for the next two
years? It's **your** AAUW, so your voice counts.

[http://www.aauw.org/resource/national-
election/](http://www.aauw.org/resource/national-election/)

Book Sale Volunteer Registration Form

Use this form to sign up for shifts during the book sale from May 31 - June 4

Name _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

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

- | | | | |
|--------|---|---|--|
| May 31 | <input type="checkbox"/> 8:45 am - 1:00 pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 12:45 pm - 5:00 pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 4:45 PM - 8:00 pm |
| June 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 8:45 am - 1:00 pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 12:45 pm - 5:00 pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 4:45 PM - 8:00 pm |
| June 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 8:45 am - 1:00 pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 12:45 pm - 5:00 pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 4:45 PM - 8:00 pm |
| June 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 8:45 am - 1:00 pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 12:45 pm - 5:00 pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 4:45 PM - 8:00 pm |
| June 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 11:45 am - 3:00 pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 2:45 pm - 6:00 pm | |

OTHER TIME _____



Please return this form to: Judy Weidemann, 21 Nye Hill Rd., East Aurora, NY 14052 or JWeide7170@aol.com

JOB DESCRIPTIONS: A description of the jobs available can be found on the AAUW Buffalo Branch 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.

2017 VELMA COBB SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

BY BETTY KRIST

Barbara Carier, Marian Deutschman, Joan Eschner, Carol Griffith, Carol Golyski, Judy Huber, Betty Krist, Diane O'Brien, Betty Preble, and Lynne Rapin met on March 24 to review the applications of 56 candidates from 29 schools.

After several hours of deliberation, we selected by consensus, **Malika Kodial**, from Williamsville East High School, and **Erin O'Rourke**, from Orchard Park High to be this year's Velma Cobb Scholarship recipients.

Malika has a 97.4 average and is ranked 22/273 in her class. She has been accepted by RIT, UB, and Fredonia State. She plans a career in which she can express her creative side as well as her technical skills using technology. Among her more notable achievements was creating an awareness video for the International Day of the Girl, shown to her entire student body on October 11. Being of West Indian lineage and having spent early years in Appalachia, she experienced the challenges of a first generation American juggling two cultures and has coordinated the annual Unity in Diversity program for Williamsville East. She's a scholar athlete on the track team and has had her art featured in the Albright-Knox Curators' Exhibition and is on permanent display in the Williamsville Schools.



Malika Kodial

Erin has a 98.6 average and is ranked 9/356 in her class. She has been accepted by Carnegie Mellon, RIT, Pitt, and Stony Brook. She plans a career in computer science with an emphasis on human-computer interaction or data science, ideally for a company or nonprofit that makes knowledge accessible regardless of a student's family income. She is president of her class, co-captain of varsity cross-country, on the track team, and VP and board member of the NYS Council on Leadership and Student Activities. Her grandmother, a former nun and peace protester, is her role model who taught her to cook, sew, garden, exercise, make music and crafts, and also how to read, volunteer, pray, advocate, and if necessary, protest. She likes to quote Anna Belle Clement O'Brien, "A woman's place is in the House and in the Senate."



Erin O'Rourke

These are but two of the amazing stories of the lives of the many remarkable young women whose applications we reviewed. It is a joy to know that our futures are in their hands!

PUBLIC POLICY

BY MARIAN DEUTSCHMAN
PUBLIC POLICY CHAIR

WOMEN & POVERTY

According to the Women's Legal Defense and Education Fund, despite composing nearly half of the workforce, women account for 60 percent of the nation's lowest paid workers. More than one in eight women and more than one in three single-mother families are poor. There are 11.5 million single mothers in America. The nation's anti-poverty and safety net programs have repeatedly failed to recognize the reality of women's lives and provide sufficient provisions to help women and families escape poverty. While more women are in the workforce, the availability of affordable child care has lagged far behind. Many single moms cannot really afford to work or have to spend a large share of their meager income on childcare. Regardless of marital status, family caretaking responsibilities more often fall to women: when a child or relative is sick, women are more likely to sacrifice work and income to care for that person. For the many low-wage workers who lack paid sick leave, taking a child to the doctor may mean losing a half-day or full day's wages when finances are already stretched to the breaking point.

Working women necessarily take time off for pregnancy and birth. While women with paid sick leave may be able to use that to offset some of the cost of childbearing, women in low wage jobs must often give up income during pregnancy and immediately following a child's birth. Another issue may involve victims of domestic violence who are forced to leave jobs for safety and take time off work to seek appropriate medical care and legal assistance. Many abusive partners limit their victim's economic freedom, controlling checking accounts and garnishing paychecks.

Women are also more likely to suffer financial insecurity in their later years for many reasons. They earn less than men when working in the same position and also continue to work in job fields that pay less. Women do not spend as much time in the workforce as men do. Women live longer than men and need more resources to support a longer lifespan. Over half of all elder-

ly women would be poor without Social Security. Estimates show that the poverty rate for individuals age 65 and older would increase from 10 percent to nearly 50 percent without Social Security benefits. The Social Security system is one of the most successful anti-poverty programs in our nation's history. It provides benefits to children, disabled workers, surviving spouses, and retirees. Social Security provides benefits to women throughout life and in retirement.

AAUW believes that it is vital to women's economic security to provide for the long-term solvency of Social Security and to maintain its current guaranteed benefits. In addition, AAUW supports measures to increase women's ability to participate in

tion plans, and women are twice as likely to work on a part-time basis as men.

Many women manage to assemble retirement benefits from a number of sources, and even then are left to rely on the benefits of their spouse, other public assistance programs, or live in poverty. A potential reform is a caregiver credit, which would give Social Security credits to men and women who step away from paid work to provide family care. This would help alleviate the resulting shortfall in Social Security benefits.

This is an issue that cries for advocacy to influence decisions within political, economic, and social systems and institutions.



alternate forms of retirement programs. This includes counting the time women take off as part of FMLA (Family & Medical Leave Act) towards vesting, promoting the availability of 401(k) and other defined contribution plans for part-time workers, and encouraging more women to work in higher wage, non-traditional jobs. AAUW strongly supports initiatives that seek to close the persistent and sizable wage gaps between men and women, as well as minorities, to further reduce the inequity in retirement security.

Continuing pay inequity results in women having fewer savings, lower Social Security benefits, and lower (if any) pension benefits, leaving them on an unequal retirement footing. Women's retirement insecurity is in part because many women do not have private savings to rely on. Many women work in industries or occupations that do not offer 401(k) or other defined contribu-

DUES REMINDER

Renewal Notices have been sent out. Please send your dues in promptly.



NATIONAL WOMEN'S WEEK *(continued from page 2)*

for both podcasts and e-cards is the Center for Disease control:

www.cdc.gov/women/nwhw/index.htm

A second way to participate in NWHW is in the office or workplace. Group activities encourage participation and build camaradery. Suggested activities include:

- Organize a lunch time walk.
- Organize a healthy pot luck luncheon or salad bar lunch.
- Invite a local fitness expert or instructor to teach a class such as yoga, Zumba, step aerobics, or tai chi.
- Start a friendly competition with co-workers such as losing weight, tracking steps, or tracking water intake.

A third way to participate in NWHW is making health a priority during your free time. There are several ways to accomplish this:

- Join a fitness center or gym and make a commitment to work out regularly.
- Enroll in a fitness class.
- Play your favorite music and dance.
- Organize a neighborhood walk or walk with a friend.
- Try a new healthy recipe.
- Drink more water, replacing soda and sugary beverages.
- Spend some time relaxing by reading, playing a musical instrument, listening to soothing music, or working on a craft.



Each journey begins with one step. If every woman focused on one healthy activity per week, she would find a noticeable improvement in her overall well-being. If we don't take care of our bodies, who will?

Save the Date! Join us at Cazenovia!



AAUW-NYS Summer Leadership Conference

All members of AAUW are invited!

Register after May 1 at www.aauw-nys.org

July 21-23, 2017
Cazenovia College
Cazenovia, NY

- ▶ *Harnessing Women's Energy*
- ▶ *Building for Vitality*
- ▶ *Using Small but Mighty Ideas*

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Barbara Brooks

13357 Ward Road, Holland, NY 14080

Phone: 537-2202

E-mail: bbrooks13357@hotmail.com

DEGREES:

University of Southern Maine BS Primary Education 1970

Buffalo State College MS Student Personnel Administration 1992

Occupation: retired teacher

Committees of interest: Cultural interests, Human/Civil Rights, International Relations

Study/Interest Groups: Knitting, Happy Wanderers

Evelyn Quist

147 Edgewood Ave.

Tonawanda, NY 14223

Phone: (718)825-5590

E-mail: Evelynqu@buffalo.edu

DEGREES:

SUNY at Binghamton BS Biochemistry 2010.

SUNY at Buffalo MD Medicine 2019.

Skills: Desktop Publishing, Event Arrangements

Groups and Committees: Book Sale, Community Action, Cultural Interests, Diversity, Educational Equity, Human/Civil Rights, International Relations, Newsletter, Program, Public Policy, Publicity, Scholarship, Sister-to-Sister, Tech Savvy

Study/Interest Groups: Knitting, WNY Culinary, Happy Wanderers, Other – Dance group w/music from Ghana, West Africa



CATALYST FOR CHANGE SCHOLARSHIPS

BY CATALYST FOR CHANGE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE



Caroline Schnabel (Undergraduate) is currently a senior at Williamsville East High School. She will be attending the University at Buffalo Honors College with a major in chemical engineering. Her ultimate goal is to affect the global society with her engineering background. She is a member of the Amherst Youth Engaged in Service Group, has participated in many different volunteer activities, and has coached soccer clinics and camps for an under-six team. She is a very gifted performer and shares her talents and passions for music and piano with the next generation of female musicians. Caroline realizes the importance of achieving as a female in this career field. She is up for the challenge and, her math teacher confirms, she has the motivation and drive, describing her as an amazing student. Caroline is also a current member of the National Honor Society and encourages other students to improve their knowledge and grades. In her personal essay, she highlights the importance of increasing the numbers in this field for young women of this generation, as a movement today and in the future, and she wants to be a member of that generation.

Adriana Diane Ragland - (Graduate) is a student at the University at Buffalo pursuing a major in social work – she will be attending the University at Buffalo graduate MSW Social Work program in the fall. Her ultimate goal is to start a nonprofit organization that will provide the infrastructure for single mothers in WNY to help them establish independence, self-identity, and professional and career goals. Adriana has been an active participant of the Massachusetts Avenue Project (MAP) Growing Green Program from January 2008-August 2011 and interned from 2014 -2015. She has trained youth ages 14-20 in urban agriculture, food justice, and business and leadership skills. She also volunteers at Jericho Road Community Health Center. She has been nominated for the SW Department prestigious student award. She is characterized as persistent, compassionate, goal-directed, talented, and “creating positive changes in Buffalo.”

Meagan Carroll (non-Traditional Student) is a student at SUNY Buffalo and will be attending SUNY Buffalo in September. She is pursuing a major in social work, the MSW degree program, entering after 5 years of case manage-

ment and international work. As a participant in the advanced standing program this spring, she was introduced to the foundation of generalized social work practice. Her goal is to work in the public sector, focusing on policy issues of women’s equality, specifically focusing on prevention of violence against women and sexual assault, which has been one of her goals since 2006. She volunteers with the Crisis Service Hospital Advocate Program. Meagan is a prior member and president of SUNY Fredonia Women’s Student Union (WSU) and developed the annual Women’s History Month. Living

abroad as a Peace Corps volunteer in Uganda expanded her knowledge and understanding of global gender issues. Program development, implementation, and promoting equality has served as a template for others. Megan’s support letters both characterize her as confident, driven, a change agent, communicator, intelligent, and “a person who will make a difference in the world.”

Cynthia’s Insights *(continued from page 2)*

climate of the American South during the 1940s–1960s. She refers to herself as part of the “breakthrough generation” — the generation that sought to give voice to stories, mostly of the black experience, that were being silenced or polluted. “The 1960s was a period of great turmoil in the American South,” she said. “As one of the first African Americans to integrate the University of Tennessee, I never had an African American professor.... Many of us college students would protest and advocate for more African American teachers, for a women’s studies program, and the start of a program that focused on African American issues.”



At that time, very little research existed on black women’s experiences. What research did exist was full of biases and inaccuracies, often promoted negative stereotypes, and subjected black women who had been sexually assaulted to victim blaming. Bell-Scott’s career path evolved out of the need to fill the research gap and create a space in academia for the experiences and stories of black women.

Her latest publication, the award-winning biography *The Firebrand and the First Lady*, tells the story of the life of civil rights activist and lawyer Pauli Murray and her friendship with First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. This book characterizes their relationship as “a decades-long friendship . . . sustained primarily through correspondence and characterized by brutal honesty, mu-

tual admiration, and respect, revealing the generational and political differences each had to overcome in order to support each other’s growth as the transformative leaders for which they would be later known.”

Bell-Scott has indeed dedicated her life to giving a voice to black women’s experiences and creating a space, as she put it, to “expand research by and about us.”

AAUW was part of helping her to make the decision to follow “the road less traveled.”

On May 13, 2017, AAUW Buffalo Branch will host its Annual Meeting and Luncheon. At that time the Velma Cobb Scholarships will be awarded to two outstanding young women, Malika Kodial and Erin O’Rourke, both presently high school seniors preparing for graduation and looking forward to attending college in the Fall.

The Catalyst for Change Scholarships will also be awarded to three equally accomplished young women, Caroline Schnabel, a high school senior; Adriana Diane Ragland, a university student; and Meagan Carroll, a non-traditional student.

Who knows how these scholarships will impact the decisions these young women will make for their future career choices?

CONGRATULATIONS to these AAUW Buffalo Branch scholarship awardees!

Upcoming Dates to Remember

May 3 at 6:15 pm - Board Meeting at Daemen College

May 13 - Annual Meeting and Luncheon at Protocol Restaurant

May 31-June 4 - Annual Book Sale @ Burlington Plaza

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

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



Book Sale Location



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 Mary Crocker at 838-2796.

Return Service Requested

AAUW Buffalo Branch
PO Box 894
Buffalo, NY 14225-0894



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