Advocate

Together Making a Difference…

OCTOBER 2026



In This Issue:

October Program – 'Metamorphosis"	2
November Program – "Trivia Night"	3
President's Message	4
Membership	5
Gloria Steinem	5
Public Policy	6
Scholarship News	7-8
Book Sale	9
Special Interest Groups	10-11
Dates to Remember	12

NOVEMBER ADVOCATE

The deadline for each issue of the Advocate is the 5th of the previous month. Please submit articles to the editor via email by October 5, 2026 to:

newsletter@ AAUWBuffalo.org

AAUW Buffalo (NY) Branch

OCTOBER'S PROGRAM

Please join us on

Tuesday, October 20, 2026

at

Julia Boyer Reinstein Library

1030 Losson Road, Cheektowaga, NY 14227

SILENCED TURKEY

AAUW Buffalo Branch

In Collaboration with

Advocates of Silenced Turkey

Will Present a FREE Viewing of the
Award Winning Documentary

"METAMORPHOSIS"

Women's Resilience to Oppression in Turkey



6:00 pm Registration & Light Snacks
6:15 pm Documentary
7:25 pm Q&A Following Documentary

Seating is limited!
Please register on or before Friday, October 16

Registration: Click Here to register online or
mail the completed form below (one form per person) to:
AAUW Buffalo, PO Box 894, Buffalo, NY 14225

Name: _____

Phone No.: _____ Email: _____

If interested in carpooling, please indicate your area (O.P., Williamsville, Amherst, etc.)

_____

AAUW Buffalo Branch Invites You to Our 2nd



Thursday, November 12, 2026 at 5:30pm
Hosted by Joe Hotchkiss
Invite your Family & Friends

My Tomato Pie Restaurant

3055 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst, NY 14228

Buffet Dinner is $34 per person & includes:

Appetizers (specialty pizza & veggies), Salad, Garlic Roasted Red Potatoes, Eggplant Parm, Roast Beef, Rolls, Coffee & Tea. Cash Bar Available.

RSVP by November 5th

Please join us for our annual fall dinner where we will welcome new members, greet old friends & continue to celebrate our **136th year**!

Registration: Click Here to register online and pay $34 per person via Credit Card. Or mail the completed form below (include all names of those in your group – for name tags), along with a check for $34 per person to: AAUW Buffalo, PO Box 894, Buffalo, NY 14225

Name: _____

Phone No.: _____ Email: _____

If interested in carpooling, please indicate your area (O.P., Williamsville, Amherst, etc.)

_____

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

- Pat Miceli

"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."
- African Proverb

This proverb means individual work brings quick results, but teamwork and community lead to lasting success. As a Branch these are our goals; teamwork and community.

From September 24-27, Carol Griffith and Pat Miceli will attend the Atlantic Regional Conference in Lancaster, PA. The goals of this conference are as follows:

Connect and Collaborate:

Bring together members, advocates, researchers, and professionals from 13 states to share ideas and build networks across branches.

Address Critical Issues:

Discuss core topics including voting rights, workplace equity, women's health, economic security, bodily autonomy, and public policy.

Actionable Takeaways:

Equip attendees with practical resources, strategies, and renewed inspiration to implement positive changes in their local communities, workplaces, and classrooms.

I will report in the November Advocate the important take aways from this conference. In addition, in the spirit of collaboration and teamwork, please consider registering for the October Program:

"Metamorphosis: Women's Resilience to Oppression in Turkey" 10-20-26 at the Julia Reinstein Library, Cheektowaga 6-7:45 pm.

Remember:

"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

THE BUFFALO BRANCH
ADVOCATE

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.

October Vol. CXXXV, No. 2
Circulation 180

President: Pat Miceli
Publisher/Editor: Karen May
Assistant Editors: Betty Preble
Judy Weidemann

For prospective or new member questions, please contact:
Membership VP: Andy Smith
Membership@aauwbuffalo.org

Send address changes to:
Mary Crocker
375 Parkhurst Blvd.
Buffalo, NY 1422
mlcrock@msn.com

MEMBERSHIP

-Andy Smith

A warm and friendly welcome to all our New Members!

Katelyn Fischer
Christopher Mielcarski
Sharon Mozeko
Christine Wieder

Ellen Parker
Marie Bahringer
Amanda Wang Valetine
Anne Lipp-Read

New and Current Members, you might enjoy the presentations I made and may even learn something new.

Membership Social Presentation

History & Photo from Membership Social

GLORIA STEINEM: ADVOCATE FOR WOMEN

Gloria Steinem was a journalist, activist, and one of the most prominent voices of the modern women's rights movement. For more than six decades, she advocated for women's equality in education, employment, politics, and society.

Steinem used journalism to expose discrimination and bring women's experiences into public discussion. In 1972, she helped establish *Ms.* magazine, creating an influential national platform for issues affecting women. She also co-founded organizations including the National Women's Political Caucus and the Women's Action Alliance.

Throughout her life, Steinem spoke and organized on issues including equal opportunity, reproductive rights, political representation, and the Equal Rights Amendment. Her work helped make women's equality a central part of the American conversation and inspired generations of women to advocate for their rights.

She passed on Wednesday at her home in New York City. She was 92. The statement from her family and foundation said she passed peacefully, "surrounded by some of the many who loved her." She never stopped working for equality — not for one day, not until the very end.

Public Policy

Dr. Marian Deutschman, Public Policy Chair

"You know things will always change. It's up to you to rearrange.
Your life will never be the same"

The *Long, Long Road* album that includes these lyrical themes by Ringo Starr was released in 2026. As we face the midterm elections this November, it seems appropriate to consider the long road we have traveled since the 2024 election. According to a Gallup poll, before the 2024 election 21% of Americans wanted to leave the United States permanently if candidate Donald Trump won. Most Americans are staying put. Change brings uncertainty. How do we prepare for the unknown? Maybe Artificial Intelligence (AI) can help guide us.

An AI overview states the following about the period of time since January 2025: As of September 2026, President Donald Trump has signed dozens of new executive orders, pushed forward major infrastructure projects, and implemented sweeping policy and health changes during the second year of his term.

He signed executive orders supporting U.S. ranchers and measures to rebuild the cattle herd. He issued an executive order shifting childhood vaccine recommendations to focus on a core group of 11 immunizations rather than universal mandates for shots like COVID-19 and flu.

The AI overview continues: He signed directives aimed at advancing U.S. quantum computing capabilities and moving federal systems to quantum cryptography. He won a Supreme Court ruling enabling stricter mail-in voting requirements to move forward ahead of the midterms. He used the Defense Production Act to secure domestic supplies of critical agricultural and defense materials like phosphorus and glyphosate-based herbicides that have become a central focus of U.S. national security and economic policy. The list goes on and on.

But has Trump done anything about inflation, the cost of living and gas prices in this term in office? Economic factors shaping the cost of living during his current term are outlined here: **President Donald Trump's second term has seen a mix of regulatory actions, legislative tax changes, and significant geopolitical disruptions** that have heavily impacted inflation, the cost of living, and gas prices. While his administration initially celebrated dropping inflation rates and four-year lows in energy prices during 2025, the **outbreak of the U.S. war with Iran in early 2026 reversed many of those trends,** causing gas prices and overall inflation to spike significantly, says AI.

Trump campaigned on a promise to cut energy prices in half, and throughout 2025, gas prices steadily declined, reaching a nationwide average low of **$2.78 a gallon by January 2026**. However, following the eruption of military conflict with Iran and the subsequent closure of the crucial Strait of Hormuz, global crude oil markets suffered massive shocks. AI serves as a guide by saying that pump prices rocketed to a peak of roughly **$4.50 a gallon in mid-May 2026** and currently hover around **$4.12 to $4.21 a gallon**.

Remember the words of Ringo Starr: **"You know things will always change / It's up to you to rearrange / Your life will never be the same."** Now it's time for your courageous vote.

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

~Mary Bashore

"We can give someone a brighter future"

With the help of many others, much has been done behind the scenes the past couple months. Formal written policies governing our scholarship program have been formulated, the position description for Scholarship Director has been updated, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) have been updated, and scholarship application instructions and forms have been revised.

Some important changes to note

- Information posted on our website and in promotional literature now differentiates between merit-based scholarships and Chamberlin Loans and Funds for Education. Each has its own funding sources, FAQs, due dates and requirements.
- All scholarship application materials (applications, letters of recommendation and transcripts) will be submitted electronically. Did you know? We expect to receive over 100 applications for Women Entering College scholarships. AnneMarie Haumesser has devised a good system to organize and review these materials.
- We are continuing to expand our depth and reach. All scholarships will be open to residents of Western NY, and there will now be 6 scholarships for Women Entering College. That means we now have up to 21 scholarships, plus grants and interest-free loans. There is a handy-dandy chart that outlines the basic information.
- Under the category of Professional Development, Buffalo Branch members will be able to apply year-round for Clarine Radt mini-grants (up to $500 a year) for professional development and continuing/lifelong education, such as conferences and seminars. We have also revived the opportunity for college women to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). We have dedicated funding sources for these opportunities and seek to provide greater value to members and potential members.
- Don't forget, students may become AAUW members at a greatly discounted cost. Please encourage students to become members, even if they are not selected or choose not to apply for any of our scholarships, grants and loans. They are our future!

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS –continued

~Mary Bashore

AAUW BUFFALO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2026-2027

BUFFALO BRANCH AAUW SCHOLARSHIPS 2027

APPLICATIONS DUE February 13, 2027. See FAQs and details at www.AAUWBuffalo.org

Education Program/Name	Audience	Criteria	How Much
Women Entering College Scholarships	WNY women graduating high school in WNY and entering college full-time in the fall	Academic and Extracurricular Excellence, 95 GPA minimum	Up to six $5,000 Awards
Olga Lindberg Scholarships	WNY women in 4th year of college and above	Academic Excellence - minimum 3.7 Cum GPA	Up to four $8,000 Awards
Catalyst for Change Scholarships	WNY graduate or undergraduate student	Demonstrated accomplishments in line with AAUW mission	Up to four $5,000 Awards
Jacquie Walker Scholarships	WNY graduate or undergraduate student - must have graduated from a WNY high	Demonstrated Community Service and Academic Achievement	Up to two $5,000 Awards
Adult Learners in Transition Scholarships	WNY women on a non-traditional educational path	Merit Based	Up to two $5,000 Awards for Full-Time & two $2,500 for Part-
Swift-MacClennan Public Affairs Scholarship	WNY woman - high school senior, undergraduate or graduate student	Participation in Campus Newspaper or Television Productions	One $1,000 Award

BUFFALO BRANCH AAUW LOANS AND GRANTS 2026-2027

APPLICATIONS DUE Dec. 1 and May 1. See FAQs and details at www.AAUWBuffalo.org

Education Program/Name	Audience	Criteria	How Much
Chamberlin Loans & Grants	WNY Woman - Sophomore in College & Beyond	Financial Need, Progress in Degree - Preference to Cornell	$5,000 Max Renewable
Funds for Education Loans & Grants	WNY Student - Sophomore in College & Beyond	Financial Need, Progress in Degree	$5,000 Max Renewable

BUFFALO BRANCH AAUW PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS 2026-2027

Applications accepted any time. Details at www.AAUWBuffalo.org

Education Program/Name	Audience	Criteria	How Much
Clarine Radt Mini-Grants	AAUW Buffalo Branch members	Professional development & continuing ed.	Up to $500
National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)	WNY Undergrad or Graduate Student	Merit Based	Up to $1,000

BOOK SALE

~Betty Preble

"We're Getting Excited"

The Booksale committee has been busy getting our NEW collection/sorting location set up for business. Our regular hours will be 9am-1pm Tuesdays and Wednesdays plus 10am-1pm on Saturdays. The new address is 3774 Harlem Rd, in Cheektowaga. There is a map on the website for the benefit of those who are not familiar with the area.

We're going to try accepting VHS and cassettes again – this has been requested by our customers, so we'll see how it goes this year.

There will be sorting training sessions starting in late October or possibly early November – we'll put the information on the website. Hopefully we will minimize the number of misplaced books by going through the basic steps of categorization – unfortunately, you can't always go by what it says on the cover! We are insisting that new sorters be trained.

Unfortunately, parking at the new site is limited. If you are an experienced and/or trained sorter and are planning to stop by to work, we suggest that you carpool.

> Especially exciting is the news that Moog has chosen to run a book drive for us in September for their month of giving. We look forward to reporting on the success of that next month!

Remember to hold open the first week of June, 2027, so you can come help at the sale – June 2-6.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

DINNER BY THE BOOK

When: Wed., October 21st, at 5:00 pm
Where: --- NEW LOCATION ---
The Olympic Restaurant
1601 Military Rd, Buffalo, NY, 14217

Book: *Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead,* by Olga Tokarczuk

Discussion Leader: Hilde Neubauer

Facilitator: Pat Miceli

RSVP: Please RSVP each month!
Judy Malamas 716-632-0461
Email: tsagewood@aol.com

LET'S TALK PUBLIC POLICY!

When: Wednesday, September 30th
1:30 pm
Where: Dash's, 1770 Hertel Ave – 2nd floor
Discussion: Current Public Policy
R.S.V.P. Marian Deutschman 716-634-2412
or mardeu15@verizon.net
Please call or email Marian to let her know you will be attending.

CLUELESS MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

When: Wed., October 28th, at 12:00 pm
Where: Family Tree Restaurant
4346 Bailey Avenue, Amherst

Book: *Strange Houses*, by Uretsu

Presenter: Stacy Johnson

RSVP: Please RSVP each month!
Barbara Libby at 716-836-8303
or bplibby1@verizon.net

LUNCH BUNCH

When: Wednesday, Oct. 14th, at 12:30 pm

Where: West Side Bazaar 1432 Niagara Street, Buffalo

A launchpad for aspiring entrepreneurs, our merchants are bringing the world to Buffalo. An exchange of commerce and culture, come meet your neighbor—come see the world!

RSVP: Andy Smith
716-228-9540
Email: aasmith12@yahoo.com

SCRABBLE CLUB

When: Thursday, October 1st, at 5:30pm
Where: Home of Pat Miceli

Contact Lisa Casey below for Pat's address for the next gathering.

RSVP: Lisa Casey
716-957-2136
Email: lisamcfail@gmail.com



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

WINE BY ZOOM

When: Monday, Oct. 12th, at 7:00 pm

RSVP: Andy Smith
716-228-9540
Email: aasmith12@yahoo.com

Meeting chat link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/launch/jc/83895530238
Meeting ID: 838 9553 0238
Passcode: 254926
One tap mobile
+16468769923,,83895530238#,,,,*254926# US (New York)
+16469313860,,83895530238#,,,,*254926# US

Tutorial: Wednesday, Oct. 7th, at 7:00 pm

If you need help with Zoom, sign up for a tutorial offered by AAUW NYS.
Zoom Tutorial:
Introductory Basics for Beginners.
If you've ever had trouble muting/unmuting yourself or getting your web camera turned on, this course is for you! We will review the step-by-step basics of how to use Zoom.

Registration link:
https://www.aauwnys.org/technology-program-registration

THE HAPPY WANDERERS

DAY-TRIP TO AUBURN, NY

The day-trip to Auburn, NY is postponed until the spring. The Harriet Tubman House/Museum Is currently closed while under restoration.

Contact Judy Huber
716-529-9881 or
judyhuber62@yahoo.com



MASTERING LIBRARY ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

(Including Libby, Hoopla, Kanopy & Flipster)

Paula Salamone, a retired librarian will help one or two people at a time learn how to take advantage of all these "perks" at the library using your own mobile phone, tablet or laptop. We can meet by Zoom initially or in person

RSVP: Paula Salamone
Please call or text
716-479-1088

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

Return Service Requested



Moving? Please contact Mary Crocker 716-838-2796

DATES TO REMEMBER

10/1	Scrabble 5:30 PM
10/3	Book Sale Col/Sorting 10 AM - 1 PM
10/6	Book Sale Col/Sorting 9 AM - 1 PM
10/7	Book Sale Col/Sorting 9 AM - 1 PM
	Board Meeting 6:30 PM
10/10	Book Sale Col/Sorting 10 AM - 1 PM
10/12	Wine by Zoom 7:00 PM
10/13	Book Sale Col/Sorting 9 AM - 1 PM
10/14	Book Sale Col/Sorting 9 AM - 1 PM
	Lunch Bunch 12:30 PM
10/17	Book Sale Col/Sorting 10 AM - 1 PM
10/20	Book Sale Col/Sorting 9 AM - 1 PM
10/21	Book Sale Col/Sorting 9 AM - 1 PM
	Dinner By the Book 5:00 PM
10/24	Book Sale Col/Sorting 10 AM - 1 PM
10/27	Book Sale Col/Sorting 9 AM - 1 PM
10/28	Book Sale Col/Sorting 9 AM - 1 PM
	Clueless Mystery Book Club 12 PM
10/31	Book Sale Col/Sorting 10 AM - 1 PM

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

AAUW

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.