



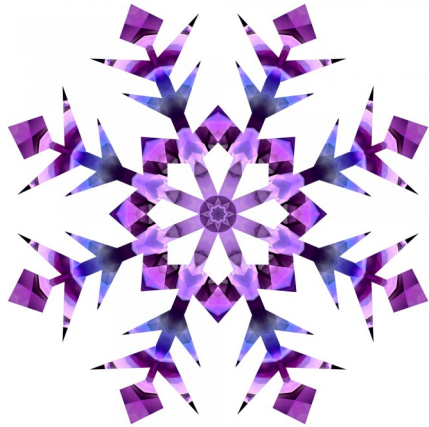
ADVOCATE

January 2020

NYS District 1

<http://aauw.buffalo.edu>

Vol. CXXVIII No. 4



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FEBRUARY ADVOCATE

The deadline for each issue of the Advocate is the 10th of the previous month. Submit articles to Suzanne Taeger(suzannemlr3@gmail.com) via email by JANUARY 10. Please be sure to put “AAUW Buffalo Advocate” in the subject line.



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.

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

Complimentary refreshments will be provided

AAUW BUFFALO BRANCH

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President's Remarks

Laurie Eikemeyer

Happy New Year! As I begin the New Year, I must first start with gratitude. Thank you for all you do for AAUW! I am especially grateful to our dedicated board members, book sale committee members, and all of you who are active in our branch. I appreciate all of you!

Our membership is exceptional. I love to hear of the accomplishments, awards, and special recognition our members receive. I'd like to share it with the rest of our membership! If you know of someone who has received an award or special recognition, please send it to Pat Miceli (pwmiceli@gmail.com) so that we may share it in the Advocate.

I am excited about all of the activities for this year. We will look forward to centennial celebrations of AAUW New York State at the convention in Rochester, April 24-26 and the ratification of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote. It is important to appreciate the suffragists in the past, recognize the suffragists of the present, and work to encourage suffragists in the future. I hope you will actively participate in upcoming events. Remember to check the Advocate each month for events. I will also email events of our branch and sister organizations.

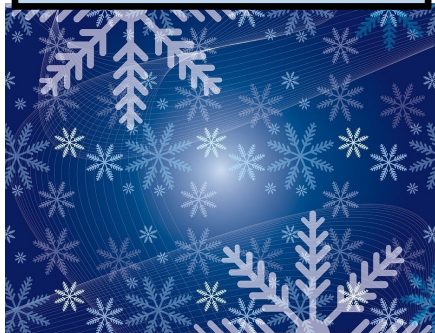
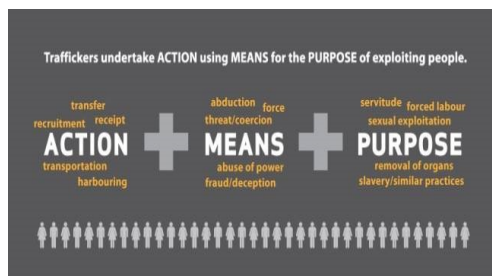
We have some excellent programs coming up that I hope you will consider attending. In January, we have Julie Palmer, Director of PATH, discussing "Human Trafficking and How It Affects Us," and in February, branch member Susan Eck, curator of the "Emblem of Equality: Woman Suffrage in Western New York" exhibit at the History Museum, will present the fascinating story of Ada Louise Davenport Kendall. Mrs. Kendall both participated in the suffrage movement and wrote extensively about it as a columnist for the "Buffalo Express."

This year's book sale promises to be better than ever as the book sale committee is hard at work and volunteers work to keep up with the flow of donated books. Please consider lending a hand on a Tuesday or Wednesday morning.

Stay tuned for an exciting year in AAUW!

About PATH

PATH Inc. (People Against Trafficking Humans) is a faith based not-for-profit (501c3) organization with a mission to end human exploitation through education, prevention and restoration. We provide support services to women and youth who are at risk or have been affected by human trafficking at the Enrichment Center in Buffalo, NY. See <https://pathofwny.org/> for more details.



SCHOLARSHIP UPDATES

Dr. Betty Krist

SAVE THE DATES!!!!

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

Catalyst for Change: January 17, 6pm at Peggy Meinl's home, 96 Mafalda Dr., Buffalo 14215 (716) 207-3898, aurorapm1219@aol.com

Olga Lindberg: January 28, 10am at Rosalind Kochmanski's home, 9679 Golden Aster Court, Clarence Ctr, 14032, you need to be able to traverse a few stairs, (619) 886-8816 rosalindandmike@yahoo.com

Women Entering College: Since we are expecting over 100 applications, the reviews will be in three sessions. The first, **January 18, 1pm** to cull the applications down to the top 25-30, the second, **January 20, 1pm** to cull down to the top 5-10, and the last, **January 25, 1pm** to select the ultimate finalists. All meetings will be at Mary Bashore's home, 105 Hubbardston Pl, 14228 (716) 691-6714 mry-bash@gmail.com. You need not attend all three sessions in order to help.

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 6:00pm** at Salvatore's Italian Gardens.

Do not hesitate to contact our scholarship chairs or Betty Krist (716) 675-4059 kristbj@icloud.com with your comments or questions.



Don't forget to remind the women in your life that the application deadlines for all of these is January 15!



JANUARY INTEREST GROUPS

Judy Huber

THE HAPPY WANDERERS

When: Thursday Jan. 9th at 12:30

Where: Pane's Restaurant at 984 Payne Ave, in North Tonawanda for lunch. We will then go to the N. Tonawanda History Museum at 712 Oliver St. (Opens at 2:00 PM. Admission is \$3.00)

RSVP: by Jan. 6th to **Betty Preble** if you are coming - betty.preble@gmail.com or 662-0608 (Carpools may be set up & I will notify you of changes)

WNY CULINARY ARTS

When: Thurs. Jan. 16th at 6:30

Where: Storming Crab 4125 Maple Rd., Amherst, NY
What: AAUW Interest Group for members to share dinner and conversation.

RSVP: by Jan. 13th to **Barbara Libby** at 836-8303. or bplibby1@verizon.net

DINNER BY THE BOOK

When: Wed. Jan. 15th at 5:30

Where: Family Tree Restaurant, 4346 Bailey Ave.

Book: **Women in Sunlight** by Frances Mayes.

Facilitator: **Judy Malamas.**

Discussion Leader: **Mary Ann Hope**

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

CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

When: Jan. 22 at 12:00. start with discussion first

Where: Family Tree Restaurant. 4346 Bailey Ave.

Book: **Transcription** by **Kate Atkinson.**

Discussion Leader: **Barbara Libby**

RSVP: Suzanne Grossman – 689-5873

ADVENTURES IN STEM

If you are still interested in this group, please contact

Christine Saarinen at csaarinen@backhomebooks.net or 425-3790.

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.

January, 2020
Vol. CXXIX No. 4
Circulation 215

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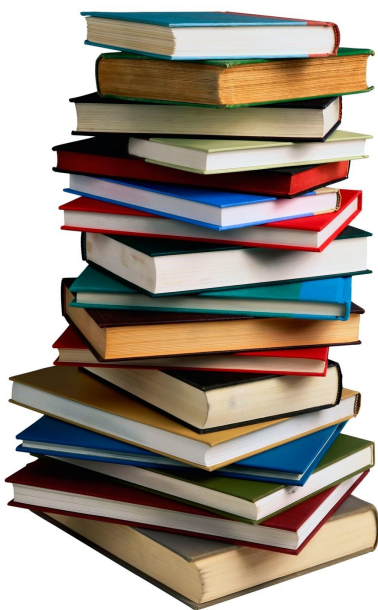
Betty Preble

For prospective or new member questions, contact:

Membership Recruitment VP,
Melissa White,
mkwhiteAAUW@gmail.com

Send address changes to:

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




Book Sale Report

By Joan Kernan and Jayne Murray

Sorting at the book site continues into the winter season. We warmed our souls with a gentle story of compassion and brotherly love from a donor who consented to have us share his story. We were contacted by Ray who had recently lost a neighbor for whom he and his family had provided support and assistance for many years. Ray had seen his neighbor on the streets of Snyder for many years, always reading as he walked, always alone and distant. One day he felt compelled to introduce himself and offer his neighbor a ride as he labored with his groceries. Ray found the man, a reclusive librarian, living in an impoverished state and assisted him to access services and also to stay in his own home. His neighbor had so many books that during a house fire, when the firemen broke open a window, books escaped through the opening. Decades later, after his neighbor's death, Ray contacted us as he had dedicated himself to disseminating his friend's books where they might do the most good. We found *every inch of wall in every room* filled with high stacks of books which had been painstakingly sorted by Ray. As we were the last to peruse this aged and treasured eclectic collection—many read over and over, dog eared and underlined, or simply too damaged—we found we could accept very few. However, we felt humbled to be a witness to Ray's compassion as he honored his neighbor's life work and all-consuming passion for books. We feel the same about the work we do at the Site. Each box or bag of books contain treasures which translate to education dollars for our scholarship winners.



Recycling those books we cannot sell continues to be a large challenge for us. We can average 25 or more boxes of waste books per week at the site and many times that during our two months at the sale site. Olga Lindberg Scholarship Chair and Book Sale Committee member Rosalind Kochmanski has agreed to ferry hardcover books to a recycling center on a regular basis and some members are taking home boxes of paperbacks and cardboard for garbage or recycling. As paperbacks have glued bindings, they often are not recyclable in some towns. Consider stopping in weekly and picking up a box for your own bins. In addition, we must reduce the amount we recycle. As you tell your friends and neighbors about our book sale donation opportunity, please gently remind them of our restrictions: No textbooks, Reader's Digest Condensed books, magazines, or Time-Life (except for science). A good rule of thumb always when donating: If **you** wouldn't buy it, then we can't sell it. 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, Jan 7, 2020, at Calvary Episcopal Church (20 Milton St., Williamsville) from 9:30-noon. If anyone knows of a teen or college student who has a January break, we could use their youthful assistance! Keep the donations coming!

Buffalo Branch
Presents:
VOTES FOR WOMEN

Thursday, Feb 6,
 6:45 pm Registration

at the
 Anna Reinstein Memorial Library
 2580 Harlem Rd.
 Cheektowaga, NY 14225



VOTES FOR WOMEN!

February will find our AAUW Buffalo Branch focusing on the women of Western New York who were part of the Women's Suffrage movement.

- The curator of the "Emblem of Equality: Woman Suffrage in Western New York" exhibit at the History Museum, Branch member and historian Susan Eck, will present the fascinating story of Ada Louise Davenport Kendall.
- We also invite you to join the Happy Wanderers Group on Friday, February 14 for lunch and a mid-day visit to the actual exhibit at the History Museum. More details next month.

No cost for the Feb 6 program, but registration is required for planning purposes since space is limited and light refreshments will be provided. Please contact Betty Preble, betty.preble@gmail.com or 662-0608 by Feb. 3, providing the names of each expected attendee.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

BY Judy Weidemann



CALL EACH VENUE FOR PERFORMANCE OR EXHIBITION DATES AND STARTING TIMES.

Albright-Knox Art Gallery

Closed for renovation until July 1, 2022.

Albright-Knox Northland

612 Northland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14221
Opens January 17, 2020

Burchfield Penney Art Center

SUNY Campus
1300 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, NY 14220
878-6011

Two new exhibits:

Open Waters

Interactive art installation that examines the 21st Century realities of environmental and geopolitical change

Charles Burchfield: A Magical Rebirth, 1943- 67

Both until March 29, 2020

Irish Classical Theatre

625 Main St, Buffalo, NY
853-7668

Midsummer's Night Dream

January 17, 18, and 19th, 2020 only

The Kavinoky Theatre

D'Youville College Campus
3220 Porter Ave., Buffalo, NY
829-7668

The Bridges of Madison County

January 10 – February 2, 2020

Shea's Theatre

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

Several single performance shows during January

Theatre of Youth

203 Allen St., Buffalo, NY 14201
882-4400 Ext. 304

Miss Nelson Is Missing

January 25 - February 9, 2020



WRAPPING WRAP-UP

Kate Collins

Saturday, Dec. 7 found ten branch members at Barnes and Noble on Niagara Falls Boulevard. They worked in shifts from 10 am to 10 pm wrapping gifts and spreading the word about the Buffalo Branch of AAUW. Many interesting people were met at the event – people who loved books and shared their favorite authors, grandparents who were gifting books to the grandchildren, people who were going for the “buy one cookie and get one free” deal of the day, people who saw the AAUW sign and said “You are the Booksale ladies!”, and Santa Claus.

Many thanks to volunteers Mary Bashore (left), Barbara Carier, Laurie Eike-meyer, Marian Deutschman, Carol Golyski, Lilyen Mascellino, Julie Meyer, Lynne Rapin (middle), and Melissa White.

REMINDER—NOMINATIONS ARE NEEDED!

The nominating committee is looking for candidates for the 2020-2022 term for Membership Recruitment VP, Secretary/Parliamentarian, CFO, Fundraising Treasurer, Scholarship Director, and Nominating Chair and committee members. Please contact Marguerite Collesano if you are interested or would like to nominate another member. Position descriptions are available on the website.

PUBLIC OPINION AND IMPEACHMENT

Dr. Marian Deutschman

Recently, Margaret Sullivan, columnist on the opinion page of the Buffalo News, stated that "A lot of Americans don't know much and won't exert themselves beyond their echo chambers to find out." Despite persuasive evidence to support the impeachment inquiry, the court of public opinion has not shifted significantly. Opinions seem to be entrenched in tribalism. Approximately 50 percent of the public wants to see the President impeached. The public mind seemed to be bored by the hearings, especially since there appears to be a consensus that the Republican Senate will not remove the President from office no matter what evidence is uncovered.

Public opinion and knowledge of citizens are two very important factors in any successful democracy. Citizens should be aware of what is going on in their government and be able to formulate their own opinions on issues. Political parties must maintain a level of positive public opinion but it can be manipulated through the media and other sources. A democracy needs citizens who stay informed and act on their knowledge. The public does not have fully formed and unambiguous views on many issues.

We need citizens who understand our history. We can't decide where America is going unless we know where it has come from. We have disinvested in history and civics education in favor of other subjects in our primary and secondary schools. Some scholars believe that neglect of civics education in the last half-century is a major root cause of much civic and political dysfunction. We need to know the fundamental values that our Founders proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence and in the Constitution that made us prosperous and accepting of people from all over the world.

Skeptics maintain that human weaknesses make mass participation in politics both impractical and undesirable.



Optimists recognize the public's many shortcomings but still insist that most citizens have more intelligence and decency than critics realize. The non-partisan Pew Research Center found that currently, 66% of the public says "it would be too risky to give U.S. presidents more power to deal directly with many of the country's problems." About three-in-ten adults (29%) offer the contrasting opinion that "problems could be dealt with more effectively if U.S. presidents didn't have to worry so much about Congress or the courts." Politicians can manipulate public opinion to build broad support for poli-

cies mainly serving the interests of their core supporters. Even Trump himself seems to be astonished by his unwavering support. He has said, "I could stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shoot somebody, and I wouldn't lose any voters, OK? It's, like, incredible." When Trump tells them that crime is skyrocketing in the United States, they take his word for it. The Dunning-Kruger effect explains that the problem isn't just that they are misinformed; it's that they

are completely unaware that they are misinformed. And if one is under the illusion that they have sufficient knowledge, then they have no reason to defer to anyone else's judgment. Trump's showmanship and simple messages clearly resonate at a visceral level and his supporters look forward to being entertained by his unpredictability.

Sullivan has specific recommendations for the development of constructive news habits. Do a fact-check when you hear conflicting claims. Don't get your news from social media. Go beyond the headlines into the substance of the main articles. Stop relying on Fox prime-time shows for your information source. Don't rely on only using sources that validate your beliefs. Truth seeking is what really matters.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec 17, 6:00 pm - December program at Audubon Library, Amherst

Jan. 8, 6:15 pm - Board Meeting at Christ United Methodist Church, Snyder

Jan 23, 6:00 pm - January program at Grand Island Public Library

Feb 6, 6:45 pm - February program at Anna Reinstein Memorial Library, Cheektowaga

Mar 21 - Tech Savvy at UB North Campus

Apr 21, 6:00 pm - Scholarship Celebration at Salvatore's

Apr 24-26 - AAUW NYS Convention

May 9, 11:30 am - Annual Meeting/ Luncheon at the Wurlitzer Building , 908 Niagara Falls Blvd, North Tonawanda

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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