

# ADVOCATE

<https://aauwbuffalo.org>

On the Move with AAUW!

April 2023

Vol. CXXXI No. 8



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**IMPORTANT  
REGISTRATIONS  
ON PAGES 1 and 5!**



### 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](mailto:NEWSLETTER@AAUWBUFFALO.ORG)) via email by April 10.



## Scholarship Celebration April 13, 2023

*Please come and celebrate this year's Scholarship Winners!*

*(Information about these young women will be posted on the website soon.)*

**Salvatore's Italian Gardens Restaurant - Victorian Room**

**6461 Transit Road, Depew, NY 14043**

- 5:30 Registration
- 6:00 Imported and Domestic Cheese Display
- 6:00-8:00 Open soda bar
- 6:15-7:15 Food Stations and Hors D'oeuvres
  - Turkey Carving Station
  - Caesar Salad
  - Three Cheese Baked Macaroni
  - Farfalle Fra Diavolo
  - Vegetable Flatbread
  - Artichokes Francaise
  - Stuffed Mushrooms
  - Caramelized Bleu Flatbread
- 7:15 - 8:15 Presentations by scholarship winners



Cost: \$15.00/person. No cost for Scholarship winners and two guests each.

Send registration to: Betty Preble, 1 Fox Run Lane #622, Orchard Park, 14127.

**DEADLINE MARCH 31!!!**

Name(s):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

# President's Message

*Lilyen Mascellino*

*"Think like a queen. A queen is not afraid to fail. Failure is another stepping stone to greatness."*

*~Oprah Winfrey*

Greetings!

If you're new to our branch...welcome! Right about now, you're probably realizing that spring is a busy and exciting time for us! It's when we are:

- wrapping up the fiscal year's business
- creating a ballot of nominees for the election of branch officers
- finalizing Book Sale details
- prepping for the Scholarship Celebration & the end of year Annual Business Luncheon

The above is all accomplished while simultaneously plotting out plans for next year! *Whew!* In regards to upcoming events, I've included a few pertinent details below.

## Our Annual Business Luncheon:

I'm looking forward to each of our programs and events between now and June, especially the annual Business Luncheon on May 6th, as *NYS AAUW President, Carol Griffith* will be joining us and installing our newly elected officers!

While you're in attendance that day, please take a moment to introduce yourself to me.

I would like to get to know you!



## 2023 Scholarship Celebration:

The scholarship selection process has been completed and we will celebrate with this year's winners at Salvatore's Italian Gardens. Promoting lifelong learning is at the heart of all we do, which makes this celebration a significant annual event!

So - grab a friend and join the celebration on 4/13!

(Also, if all goes as planned, we will be honoring our *Achievement Award* winner that night, too.

This award to given to a "woman of distinction" from our community. I believe you most certainly will want to be there this year, so reserve your spot! We will share the details as they become available.)



## Book Sale: May 31 - June 4:

We are pleased to announce that news anchor, Jacquie Walker, has agreed to be our honorary chair again this year! Her support throughout the years has been invaluable!

The Book Sale is our only fundraiser and we are anticipating it to be successful, as the community always rallies behind us. Committee volunteers have been working for weeks sorting donations, and they are looking to secure a site for the sale. That info will be shared shortly. In the meantime, mark your calendars for May 31-June 4!

*There are a number of ways for members to help out.*

You can:

- volunteer an hour, a day, or the entire week at the sale. It's a great way to support the branch, and get to know other members working alongside you! There's something for everyone to do, even those of us who have limitations. Once you've volunteered, I'd be surprised if you weren't hooked! The Book Sale is built upon camaraderie!
- promote the Book Sale throughout your community. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors!
- attend the sale and bring someone with you!
- become a 2023 sponsor of the event. We are grateful for any and all financial donations. Checkout our website at [aauwbuffalo.org](http://aauwbuffalo.org) to view the sponsorship categories.

***Let's work together to make these spring events bloom!***



## APRIL 2023 INTEREST GROUPS

### CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

When: Wed. April 26 at noon

Where: Family Tree Restaurant, 4346 Bailey Ave.

Book: Book Selection for 2023 – 2024.

RSVP: Barbara Libby at 716 836-8303 or

[bplibby1@verizon.net](mailto:bplibby1@verizon.net)



### DINNER BY THE BOOK

When: Wed. April 19 at 5:30 pm

Where: Family Tree Restaurant, 4346 Bailey Ave.

Book: Book Selection for 2023 – 2024. Please

come with 2–3 suggestions for next year.

RSVP: Judy Malamas at 716-632-0461 or

[tsagewood@aol.com](mailto:tsagewood@aol.com)

### WNY CULINARY DELIGHTS

When: Wed. April 12<sup>h</sup> at 5:30 pm

Where: Statler Erie Room at ECC North. It is Buffet Night.

Directions: Take Main St. (Rt. 5) to Tech Dr., the first street past Youngs Rd. Turn right and go all the way to Wehrle Dr. Turn right and go to the first street – Element Dr. Turn right and go to stop sign. Turn left and you will see the Dental Hygiene Building. At the far end of this building is the Statler Room. Enter through the double doors. It is labeled Statler Room on the outside of the building.

RSVP: Barbara Libby by 4/3 at 716-836-8303 or

[bplibby1@verizon.net](mailto:bplibby1@verizon.net).

Barb prefers an email response so she has a record.

## IMPORTANT MEMBER INFO!

### ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

You will all be receiving next month (either electronically or by mail) the ballot for electing new branch officers for the 2023-2025 biennium. The nominating committee is pleased to present this slate of candidates:

- President—Lilyen Mascellino
- Program VP—Dr. Marian Deutschman
- Membership Retention VP—Dr. Susan McClary
- Branch Treasurer—open at this point, write-ins and volunteers welcome!
- Chamberlin/Funds for Education Treasurer—Kathie SantaMaria



### MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS!

In April we will be sending **out** membership renewal forms to those members who have not self-renewed online and whose memberships will expire soon. We are all struggling with the new national system, so please be patient with us. Please send in your forms and checks as soon as possible to give us time to process them.

**There's still time to self-renew**, though—the instructions were in the March Advocate

### 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.

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[recruitment@aauwbuffalo.org](mailto:recruitment@aauwbuffalo.org)

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375 Parkhurst Blvd.

Buffalo, NY 14223

[mlcrock@msn.com](mailto:mlcrock@msn.com)

## THE STORIES YOU MAY NOT HAVE HEARD

*Dr. Marian Deutschman*

Journalists have a crucial role in our democracy. And yet, depending on your sources of information and who you believe, some very important stories may never reach you. In a recent article in *The New Yorker*, Louis Menand wrote, “It is hard to be ‘objective’ and sell news at the same time.” Fox News did not carry the January 6<sup>th</sup> hearings. Live news coverage was left to Fox Business with a smaller viewership. Fox News averages 1.5 million viewers during the day. Fox Business averages 136,000. Tucker Carlson draws more than three million viewers for his show at 8 p.m. He was one of the anchors who determined if coverage was warranted. Not broadcasting the hearings sends a message to loyal Fox viewers that Fox won’t “legitimize a process that many conservatives see as a kangaroo court.”

Fifty years ago, most Americans acquired their news from three network newscasts. “But the development of partisan cable news shows, talk radio, and Internet websites has created a fragmented information environment that allows voters to share their predispositions,” says Timothy Redmond in his book on political tribalism. During the Trump presidency, the press wasn’t silenced but it was discredited, especially among those who supported the president. We heard terms such as “fake news” or “alternative facts.” Some people began to only believe their own trusted sources. For many people, one of these trusted sources was Fox News. At this time, Fox News and its parent company are facing serious threats to their financial and reputational health from a major \$1.6 billion defamation lawsuit brought by Dominion Voting Systems and tied to coverage of the 2020 election. Some legal experts believe the lawsuit has a solid chance of succeeding.

Dominion Voting Systems is a voting technology provider that claims that Fox News defamed it “by knowingly repeating falsehoods from former President Trump and his aides and allies that Dominion’s services were used to fraudulently elect Joe Biden to the White House.” Another voting machine company, Smartmatic, also sued Fox News for defamation asking \$2.7 billion in damages. Recent unsealed court filings show these election fraud claims were false. Depositions and texts reveal that many hosts and executives at Fox News had significant doubts about the claims made by Trump, but that they were also worried about how their audience would react if those claims were fact-checked. They were worried about the

ratings, the bottom line, and losing their audience to other conservative “trusted” sources of information. Did the Fox News audience get information about the lawsuits?

The Dominion case is scheduled to go to trial on April 17, and a final determination on whether Fox News is guilty of defamation should come by the end of May. Dominion also sued Fox Corporation for defamation, in an effort to discover the role Chairman Rupert Murdoch and his son and other Fox executives played to push the fraud claims. That lawsuit has been consolidated with the Fox News case. Do loyal viewers of Fox News feel victimized by only seeing and hearing a selection of news that Fox knows is supporting predispositions of viewers? CNN

Business says Rupert Murdoch doesn’t treat Fox News like an actual news organization but more like an extension of the GOP. Examples they provide include giving Biden’s ads and debate strategy to Trump’s son-in-law in 2020 before they were public, having Sean Hannity say something supportive about Republican Senator Lindsey Graham, help to defeat Senate candidates, etc.

Dan Froomkin, editor of Press Watch, an independent non-profit website devoted to improving political coverage, writes about a study that “suggests Fox News viewers aren’t just manipulated and misinformed – they are literally being made ignorant by their consumption habits.” “Fox News is a purveyor of propaganda and misinformation,” says Froomkin. “It is not a source of “news” by any normal definition.”

**The study paid arch-conservative Fox TV viewers to watch CNN for a month.** The study was conducted by political scientists: David Broockman, who teaches at UC-Berkeley, and Joshua Kalla, who teaches at Yale. When these Fox viewers in the study watched CNN, they heard about things Fox wasn’t telling them. They became more knowledgeable about what was really going on in the United States. The experiment didn’t change their political preferences but it slightly altered their perceptions of certain key issues and political candidates. The study differentiated between “traditionally emphasized forms of media influence,” like agenda setting and framing, and what they call “partisan coverage filtering”: the choice to selectively report information about selective topics, based on what’s favorable to the network’s partisan side, and ignore everything else.





## 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! **WE NEED YOUR HELP.**

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

**RELIGION/PHILOSOPHY TABLE (Category)**  
**CHAIR**  
Books at the sale are organized into categories by subject. These categories need to be organized on the tables prior to the sale. During the sale our volunteers will keep them replenished.  
Currently we are **seeking a section chair for Religion and Philosophy.** This is admittedly a huge section—perhaps a group of friends could take it on? Our former chair will help, but cannot do it alone this year. If you and/or your friends are interested, please contact Sue Licata (716-622-9096), Pat Baker (716-445-3793), or Karen Hoffman (716-907-8666).



## **SHIFT SUPERVISORS (SORTING and COLLECTING)**

From April 18 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 four-hour shift or many shifts! Shifts are:

- Tuesdays 8:45am-1pm, 1pm-5pm & 5pm-8 pm
- Wednesday 8:45am-1pm and 1pm-5pm
- Thursday & Friday 12:45pm –5 pm
- Saturdays 8:45 am-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 Tuesday 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](mailto:cbk148@aol.com)

**The Annual Business Meeting** will be held on May 6 at Elldon's Grill & Banquet at the River Oaks Golf Club on Grand Island. In addition to the installation of the newly elected officers (see pg. 3) and annual reports by our current officers, we will be led in a discussion of the "Past, Present, and Future of Women's Issues" by historian Lindsey Lauren Visser, Deputy Director of the Centro Culturale Italiano di Buffalo.

More details next month, but the **registration deadline is at the end of April.**

**Meal choices are:**

- Pasta Verde. Bucatini noodles, spinach, asparagus, peas, basil, garlic, olive oil and romano cheese
- Bourbon Salmon. Grilled salmon finished with a bourbon glaze, served with baby bok choy and potato
- Filet of Sirloin. 5oz Angus steak filet seasoned with house rub, served with potato and vegetable of choice

**REGISTRATION—Deadline April 28!!!!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check your meal choice:

Pasta Verde     Bourbon Salmon     Filet of Sirloin

**Please add Guest names and meal choices on the back or on a separate sheet of paper)**

Please clip or copy and send with a check for \$25/person to:  
Betty Preble, 1 Fox Run Lane #622, Orchard Park, NY 14127

**\*\*DATES TO REMEMBER\*\***

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

**Wednesday, April 5, 6:30 pm,** Board Meeting at Ebenezer United Church of Christ, 630 Main St in West Seneca.

**Thursday, April 13 - SCHOLARSHIP CELEBRATION** at Salvatore's! See page 1.

**Wednesday, May 3, 6:30 pm,** Board Meeting at Christ United Methodist Church, Harlem/Saratoga in Snyder.

**Saturday, May 6 - Annual Meeting Luncheon** at at Elldon's Grill & Banquet on Grand Island. Register on page 5.

**May 31 - June 4 - BOOKSALE!**

**Wednesday, June 14, 6:30 pm,** Board Meeting at Ebenezer United Church of Christ, 630 Main St in West Seneca. Note change of date!

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

