



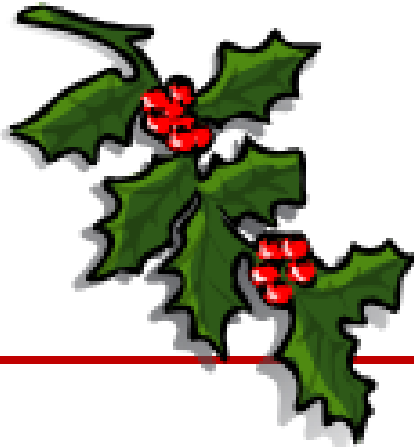
ADVOCATE

December 2019

NYS District 1

<http://aauw.buffalo.edu>

Vol. CXXVIII No. 4



Highlights Of This Issue

December Program	1
Barnes & Noble Fundraiser	1
President's Message	2
New Members	2
Interest Groups	3
Book Sale Report	3
Spotlight On Members	4
Alzheimer's Volunteers Needed	4
January Program	5
November Program Review	5
Scholarship News	6
What's Happening	6
Public Policy	7
Dates to Remember	8

A Peek at the Past:

How Ethnic Diversity Influenced Christmas Traditions in Buffalo

Tuesday, December 17, 2019

Where: Audubon Library

350 John James Audubon Parkway,
Amherst 14228

Time: Registration - 6:45

Program - 7:00 - 8:00

Presenter: Tina Marie Kumiega from "Explore Buffalo"

We will explore how Buffalonians brought their unique ethnic and religious traditions to help define a Buffalo Christmas!

Light Refreshments will be provided.

You are welcome to bring your favorite ethnic holiday cookies to share!

This is a free event but registration is required due to limited space.

Call Diane O'Brien at 689-9442 to register! Leave your name, the names of additional guests, and your phone number by 12/11/19.

JANUARY ADVOCATE

The deadline for each issue of the Advocate is the 10th of the previous month. Submit articles via email to Suzanne Taeger (suzannemlr3@gmail.com) and Betty Preble (betty.preble@gmail.com) by DECEMBER 10. Please be sure to put "AAUW Buffalo Advocate" in the subject line.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Barnes and Noble Books—AAUW Fundraiser

December 7, 10 am-10 pm

Two to four hour shifts for wrapping gifts are required. All donations by store customers will be donations to our branch. Please consider donating bows or ribbon if you cannot take a shift.

Contact: Lilyen Mascellino at 912-4523 or lilyenm@gmail.com

**AAUW BUFFALO BRANCH
ELECTED
BOARD MEMBERS 2019-20**

PRESIDENT

Laurie Eikemeyer

VP PROGRAM

Lilyen Mascellino

VP MEMBERSHIP

RECRUITMENT

Melissa White

VP MEMBERSHIP RETENTION

Jean Hubbard

SECRETARY/PARLIMENTARIAN

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EDUCATION TREASURER**

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SCHOLARSHIP DIRECTOR

Betty Krist

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Marilyn Carmichael

Maryann Hope

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Laurie Eikemeyer

Where has the year gone? We will soon celebrate the holidays according to our beliefs, spend time with our friends and family, and enjoy the spirit of the season. We will welcome in the new year with much fanfare or at home in our pajamas. Either way, I wish you all happy holidays and a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year.

As we begin the new year, we look to the future: what will 2020 hold for us? It is an important year. We will celebrate two centennials: The formation of AAUW New York State and the ratification of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote.

More importantly, what will the year mean for you? How will you further the mission of AAUW? Will you volunteer at Tech Savvy or our fabulous annual book sale? Will you donate to support AAUW's mission to achieve pay equity for women? Will you consider serving on the AAUW Buffalo Branch board?

As a grassroots organization dependent on volunteers, our members are our everything! We do great things! We inspire hundreds of middle and high school girls at Tech Savvy each year to pursue STEM careers. We spend the year working on our book sale to provide thousands of dollars annually to deserving students in the form of scholarships and loans, supporting education for women. We provide financial support for AAUW programs. We build women leaders through NCCWSL and participation in our board. And we support public policy that protects women and families.

Thank you to all of our members who have dedicated their time and labor to the AAUW mission and programs. I look forward to working with you in the New Year!

W

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Trinity College



DECEMBER INTEREST GROUPS

THE HAPPY WANDERERS

When: Thurs. Dec. 5th at 10:00 am

Where: Explore and More Children's Museum,
130 Main St. Buffalo.

What: We will visit the new children's museum and have lunch in their café during the day. Please note the rules: *Unaccompanied adults must present identification and must visibly wear provided tag at all times.* Please feel free to bring a child (borrowed if desired) to join us but he/she is your responsibility!

RSVP: by Dec 3rd to **Betty Preble** at 662-0608 or betty.preble@gmail.com.

(Carpools will be set up depending on response.)

WNY CULINARY ARTS

When: Thurs. Dec. 11th at 6:30 pm

Where: GiGi's at 981 Kenmore Ave., Kenmore

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

RSVP: by Dec. 7th to **Barbara Libby** at 836-8303 or bplibby1@verizon.net

DINNER BY THE BOOK

When: Wed. Dec. 18th at 5:30 pm

Where: Family Tree Restaurant, 4346 Bailey Ave.

Book: **Where the Crawdads Sing** by Delia Owens
Facilitator: **Leona Barback.**

Discussion Leaders: **Mary Crocker/
Judy Malamas**

RSVP: **Fran Witnauer 716-688-5708** or grandmafran44@yahoo.com

CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB - NEW MEETING PLACE

When: Wed. Dec. 4th at 12:00, DISCUSSION FIRST

Where: Family Tree Restaurant, 4346 Bailey Ave

Book: **The Tuscan Child** by Rhys Bowen

Discussion Leader: **Paula Salamone**

RSVP: Fran Witnauer grandmafran44@yahoo.com or
Suzanne Grossman 689-5873

ADVENTURES IN STEM

If you are still interested in this group, please contact **Christina Saarinen** at csaarinen@backhomebooks.net or 425-3790.



December 2019 Book Sale Report

Jayne Murray and Joan Kernan

We are amazed at the year-round interest in our Book Sale and that folks think of us when it's time to clean out their homes or the homes of their parents/relatives. Recently we had a retired book dealer offer us her leftover books, and the executor of an estate offered for free any of 20,000 books collected over the years by his librarian neighbor. He hated the thought of throwing them out and hoped we could sell the ones in decent condition. These donations keep us busy collecting and sorting throughout the cold months in Buffalo. So, a big Thank You to our members and friends for keeping the donations coming!

Sorting at the Book Sale collection site will continue during December with the exception of the weeks of Christmas and New Year's. The site will be closed for donations and sorting December 24 - 25, and December 31-January 1. Sorting will resume on Tuesday, January 7, 2020, at Calvary Episcopal Church from 9:30-noon (20 Milton St., Williamsville, NY.) During the holiday break, talk to your friends and neighbors about our Book Sale and how it raises funds for women's scholarships. You never know who might be cleaning out a house full of books and would like those beloved books to go to a home where they will be cherished. Happy Holidays and see you next year!

THE BUFFALO BRANCH ADVOCATE

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Buffalo, NY 14223
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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The WNY Alzheimer's Association is looking for volunteers. There is a variety of opportunities available. Some of the opportunities include:

Connecting with people in your area;

Teaching caregivers about Alzheimer's;

Helping community members find programs and services.

See more information at alz.org/volunteer
Questions? Contact **Tricia Hughes** at **626-0600 Ext. 8998**; thughes@alz.org.

Remember—memories should last a lifetime!

SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBERS



Judy Weidemann received the 2019 Western New York Land Conservancy Volunteer of the Year Award on September 25, 2019 during the organization's annual Gala. The purpose of the organization is "to permanently protect land with significant conservation value in Western New York for the benefit of future generations."

Judy's interest in the land conservancy began about eight years ago with the Mill Road Scenic Overlook. From there she worked to raise \$3 million to buy 29 acres of the Stella Niagara property. That project reached its goal in 2015. Judy continues to help the land conservancy with its annual galas which are major fund raising events for the organization.

When asked about the award, Judy simply says, "It makes my heart sing to be a part of work dedicated to preserving lands like the ones I remember."

Current positions Judy holds in AAUW Buffalo Branch are Education/Cultural and Assistant Editor of the Advocate Newsletter. She is a past president and an Achievement Award winner.

Reference: *East Aurora Advertiser* eastaurorany.com/articles/judy-weidemann



Kathleen Collins, a member of the Mount Mercy Academy faculty received an award of distinction this past spring at the awards ceremony which was held at the Fairdale Banquet Center. The Education Committee of the Western New York Section of the American Chemical Society (WNY-ACS) named Kathleen Collins the "2019 Outstanding High School Science Teacher of the Year." This award, which has been given annually since 1959, recognizes strength and innovation in teaching, exceptional service to students, efforts to keep abreast of scientific developments, and extracurricular activities in science and education. Kathleen has taught for 48 years, and has taught at Mount Mercy for over 16 years. Currently, she teaches Regents Physics, Conceptual Physics, and Human Anatomy and Physiology. Kathleen has also served as Principal of Mount Mercy from 1997-2000 and Assistant Principal from 1991-1997.

The current positions Kathleen holds in AAUW Buffalo Branch are Chamberlin/Funds for Education Treasurer and Scholarship Chair for Chamberlin/FFE Loans/Grant Funds.

Source: Mount Mercy Alumni Magazine, *Horizons* Fall 2019

**November's Financial
Literacy Program
Featured AAUW Scholarship
Recipient**

by Lilyen Mascellino, VP Program

One of the things that I love about AAUW members is our willingness to gather in the quest for new knowledge... even when the topic is one that we consider ourselves well versed in. That's exactly what we did on Saturday, Nov. 2nd, when we met at Illo DiPaolo's for a wonderful lunch and program.

Certified Financial Planner, Adrienne Rothstein Grace shared her expertise with us that afternoon. Presenting to AAUW was dear to her heart, as she had received an AAUW scholarship while attending college! This was a full circle moment for Adrienne, as well as for our members. Kudos to Adrienne for giving back to AAUW so many years later, a living testimony of our legacy. Much of Adrienne's career has focused on women's wealth and financial freedom which made her presentation just right for our group. Participants were asked to share their questions at the beginning of the program with the intent to ensure that our questions would be addressed within the presentation. This tailored approach personalized the program and those in attendance left with an action plan in hand.

I would like to thank everyone who participated. Your involvement is appreciated. Also, if you are someone who enjoys getting together with like-minded friends to share, learn, and grow together, I look forward to seeing you at December's program!



**You will not want to miss
January's Program!**

Title: Human Trafficking: How is it Affecting Us?
Date: January 23, 2020
Time: 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Place: Grand Island Memorial Library
1715 Bedell Rd.
Grand Island 14072
Speaker: Julie Palmer, Executive Director of PATH
(People Against Trafficking Humans)



Overview:

Human trafficking is affecting all ages, races, demographics, and social status in our region.

Learn how it is affecting WNY and what we can do to stop it. We will discuss how social media plays a part in recruiting victims, and the dangers of the internet. You will also learn to recognize red flag indicators which are signs of trafficking.

RSVP by Jan. 13 as space is limited!

Email lilyenm@gmail.com to reserve your seat.

Indicate your name, as well as the names of those joining you.

Complementary refreshments will be provided.



SCHOLARSHIP NEWS: SAVE THE DATES

Here are the opportunities for members to get involved with evaluating scholarship applications:

Catalyst for Change: January 17, 6 pm at Peggy Meini's home, 96 Mafalda Dr., Buffalo 14215, 207-3898 or aurorapm1219@aol.com

Olga Lindberg: January 28, 10 am at Rosalind Kochmanski's home, 9679 Golden Aster Court, Clarence Ctr, 14032. You need to be able to traverse a few stairs. 716-741-2342 rosalindandmike@yahoo.com

Women Entering College: Since we are expecting over 100 applications, the reviews will be in three sessions. The first, **January 18, 1 pm** to cull the applications down to the top 25-30, the second, **January 20, 1 pm** to cull down to the top 5-10, and the last, **January 25, 1 pm** to select the ultimate finalists. All meetings will be at Mary Bashore's home, 105 Hubbardston Pl, Amherst 14228, 691-6714 mrybash@gmail.com.

Please contact **Peggy, Rosalind, or Mary** if you plan to participate in this most satisfying opportunity to witness the outstanding achievements and potential of all the fine women who submit applications. They want to accommodate everyone with space, beverages, and snacks!



And, finally, mark your calendar to attend our Scholarship Celebration on **Tuesday, April 21, 6:00 pm** at Salvatore's Italian Gardens. Do not hesitate to contact our scholarship chairs or **Betty Krist, 675-4059** with your comments or questions.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

by Judy Weidemann

Call individual venues for performance times and tickets.

Amherst Chamber Ensemble, Inc.

711 Niagara Falls Blvd.

Acemusic.org

Merry Concerto and Happy New Symphony

Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 3:00 pm

Free will offering

Burchfield Penney Art Museum

SUNY Campus

1300 Elmwood Avenue

878-6011

In the Fullness of Time: Painting in Buffalo 1932 – 1972

Beginning November 6, 2019

Drawing My Way to Freedom—Artist Valentino Dixon spent 27 years in prison. He was then found not guilty and released. His colored pencil art is on display.

Through March 28, 2020

MusicalFare

Daemen College Campus

4380 Main Street, Suite 123

839-8540

Elf the Musical

Through December 22, 2019



Irish Classical Theatre

625 Main Street

853-7668

A Child's Christmas in Wales

Through December 15, 2019

Kavinoky Theater

D'Youville College Campus

320 Porter Avenue

820-7668

To Kill a Mockingbird

Through December 8, 2019

Note: This is the new version written by Aaron Serkin

Shea's Theatre

646 Main Street

847-1410

Les Miserables

December 11 – December

15, 2019

Theatre of Youth

203 Allen Street

882-4400 Ext. 3014

Mr. Popper's Penguins

December 7 - December 22, 2019



Presidential Leadership

by Marian Deutschman

As the face of the executive branch, the president is basically responsible for ethics, loyalty, efficiency, frugality, and responsiveness to all of the people. He/She is the one everyone in the bureaucracy should look up to. Michael Siegel, author of *The President as Leader*, provides an analysis of the leadership skills of five recent American presidents. He identifies four leadership qualities that define presidential excellence in the White House.

First, the president should have a compelling vision for his/her presidency. For example, he notes Ronald Reagan's vision of a smaller, less regulated government with lower taxes and less social welfare spending. Bill Clinton was serious about balancing the federal budget and reaching out to the business community, but at the same time not abandoning the needs of poor people.

Second, the president needs to have the ability to implement his/her vision by appointing professionals (not friends) to help develop and influence policy.

Third, the president has to focus on a few major goals at a time. Jimmy Carter had a very long A-to-Z list of goals from abortion to Zaire, says Siegel. Reagan focused on three to four major goals immediately after his election and was able to get a large part of his agenda implemented.

Fourth, the president needs to understand the process and implications of decision-making. For effective decision-making, the president needs to select people who are not only "yes men and women," but are willing to challenge his thinking. It's important for a president to know the functions of each agency, and where there are points of overlap.

Siegel points out that people don't expect perfection from leaders. They expect honesty. After the Bay of Pigs disaster, President Kennedy went on national television and made a speech. Siegel quotes from it: "Ladies and gentlemen. Success has a thou-

sand fathers and failure is an orphan. I failed. Blame me." Kennedy's popularity shot way up. It's difficult to imagine hearing such an admission today. Do we have the right qualities in the current set of contenders for the presidency? Are there bright flashing lights about our current president?

In 2017, an academic paper by a St. John's University student presented a personality-based analysis of newly elected Donald Trump's likely leadership style as president, inferred from the results of an indirect personality assessment conducted in 2015–

2016. Trump's predominant personality patterns were found to be *ambitious/exploitative* (a measure of narcissism) and *outgoing/impulsive*, infused with a *dominant/controlling* pattern and supplemented by a *dauntless/adventurous* tendency. *Ambitious* individuals are bold, competitive, and self-assured; they easily assume leadership roles, expect others to recognize their special qualities, and often act as though entitled. *Out-*

going individuals are dramatic attention-getters who thrive on being the center of attention, have confidence in their social abilities, tend to be impulsive and undisciplined, and become easily bored, especially when faced with repetitive or mundane tasks. *Dominant* individuals enjoy the power to direct others and to command obedience and respect; they are tough and unsentimental, and can be effective leaders. *Dauntless* individuals tend to break tradition, dislike following routine, sometimes act impulsively and irresponsibly, and tend to shade the truth and skirt the law.

Doris Kearns Goodwin, the presidential historian and author of *Leadership: In Turbulent Times*, said Trump lacks a long list of traits associated with effective leadership: "humility, acknowledging errors, shouldering blame and learning from mistakes, empathy, resilience, collaboration, connecting with people and controlling unproductive emotions." Where do we go from here?



DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, December 4, 6:15 pm **Board Meeting**, at Ebenezer United Church of Christ, 630 Main St., West Seneca.

Tuesday, December 17, 6:45 **“Christmas Traditions in Buffalo”** at the Audubon Library, 350 John James Audubon Parkway, Amherst.

Wednesday, January 8, 2020 6:15 **Board Meeting** at Christ United Methodist Church, Saratoga Rd. at Harlem Road.

Thursday, January 3, 2020 6:00-8:00 **Human Trafficking**, Grand Island Memorial Library , 1715 Bedell Rd., Grand Island 14072

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: *To advance equality for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.*

Vision: *Equality for all.*

Values : *Nonpartisan. Fact-based. Integrity. Inclusion and intersectionality.*

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 716-838-2796

Return Service Requested



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