

ADVOCATE

<https://aauwbuffalo.org>

Women on the Move with AAUW!

April 2022

Vol. CXXX No. 8



The Fine Art of Walking in Nature: a Prescription for the Earth

Thursday, April 21, 6 pm to 8 pm

Tift Nature Preserve, 1200 Fuhrmann Boulevard, Buffalo

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Check in at 6:00 p.m. We'll start out (weather permitting) with an optional guided short walk on the trails, then meet around 6:45 in the Event Center for a light supper (variety of wraps, paninis, picnic pasta salad, Chef salad, cookie platter) and a presentation by Dr. Stephen Vermette, Geography Professor within the Department of Geography & Planning at SUNY Buffalo State. See page 3

for his biography.

If you're walking with us, remember that the trails may be muddy - be prepared!

\$15 includes the light supper and bottled water.

Feel free to bring other beverages.



EARTH MONTH



MAY ADVOCATE

The deadline for each issue of the Advocate is the 10th of the previous month. Submit articles to the editor:

NEWSLETTER@AAUWBUFFALO.ORG

via email by April 10. Please be sure to put "AAUW Buffalo Advocate" in the subject line.



REGISTRATION—Deadline April 10

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

If you are interested in carpooling, please indicate the area where you live (Williamsville, Orchard Park, West Side, etc):

Area: _____

Please clip and send with a check for \$15.00 to:

Betty Preble, 1 Fox Run Lane #622, Orchard Park, 14127

**ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS
2021-2022**

PRESIDENT

Lilyen Mascellino

VP PROGRAM

Dr. Marian Deutschman

**VP MEMBERSHIP
RECRUITMENT**

Melissa White

VP MEMBERSHIP RETENTION

Dr. Susan McClary

SECRETARY/PARLIAMENTARIAN

Diane O'Brien

CFO

Shirley Joy

BRANCH TREASURER

Mary Bashore

EAP TREASURER

Sue Stapell

FUNDRAISING TREASURER

Mary Crocker

**CHAMBERLIN/FUNDS FOR
EDUCATION TREASURER**

Kathleen SantaMaria

SCHOLARSHIP DIRECTOR

Rosaleen Nogle

President's Message

Lilyen Mascellino

"There is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish."

Michelle Obama

Greetings to All!

As you know, this is a busy time of year for our branch as we:

- plan monthly programs and our annual end of the year luncheon;
- select scholarship award winners and prepare for the celebration/ ceremony at Salvatore's;
- choose a woman of distinction from our community to receive our branch's Achievement Award;
- create a ballot of nominees & prep for the election of new branch officers and approval of bylaws changes utilizing Election Buddy;
- review and update our Bylaws;
- plan for and make decisions in regard to our annual book sale;
- meet as a board to conduct end of year business.

We will keep you posted of all upcoming events in this issue, as well as in May's issue of the *Advocate*. With the lifting of pandemic restrictions, we have been able to begin gathering in person! And Governor Kathy Hochul recently announced that NYS has experienced a continuous downward trend in COVID-19 cases which is good news for all of us! That - along with spring approaching - should mean more favorable weather is on its way, increasing our ability to attend upcoming functions. I look forward to our spring events and trust you will join us!

Finally, I'd like to share with you the following note we received from AAUW-NYS:

"Please be advised that for the year 2021, your members donated \$3059 to AAUW-National. Please say thank you on behalf of the AAUW-NYS Executive Board for your Buffalo Branch members continued support of the AAUW mission."

To that I respond, "Well done, Buffalo! Well done!"



Welcome Back! 😊

Rebecca (Beckie) Weber
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BFA Northern IL University, Ceramics and Psychology
MS Northern IL University, Family & Child Studies
Retired Certified Marriage and Family Counselor

APRIL 2022 INTEREST GROUPS

THE HAPPY WANDERERS

Due to continued concerns for COVID, we have decided to take a hiatus for a time.

WNY CULINARY DELIGHTS

When: Wed. April 13th

Where: Webster's Bistro, 102 Webster, N. Tonawanda

RSVP: Barbara Libby by April 9 at 836-8303

or bplibby1@verizon.net

CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

When: Wed. April 27th at noon

Where: Family Tree Restaurant, 4346 Bailey Ave.

Book Selection: Everyone is asked to bring at least 2 suggestions for next year.

RSVP: Barbara Libby at 836-8303

or bplibby1@verizon.net

DINNER BY THE BOOK

When: Wed. April 20th at 5:30

Where: Family Tree Restaurant, 4346 Bailey Ave.

Book Selection: Everyone is asked to bring at least 2 suggestions for next year.

RSVP: Frances Witnauer 716-688-5708

or grandmafran4547@gmail.com

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.

The opinions expressed within the newsletter are those of the individual writers and may or may not reflect those of the Branch.

March 2022

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Notes on our April Speaker:

Dr. Stephen Vermette is a professor of geography in the Department of Geography and Planning, SUNY Buffalo State, where he has taught meteorology/climatology and environmental courses and mentored students for 25 years.

Dr. Vermette graduated with his doctorate from McMaster University, (Hamilton, Ontario,) and he is an elected member of the American Meteorological Society. He has published numerous articles on local weather, provided local weather expertise for media outlets, and served the community with his expertise, including as a forensic meteorologist. Dr. Vermette received a commendation from the National Geographic Society for his dedicated leadership rendered to the State of New York to ensure the geographic literacy of the next generation. Dr. Vermette was also awarded the National Council for Geographic Education Distinguished Teaching Award. The Wall Street Journal referred to Dr. Vermette as a "rare climatologist," noting that he co-curated (with Tullis Johnson) a traveling art exhibition entitled "Charles E. Burchfield: Weather Event," recipient of an Award of Commendation from *Museumwise*. Dr. Vermette has an eclectic interest in all things related to weather/climate and the environment, especially as it relates to Western New York. He recently authored the book "The Face of WNY's Weather."

Condolences to the families of two of our members

Janet Marino passed on March 4 after battling three rounds of cancer. Jan was active in the book groups and had handled the media table for the book sale. Click [HERE](#) for her obituary.

N. Anne Montes passed on March 9. She had also been active in the book sale until recently. She had co-chaired with Jill Brown and later handled the humor section. Click [HERE](#) for her obituary.



***** **CONGRATULATIONS to our Achievement Award Winner!** *****

The Buffalo Branch is pleased to announce the selection of **Terri Parks** as the 2022 Branch Achievement Award winner. This honor has been presented annually to area women of distinction since 1940. Terri served the Buffalo/Niagara League of Women Voters with great dedication as President from 2011-2021, member of the New York State Board of Directors from 2013-2017, Candidate Forum Coordinator, Bulletin Editor, and other positions in the League.



Terri’s years of commitment to the League of Women Voters illustrate her vision of defending democracy through voter empowerment, where every citizen has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate in the voting process. She has also been committed to improving the lives of young girls and boys through active involvement with Camp Fire. She served on the local Board of Directors in many capacities and was president for a total of eight years. From 2007 to 2011 she was the volunteer executive director of a virtual Camp Fire council to connect families in areas where there is no Camp Fire presence with Camp Fire program opportunities.

and has been an active supporter of the Used Book Sale as a “bag lady” for several years. She was a volunteer for Ten Thousand Villages from 2005 until Covid restrictions occurred.

Terri is also a member of our Buffalo Branch of AAUW

Terri (Joan T.) has been married for over 51 years to Arthur Parks. They have three children and seven grandchildren. She holds a BS in Elementary Education and taught in the Ken-Ton schools until her retirement.

LOANS and GRANTS!

Reminder—Applications for the Chamberlin and Funds for Education Loans and Grants are being accepted through May 1. This financial support is for full time college students. Students will find further information and applications on the website aauwbuffalo.org.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

Watch for a renewal letter in your mailbox in April. Included is the question of what YOU would like our branch to be doing. Please respond so we can be sure we’re reflecting the wishes of our members.

THANKS!

YOU HAVE A VOTE!

Within the next month you will be receiving via email or snail mail a ballot from “Election Buddy.” The following positions are on the ballot, listed along with the candidates proposed by the nominating committee:

- VP Membership Recruitment: Diane O’Brien
- Secretary: Judy Huber
- CFO: Shirley Joy
- EAP Treasurer: Sue Stapell
- Fundraising Treasurer: Mary Crocker
- Scholarship Director: Melissa White

You will be able to abstain or write-in another name.

Also on the ballot will be some proposed bylaws changes. Most are simply language clarifications. One, however, changes the process of appointing some leaders. Currently we name positions, then ask if they want to be on the board. We will reverse that, asking for board members and then those people choose responsibilities. Details will be on the ballot with a link to the website.

“HAVE WE LOST OUR SHARED NATIONAL IDENTITY?”

Dr. Marian Deutschman

We have national holidays that celebrate patriotic symbolism and are a tribute to the founding principles of equality, liberty, and revolutionary ideals of democracy. According to an article by Ben Rhodes in *The Atlantic*, this is no time for passive patriotism. Our national shared identity involves telling a story about our past, present, and future. How can we save America’s democratic identity? We must try to fix what is wrong and focus on what it should be to be an American.

We are a work in progress. Are we trying to form a more perfect union? Currently, we appear to be more committed to being polarized. Both patriotism and nationalism involve pride in one’s country, but there is a difference. According to dictionary.com, patriotism refers to “devoted love, support, and defense of one’s country; national loyalty.” Nationalism also involves devotion and loyalty to one’s own country but it’s a policy or doctrine of asserting the interests of one’s own nation as separate from the interests of other nations or the common interests of all nations.

Novelist George Orwell said that nationalism is “the worst enemy of peace.” He described it as a feeling that one’s country is superior to another in all respects. Patriotism appears to be more passive, and nationalism can be more aggressive. *DifferenceBetween.net* describes the difference: Patriotism is based on affection, and nationalism is rooted in rivalry and resentment. One can say that nationalism is militant by nature and patriotism is based on peace.

Have we substituted nationalism for patriotism? Are we focused on how we are better than other countries rather than how we can improve? Patriots believe in friendly relations with people all over the world as equals, while nationalism implies that only people belonging to one’s own country should be considered one’s equal. I’m not even sure that our polarization works to support that doc-

trine. A patriotic person tolerates criticism and learns from what is new, while a nationalist doesn’t tolerate criticism and considers it an insult. Nationalism is often associated with a political approach in which a particular group wants to establish their beliefs as the country’s official governmental policies. In our country, nationalism is most frequently associated negatively with white nationalism.

Those who identify themselves as patriots recognize the benefits of adapting, evolving, and growing as our population changes. Nationalists want to keep things the way they were as if that way was the best way. We need to recognize that past government policies and practices might have been discriminatory and wrong, and it’s time to work to improve them.

A democracy is complicated. We live in a presidential democracy where the executive branch has the power. We

elect a president to head the government. The president is kept in check by the legislative branch. Along with the judicial and legislative branches, the three branches work to maintain checks and balances, but the president has the final say. Note the difference in a parliamentary democracy where the power is given to the legislative branch through the

parliament and the prime minister. The executive branch has less power.

Where do we go from here to improve what we value in our shared identity? Have we decided that leaders don’t need to be elected from a group of candidates? That violence is necessary to combat opponents? That one dictator should have total control? Nationalism encourages fears of other religions, races, cultures, ethnic groups, or the LGBTQI community. This fear can be mobilized for violence. The current state of our union is disunity and division. No president can claim “mission accomplished.”



What's Happening is returning!

Judy Weidemann

The conditions **DO** seem right. Let's hope that we can enjoy the arts more frequently than we have in the past months. Double check the venues for dates and times before you venture out. Some cultural institutions are on shortened schedules and the schedules are subject to change. I have included websites and phone numbers for that reason.

Albright-Knox Northland

612 Northland Avenue, Buffalo
882-8700

www.albrightknox.org/community/northland

In These Truths

Spree magazine says, "This exhibition is one of the most challenging and fascinating shows AK Northland has presented. It represents and gives visibility to Black artists." AK staffer Aaron Ott has involved local Black artists Altina Fareed-Cooke and Edreys Wajed as co-curators.

Note: This is the last exhibition to be held at AK Northland. It closes on June 5, 2022.

Burchfield Penney Art Center

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

www.burchfieldpenney.org/

Gratitude: The Sylvia Rosen Endowment Purchase Award, Through October 2, 2022

Totemic: Representations of the totem in different symbolic ways, Through September 25, 2022

Irish Classical Theatre

625 Main St., Buffalo
853-7668

<https://irishclassical.com/>

Stage Kiss Through April 24, 2022

The Kavinoky Theatre

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

<http://kavinokytheatre.com/>

People, Places, and Things - Starting April 29, 2022

MusicalFare

Daemen College Campus
4380 Main St., Amherst,
839-8540

<https://musicalfare.com/>

The Other Josh Cohen - April 20-May 22, 2022

Shea's Theatre

646 Main St., Buffalo
847-1410

<https://www.sheas.org/>

To Kill a Mockingbird - March 27-April 2, 2022

Anastasia - April 19 - 24, 2022



In Honor of the late Stanley J. Collesano Esq.(1943-2022), Defender of the Scholarship Legacies of Olga Lindberg

Olga Lindberg was a friend of my Mother, the artist Violet Gordon. They were both proud members of the National League of American Pen Women and the American Association of University Women. They both served on the AAUW scholarship committee. Olga Lindberg left one million dollars in her will for scholarships to be split between the Western New York branches of the two organizations that help women with college educations. Unfortunately, Olga Lindberg's estate lawyer sent the donation to the national headquarters of those two organizations. Fortunately, Lubitsa Wojno, a member of both the Pen Women and AAUW, discovered the mistake when she was in Washington, DC, at a Pen Women's meeting. The headquarters of these women's professional organizations did not want to relinquish the funds. Stanley Collesano, with the help of his wife Marguerite (a former president of our local AAUW), represented the two Western New York groups as they litigated to get the scholarship funds back

to our area. He won!! We are SO grateful.

The AAUW scholarship goes to Western New York women seeking graduate degrees. The Pen Women's scholarship, administered by the Community Foundation of Greater Buffalo, goes to young women from Western New York interested in studying writing, music, journalism, or art.

I hope that the scholarship recipients know how much they are indebted to Stanley J. Collesano, Esq., who never sent a bill to either group because he wanted as much money as possible to go to the scholarship recipients. Bravo, Stanley! Félicitations and thank you, Stanley!

By Dr. Bonnie Gordon Flickinger, Former President and Life Member of the National League of American Pen Women of WNY and a former Scholarship Committee Member and Life Member of the American Association of University Women



We're having a **Book Sale!**

We're in discussion about our site, so there will be a special edition of news out next week with all the details, but we wanted to get started on our need for **ALL** of **YOU** to help us!

As many of you may know, this Sale is a tremendous *all-hands-on-deck* undertaking every year. Every one of us has experienced a difficult two years and we are now surfacing to continue to assist future scholarship awardees in seeking the life-changing realization of higher education. This year, *like no other before*, **WE NEED YOUR HELP**. Many of our volunteers have "de-conditioned" or relocated, and many positions are open.

Please look through these **immediate** needs and let us know what you can do to keep our scholarships running along!

More later!

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Work from home a few hours a week! Receive emailed and snail-mailed volunteer forms, call members who have not responded, organize the schedule of sale time volunteer workers, create a poster of volunteer staff hours for display at the sale site, and send an email reminder to volunteers. Contact Cindy Koch at (239)267-2008 or cbk148@aol.com.

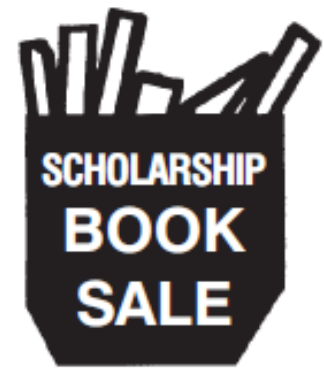
TABLE (Category) CHAIRS

Books are organized into categories, some of which are very small and will not require a great deal of time. Consider asking a friend to help you! All that is needed is for the books to be accessibly organized on tables, and then our sorters will keep the tables replenished during the Sale.

Currently we are **seeking table chairs** for:

- Sociology
- Gardening
- Communications/Education
- Media, Entertainment,
- Sports
- Family/Child care.

Interested, or want to learn more? Contact Pat Baker, 716-634-6640.



TABLES!

For a variety of reasons, our table supplier is unable to provide the number of tables we've used in the past. We have a shortage! Please lend us your sturdy folding tables on which books can be displayed at the sale. Call Mary Georger at (716)634-8083.

SHIFT SUPERVISORS

From April 11 to May 27, we need people at the sale site to be in charge of:

- opening the site (if your shift is the first of the day)
- closing and locking the site (if last shift of the day)
- checking that books dropped off are not accepted if they are in poor condition or academic books, journals and/or encyclopedias.

You can sign up for one shift or many shifts! Shifts are Monday through Friday 8:45 AM – 1 PM, 12:45 – 5 PM, Tuesdays 4:45– 8 PM, & Saturdays 9-noon. Or sign up to be a substitute! We will not work at the site on Memorial Day weekend, i.e. Perhaps you can supervise every Monday morning except April 25. That's fine because we will have a substitute fill in.

If you are up for this very important yet easy-to-master job, please contact Cindy Koch at (239) 267-2008 or email her at cbk148@aol.com



DATES TO REMEMBER

Please note: All events are possibly subject to change or cancellation. Please check our website for last minute information.

Wednesday, April 6, 6:30, Board Meeting at Ebenezer Church of Christ in West Seneca.

Thursday, April 21, Branch Program (see page 1)

Wednesday, May 4, 6:30, Board Meeting at Christ United Methodist Church in Snyder

Saturday, May 21, Branch Annual Meeting/Luncheon at Sean Patrick's. Details next month.

Tuesday evening, June 14, Scholarship Celebration! Details next month.

BOOKSALE WORK ON HOLD UNTIL MID-APRIL
(Watch the website—<https://aauwbuffalo.org>)
NO DONATIONS ACCEPTED AT THIS TIME!

SALE June 1-5, 2022.

AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. For over 140 years, we have worked together as a national grassroots organization to improve the lives of millions of women and their families.

Mission: *Gender Equity & Economic Security*

Vision: *Equity for all*

Values : *Intersectional. Inclusive. Intergenerational. Empowering.*

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



American Association of
University Women
Buffalo Branch Inc
PO BOX 894
Buffalo, NY 14225-0894

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID Buffalo, NY
Permit No. 1078