Advocate

BUFFALO (NY) BRANCH

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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 email:

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!



JANUARY PROGRAM

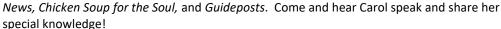
LIVING BLIND IN A SIGHTED WORLD

Guest Speaker Carol Fleischman Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at 6:15 pm

Bob Evans Restaurant Meeting Room 1925 Niagara Falls Blvd, Amherst, NY (Exit #3 off Rt. 290, going North)

Carol's humorous talk will describe how she has overcome her blindness with the help of her seeing eye dog, Tino. She will tell how she handles daily living activities. Today's technology has also become an important part of her life.

Carol is an author and has written a children's book, Nadine, My Funny and Trusty Guide Dog. Her many articles about being blind have appeared in the Buffalo





Indicate your attendance by selecting one or both of the following:

6:15 - Dinner off the menu

7:30 - Carol's presentation

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

FEBRUARY 15, 2018

Women in Politics: Challenges Women Face When Running for Public Office

Co-Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Buffalo Niagara (See information and registration on page 7.)



Mark your calendars for May 19, 2018, as our luncheon will be at Banchetti's, 550 N. French Rd, Amherst, NY 14228.

(11:30 arrival with 12:00 lunch.)





PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

BY BETTY PREBLE



As I write this, I do not know the fate of the proposed so-called "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act" – you will probably know when you

read this. But I do know what has happened regarding many other issues that are important to me.

I know that people who were brought here as young children and for whom the United States is the only home they know are now threatened with expulsion to the "home" countries that they don't know and, in many cases, that are dangerous.

I know that our natural resources are being threatened – fossil fuels are being promoted in place of renewable energy sources, national monuments (which never should have "belonged" to anyone other than the indigenous populations who lived there for centuries) are being chopped, oil drilling is being proposed for the wilderness of Alaska, etc.

I know that private and charter school education is being promoted rather than working on needed improvements for our public schools.

I know that somehow accusations of, and confessions to, sexual harassment only have consequences for some people, not everyone.

I know that somehow the NRA still has the "important people" thinking that military guns

are necessary for everyone and that thorough background checks are an invasion of privacy.

I know that financial regulations, set up to protect the citizens of this country, are being rolled back.

I know that bullying is increasing, led by those at the top.

I know that the USA is abdicating its role as the moral leader of the free world.

Etc., etc., etc., as a king once said.

So – what would I like to have happen? For someone (representatives, senators – anyone listening?) to realize what is happening to our country's soul. I cannot, in the name of AAUW, endorse a candidate for any political office.

But we can, and should, learn where candidates stand on issues that are important to us and do what we can to make sure that we're being heard. PLEASE read Marian Deutschman's article in this issue. Every article she's written has been full of wisdom and this one is no exception. Let's see if we can DO SOME-THING in this coming year to make sure the changes we want come to fruition.

Happy New Year!

THE BUFFALO BRANCH ADVOCATE

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President:

Betty Preble

Publisher/Editor:

Laurie Eikemeyer

Assistant Editors:

Judy Weidemann, Barbara Carier, Betty Preble

For prospective or new member questions, contact:

Membership Recruitment VP, Diane O'Brien at obnfam@roadrunner.com

Send address changes to:

Mary Crocker 375 Parkhurst Blvd. Buffalo, NY 14223 (mlcrock@msn.com)

Advocate is on the web! Available on our website at:

http://aauw.buffalo.edu*

Please note all personal information is removed from the online version.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

BY DIANE O'BRIEN, MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT

Alexandra "Andy" Smith 35 Glen Street

Springville, NY 14141

Home: 592-0469, Cell: 228-9540 Work: 492-9300 ext. 1307 E-mail: <u>aasmith12@yahoo.com</u>

Degrees:

Wittenberg University BA Spanish 1991

School for International Training MAT Spanish/ESL 1991 Occupation: Spanish Teacher, Yorkshire-Pioneer CSD

Skills: Desktop Publishing/Word Processing, Event Arrangements

Committees: Cultural Interests, Diversity, Educational Equity, Human/Civil Rights, International

Relations

Study/Interest Groups: WNY Culinary Delight, Happy Wanderers, Foreign Language – Spanish,

Dinner by the Book

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AT WORK



Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination that violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Very generally, sexual harassment describes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Title VII is a federal law that prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, and religion, and it applies to employers with 15 or more employees, including federal, state, and local governments. Even with Title VII's protections, many people across the country still face sexual harassment in their workplaces.

If you are experiencing harassment at work, you are likely overwhelmed and afraid. The important thing to remember is that you are not alone and that you do have options when coming forward.

AAUW has resources that will help you better identify sexual harassment, advocate for yourself and others, and determine your next steps. As you begin this journey it is important to remember to **DOCUMENT EVERYTHING**. Nothing is too small or trivial when it comes to calling out harassment in the workplace:

- Your experience with the harasser — time, location, details, and witnesses
- Your experience reporting the harassment — time, location, details, and witnesses
- Your productivity safeguarding and documenting your productivity at work can be essential during and after reporting.

Visit AAUW.org for more information: http://bit.ly/2gGz9LQ or search for sexual harassment on the site.

BUFFALO BRANCH JANUARY STUDY/INTEREST GROUPS

THE HAPPY WANDERERS

We will resume wandering soon. Mary Ellen Shaughnessy and Barb Carier welcome your suggestions.



DINNER BY THE BOOK

When: Wednesday, Jan. 17 at

5:30 pm

Where: Family Tree Restaurant,

4346 Bailey Ave., Amherst, Room reserved for the book club.

Book: The Underground Railroad by Colson

Whitehead

Facilitator: Judy Huber Discussion Leader: Sue Licata

RSVP: Fran Witnauer at 688-5708 or

grandmafran44@gmail.com

WNY CULINARY DELIGHTS

When: Wednesday Jan. 10 at 6 pm Where: *Taqueria Los Mayas*, 3525

Genesee St,. Cheektowaga

What: AAUW Interest Group for members to

share dinner and conversation.

RSVP: Barbara Libby at 836-8303 or

bplibby1@verizon.net by 6 pm Mon.,

Jan. 8.

KNITTING GROUP

When: Wednesday, Jan. 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



CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

When: Wednesday, Jan. 24 at

1 pm. (note the new time)

Where: Bob Evans Restaurant Mtg.

Room, 1925 Niagara Falls

Blvd., Amherst

Book: Murder in the Marais by Cara Black

Facilitator: Paula Salamone

RSVP: Suzanne Grossman at 580-7453

BEAD WEAVING & JEWELRY MAKING

No meetings in January, February and March.

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

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

BOOK SALE REPORT

BY JAYNE MURRAY AND JOAN KERNAN

Looking for a new home!

Welcome 2018! As we all pack away the mementos of the holidays, we are also resuming our sorting and packing of books in anticipation of our next great book sale in June. Perhaps you made a New Year's resolution to start a new volunteer opportunity or to meet new people. You need look no further. Our congenial volunteers meet at Calvary Episcopal Church from 9:30-noon on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and also the third Tuesday of each month from 6-8 pm at 20 Milton St. in Williamsville. No experience required!

We are also on the hunt in earnest for a rental

venue for the book sale itself. If you have been to a previous sale, you know that

we require a large space - minimum 16,000 square feet - to accommodate all of our tables, staff, boxes, recycling, equipment, etc., and also ample room to allow our customers to browse. If you know of an empty commercial building, check it out and let us know about it. You can e-mail Janet Ostrow

(<u>ikostrow@verizon.net</u>) or Beth Ann Frazer (<u>bangel255@yahoo.com</u>).

P.S. If you are making room on your shelves for books you received as gifts, we'll take your old ones!



PUBLIC POLICY: PROTEST! PROCLAIM! TAKE ACTION!

By Marian Deutschman, Public Policy Chair

The Public Relations committee recently reviewed the impressive list of legislative/public policy efforts and priorities of AAUW on the national level. (The list may be found on the national website at https://www.aauw.org/resource/principles-and-priorities/). Locally, we can't support a position in opposition to the national AAUW principles, but we can certainly support and take action on many issues.

Are there any issues where you as an AAUW member can see yourself taking action on issues such as public education, women's rights, or social justice? A protest is an expression on behalf of a cause by words or actions regarding particular events, policies, or situations. Pro-

tests can take many different forms, from individual statements to mass demonstrations. It may simply be a way of publicly making opinions heard.



In December 1773, the

Boston Tea Party protesters gathered in Boston Harbor to reject the shipment of tea from the East India Company. The colonists were speaking out against the Tea Act by storming the ships as they pulled into the harbor. They dumped some 46 tons of tea overboard to protest the colonists' lack of representation in the British Parliament. This helped spur a movement that would see the states gain their independence from England in just a few years' time.

More than 200,000 people descended on Washington, D.C., on Aug. 28, 1963, proving that protests don't need to be violent to be powerful. The groups' leaders led a march from the Washington Monument to the Lincoln Memorial. The masses stood peaceably for hours during appeals for equal rights for African Americans and all minorities. Powerful words from civil rights leaders, including Martin Luther King Jr.'s famed "I Have a Dream" speech, helped the march to go down in history as the most convincing event in the movement that led to the successful passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The 19th Amendment, which formally granted women the right to vote, had its beginnings as far back as the Revolutionary War. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and Lucretia Mott

spearheaded the strong push for equal voting rights in the mid-19th century. After the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848, women's right to vote became difficult to ignore, even though most of the pioneering suffragettes died before winning the right to vote.

In 1969, more than 500,000 people marched on Washington to protest U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. It remains the largest political rally in the nation's history. The protests successfully proved that the antiwar movement comprised more than just politicized youth. Despite their cries and a string of demonstrations, the war went on for six more years.

There were many other successful protest movements such as for gay rights, women's rights, and black power. Last July, current and retired teachers, parents, students, and their families con-

verged on Washington, DC to march in support of **public education**. Similar marches took place in 11 cities nationwide. Hundreds marched in opposition to the appointment of U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos.

Colin Kaepernick started **protesting** police brutality and the inequality faced by people of color in the United States. He did so by initially sitting for the national anthem and then altering his demonstration to take a knee. Kaepernick faced backlash. NFL players across the country continued peaceful demonstrations, kneeling or locking arms in defiance of President Trump's repeated calls on team owners and fans to crack down on athletes protesting during the national anthem.

As I write this, religious parties are holding nationwide protests against the move by President Trump to declare Jerusalem the capital of Israel. Not all protests lead to desired results. If we look at a situation, identify why it is a problem, brainstorm possibilities for change, and then make a proposal, we have a possibility for action. Let me know if there's an issue that can get you going.

NOTES FROM THE BOARD MEETING

BY LYNNE RAPIN, SECRETARY/ PARLIAMENTARIAN

December's Board meeting was held at Ebenezer UCC in West Seneca, the evening before winter roared into the Southtowns.

Our CFO, Barbara Libby indicated that professional audits of the Chamberlin, Funds for Education (FFE) and Education Accounts the Program Fund (EAP) account have been completed.

Vice-President for Programs, Lilyen Mascellino, discussed upcoming programs

Carol Griffith, Chair of the Scholarship Committee, reported that progress is being made on the new STEM Scholarship and that a fullyear report on scholarships will be submitted.

The Publicity Committee, now renamed Public Relations Committee, has been focused on positive "branding" of our branch.
Look for AAUW Buffalo Branch events to be included in various community online calendars.
Members are encouraged to LIKE the events on Facebook to help publicize the events.

The Nominating Committee will be meeting in January to develop a slate of candidates for a variety of Board positions which will be opening up in July. If you're interested in participating in AAUW Buffalo Branch in this capacity, please contact Marguerite Collesano.

Follow us on Twitter at

https://twitter.com

@AAUWBuffaloNY



Like us on Facebook at http://facebook.com/aauw.buffalo

WHAT'S HAPPENING

BY JUDY WEIDEMANN

Call each venue for performance or exhibition Irish Classical Theatre dates and starting times.

Albright-Knox Art Gallery

1285 Elmwood Avenue Buffalo, NY 14222 882-8700

"Out of Sight! Art of the Senses" Through January 28, 2018

This exhibit brings together contemporary works of art that actively engage with how our bodies meet the world through the five senses.

Burchfield Penney Art Center

SUNY 1300 Elmwood Avenue Buffalo, NY 14220 878-6011 CHARLES BURCHFIELD - THE OHIO YEARS 1893-1921 Through March 24, 2018

MILTON ROGOVIN: A TRIP TO CHILE: 50

YFARS AFTER

Through March 25, 2018

625 Main Street Buffalo, NY 14203 853-1380 "The Constant Wife" From January 19 - February 11, 2018 Here is a comedy of manners by W. Somerset Maugham.

Kavinoky Theatre

320 Porter Avenue Buffalo, NY 829-7668 "Mama Mia" January 5 - January 28, 2018 Over 60 million people around the world have fallen in love with the characters, the story, and the music of ABBA.

Shea's Theater

646 Main Street Buffalo, NY 14202 847-1410 "The Lion King" continues Through January 7, 2018

MusicalFare is dark until February.

Hot Off the Press

The listing of productions for Shaw Festival 18 at Niagara-On-the-Lake, Ontario has just been released. Call 1-800-511-SHAW (7429) for the catalog, or go to shawfest.com. The catalog contains much auxiliary information about the Festival. There are good discounts if you order tickets before January 31, 2018.



2018 ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Each year, the AAUW Buffalo Branch honors a woman who has had outstanding achievements, be it in community service or her professional field, with our Achievement Award. The past awardees are listed on page 7 of your roster.

Would you be interested in helping with the selection of this outstanding woman? We are currently establishing this year's selection committee.

If you are interested (or if you have a suggested candidate for the award), please contact Betty Preble at 662-0608 or email betty.preble@gmail.com.



AAUW NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION 2018



One Year After The Women's March **Moving Onward: Empowering Women**

AAUW & Non-AAUW Members Welcome

More information on speakers & workshops was published in Winter FOCUS: http://www.aauw-nys.org/attached files/focus/2017-Winter-FOCUS.pdf

For more information go to AAUW NYS website at http://www.aauw-nys.org/

Tech Savvy 13: Saturday, March 17, 2018 \triangleright

I AM a Tech Savvy Girl....

Ingenious, Innovative, Insightful



Thirteen years... And this time, thirteen is lucky!

We will welcome about 500 girls in $6^{th} - 9^{th}$ grade for the middle school program and approximately 100 10^{th} - 12^{th} graders in the **Tech Savvy Girls on a Roll** program. We are also expecting up to 200 parents and teachers, all in the name of encouraging STEM for girls with a fun theme that is all about them!

The conference is designed to inspire middle school girls to pursue STEM careers (science, technology, engineering, and math)—and to provide the adults in their lives with relevant information. *Tech Savvy* features 20+ workshops for the girls, plus four savvy skills workshops, introducing critical life success skills such as advocacy, negotiating, interview preparation, and ethical decision making. Since *Tech Savvy* is not just for students, adults will enjoy fun and enlightening sessions that include the best of ways to help girls in their lives.

So... join the crew! We need YOUR help in the following areas. Call Tamara to help in one of these tasks:

- * College student relations
- * Bus support
- * Reception planning
- * Food Planning
- * Adult session planning
- Summer planning



Upcoming Planning Dates for Tech Savvy 13

Planning Teleconference: Thursday, January 11, at 7 pm

Dial 716-566-5719 Meeting ID: "SAVVY" or 72889

Planning Teleconference: Saturday, February 3 at 9:30 am

Dial 716-566-5719 Meeting ID: "SAVVY" or 72889

- Tote Bag Stuffing, Name Tag Assembly, and Bag Stuffing (We need about 20 people to help!)

 March date TBD United Way on Delaware Ave. Let us know if you would like to be placed on the list of volunteers. (Dress comfortably; pizza served.)
 - Friday, March 16 Reception
- Saturday, March 17: Tech Savvy at UB's North Campus (Meet at Student Union... Ample parking in Furnas Lot.)

Sign up to volunteer or participate: Email aauwtswny@cs.com by February 15 (or mail the form below.)

Tech Savvy 13 Participation – Registration Form	
Questions about Tech Savvy? Call Tamara Brown at	t 716-949-2413 • Conference Information website: www.originaltechsavvy.org
Name	
Phone	Email Address
Helping with Bag Stuffing at United Way on De	elaware
Planning to attend Tech Savvy Reception at 5:3	30 pm on Friday, March 16, (Location: TBD)— No cost to attend
Planning to Volunteer at Tech Savvy (Saturday	, March 17) – Shift times will be confirmed.
☐ Morning shift (7am – 1pm)	☐ Afternoon shift (noon – 5pm)
☐ All day (7am – 5 pm)	☐ Available other times:
For those <u>NOT</u> <u>volunteering</u> on Saturday, March 17	? :
	morning refreshments, lunch, tote bag and materials - Please include \$5 payable to ary, you may also register online by Feb 15 at the website above.
	email this information to aauwtswny@cs.com , or send this form to: (Attn: Tech Savvy Volunteer) P.O. Box 894. Cheektowaga, NY 14225

WHAT IS THE **AAUW** FUND?

BY CYNTHIA MEHARY, AAUW FUNDS CHAIR



The AAUW Fund is a **GENERAL FUND** for unrestricted gifts, which are used when and where they are most needed. This prevents overfunded and underfunded areas that keep AAUW from reaching its full mission potential. Our mission is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, **PHILANTHROPY**, and research.

By donating to the AAUW Fund, you are helping highly successful, community-based, mission-driven programs to grow and be successful. The following are only a few of the AAUW Programs, funded: The Tech Trek, Tech Savvy, Start Smart and Work Smart, Elect Her, the Legal Advocacy Fund, The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, and the AAUW National Convention.

All of these programs are designed to get results in a specific area for women and girls.

Many of you may ask what these programs are and what they do and how much funding they receive. These questions will be addressed in future articles about AAUW Funding. Stay Tuned!

Visit <u>www.aauw.org/contribute</u> to make a contribution.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

AAUW Buffalo Branch Presents

Women in Politics:

Challenges Women Face When Running for Public Office

Co-Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Buffalo Niagara

Wednesday, February 15, 2018

Classics V Banquet and Conference Center 2425 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst, NY 14228

Registration: 5:30 pm - Dinner: 6:00 pm

Panelists:

April Baskin – 2017 unopposed candidate for Erie County Legislature, Founder of The College Stimulation Experience

Diana Cihak (Moderator) - Founder & Board President of WEPac/Electing Women into Office

Lynne Dixon – current Erie County Legislator for 6 years, 22 years as journalist

Vanessa Glushefski – 2017 candidate for Erie County Comptroller

Lynn Marinelli – 17 years in Erie County Legislature, currently Director of Intergovernmental Relations, WNY Regional Office of Empire State Development

Crystal Peoples Stokes – New York State Assembly Member since 2003

RSVP by February 7, 2018

Registration Form	
Name:	
Phone:	
Choose One Entrée:	
Chicken Francaise: Battered breast with egg & lemon served with lemon sauce	
Garlic Crusted Tilapia: Topped with garlic & romano seasoned bread crumbs	
Maple Glazed Pork Loin: coated with a pecan maple glaze	
Dinner includes choice of entrée, potato, vegetable, salad, bread, coffee, tea, punch, and ice cream.	
Allergy Alert:	
Mail the completed form along with a check made out to "AAUW Buffalo Branch" in the	

of \$25 to Lilyen Mascellino, 20 Forest Creek Court, Grand Island, NY 14072.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Jan. 3 at 6:15 pm - Board Meeting at Daemen College, Amherst

Jan. 23 - January program at 6:15 pm, "Living Blind in a Sighted World"

Feb. 1 at 6:15 pm - Board Meeting at Ebenezer United Church of Christ, West Seneca



Feb. 15 - February program, "Women in Politics: Challenges Women Face When Running for Public Office"

May 19 - Annual Meeting and Luncheon at Banchetti's



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.

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