



Volume 106

# Women's Club



September, 2025

## UBWC Board

### 2025 - 2026 Executive Board

President - Eras Bechakas  
Vice-President - Susan D'Angelo  
Treasurer - Eileen Kuczmarski  
Recording Secretary - Susan Busch  
Asst Rec Secretary - Dorie Deavers  
Corres. Secretary - Sheila Marie Long  
Asst Corres Secretary - Joyce Lenda  
Members at Large:  
Jean Jain  
Barbara Miner  
Ginger Mitchell  
Activities - Vicki Pappas  
Co-Chair - Ann Rudin  
Communications - Susan Busch  
Federation - Joelle Logue  
Co-Chair - Betty Kulpa  
Gifts & Awards - Ethel Enserro  
Co-Chair - Laura Neubecker  
Historian -  
Hospitality - Debra Berger  
Co-Chair - Barbara Kaye  
Member Recognition  
Betty Kulpa  
Co-Chair - Beth Kaderabeck  
Membership - Anne Bielinski  
Co-Chair - Mary Anne Grady  
New Members - Carmella Hanley  
Co-Chair - Dawn Halvorson  
Newsletter - Julie Cohan  
Co-Chair - Linda Lee Sciortino  
Nominating - Elaine Kellick  
Co-Chair - Julie Cohan  
Parliamentarian - Beth Kaderabeck  
Publicity - Marion Brush  
Telephone - Roey Tacca  
Co-Chair - Pat Ihle  
Tribute Fund - Jane Meka  
University and Community Service  
Bunny Neenos  
Yearbook - Pamela Lojacono

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The U.B. Women's Club is a non-profit service organization to the University at Buffalo and its community. Its members participate in educational and charitable activities which directly sponsor the Grace Capen Academic Awards in the Spring semester. Membership in UB Women's Club is open to women who have a commitment to the University and the purpose of the Women's Club.

## President's Message



Dear Fellow Members,

*It's September 2025 and our 80th year is in full swing! So many special events have been planned for you with an emphasis on this incredible organization's achievements.*

*At each luncheon and in this very professional newsletter you will hear/read tidbits of milestones accomplished by its members. Please take the time to read/listen carefully. This is one way to learn of and truly appreciate a legacy of which many of us have little knowledge.*

*The UBWC has existed since 1945, originally formed to reach out to those new to the University Faculty and their wives. Fast forward 80 years later and you have a vibrant organization now embracing women from all walks of life joined together solely through their commitment to the University and its Community.*

*So much has been accomplished over those 80 years. I have absolute faith that we will continue this dedication to the University and Community as those before us in the same spirit of purpose they displayed. It is a cause worthy of our support and effort.*

*I hope you will join me in celebrating this once in a lifetime celebration. Be a part of the fun... you'll be glad you did!!*

*Eras Bechakas*

**Editor's Note:** Newsletters are published September, November, February and April. If you have something for the newsletter, send it to me, Julie Cohan, at [mgtcohan@buffalo.edu](mailto:mgtcohan@buffalo.edu). Special thanks to all the contributors and to Newsletter co-chair, Linda Lee Sciortino.

# Program Calendar

2025 – 2026

Our 80<sup>th</sup> Year

**September 13, 2025 Saturday**

**11:00am-2:00pm**

**FALL LUNCHEON and 80<sup>th</sup> Year Kick-off!**

The Columns Banquets, 2221 Transit Rd., Elma, NY 14059

*Chairs: Sue D'Angelo, Bunny Neenos*

**October 19, 2025 Sunday**

**3:00pm-5:00pm**

**Move 'N' Groove Casual Party**

Kiptom Dance Center, 2956 Union Rd, Ste #4, Cheektowaga, NY

*Chair: Beth Kaderabeck*

**November 6, 2025 Thursday**

**2:00pm-4:00pm**

**BUFFALO FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SCHOLARSHIP TEA**

*Chairs: Buffalo Federation of Women's Clubs*

Hosted by Buffalo State University, 1300 Elmwood Ave, Buffalo, NY

**December 6, 2025 Saturday**

**11:00am-3:00pm**

**HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**

Grapevine Banquets Facility, 333 Dick Rd., Depew, NY 14043

*Chairs: Lulu de la Plante, Barbara Miner*

**March 1, 2026 Sunday**

**2:00pm-4:00pm**

**ZODIAQUE DANCE PERFORMANCE**

UB Center for Arts, 100 Coventry Road, UB North Campus

*Chair: Marilyn Ciancio*

**March 28, 2026 Saturday**

**6:00pm-10:00pm**

**WINE AND DINNER PAIRING (Portugal cuisine /wines)**

The Foundry, 1738 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, NY 14207

*Chairs: Debra Berger, Betty Schaertel, Luella Kenny*

Basket Raffle Chairs: Gloria O' Neill, Sue Busch

**April 25, 2026 Saturday**

**11:00am-3:00pm**

**ELECTION and INSTALLATION of OFFICERS**

Transit Valley Country Club,

8920 Transit Rd., East Amherst, NY 14051

*Chairs: Carmella Hanley, Mary Lou Mancuso*

**June 6, 2026 Saturday**

**11:00am-3:00pm**

**SPRING LUNCHEON**

Russell's Steaks & More

6675 Transit Rd, Williamsville, NY

*Chairs: Jane Meka, Betty Schaertel*

This is the last newsletter you will receive if you have not renewed membership for the current year. Please make sure your dues are paid in order to continue receiving our newsletters and emails.

Contact Anne Bielinski at 716-634-8684 if in doubt.

# UBWC Activity Groups for 2025-26

UBWC members are welcome to participate in our various Activity Groups.  
If you are interested, call the contact person of that group.

## **BOOKS:**

The Book Group meets monthly on 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays, September–May, at the Canterbury Woods' Chelsea Club House from 1:00–2:30 pm. After refreshments at 1:00 pm, a member leads the discussion at 1:30 pm. Zoom meetings are on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays at 1:00 pm. The group selects books for the coming year each May.

**Contact:** Carolyn Giambra (863-8945), Lois Kelly (649-8015), Paula Salamone for Zoom (479-1088)

## **BRIDGE FLIGHT**

Flight Bridge is an easy and flexible way to play bridge as a foursome. Just get a partner and sign up as a team. You'll receive a list of the teams and how many games to play during the year once the signups are complete. Bridge time and hosts are arranged by the players. New bridge players are welcome.

**Contact:** Nancy Deneen (716-835-2101)

## **CARD GAMES (Hand and Foot)**

Hand and Foot is similar to Canasta, for 4 to 6 players. The group meets monthly on the last Tuesday from 12:00–3:00 pm at the Clearfield Library. As the group progresses, additional card games can be introduced.

**Contact:** Pat Smith (716-725-9369)

## **DOMINOES (Mexican Train)**

The group plays this version of Dominoes on 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays from noon to 3:00 at the Canterbury Woods' Chelsea Clubhouse. The group has experienced players, but welcomes visitors to learn. An invitation is emailed the week before a game for players to RSVP; play is 25¢ a round plus a small donation for the Grace Capen Fund.

**Contact:** Catherine Barthel (716-839-4371) or Claudia Reeves (716-998-1239)

## **FRENCH CONVERSATION**

The French Conversation group meets on 1<sup>st</sup> Mondays from 2:00–4:00 pm at the Williamsville Library on Main Street near Cayuga. We have refreshments, speak in French, read aloud, and translate a reading.

**Contact:** Jean Jain (716-633-5932)

## **MAH JONGG**

Players meet every Wednesday from 1:00 – 4:00 pm, currently at Congregation Shir Shalom on Sheridan Drive. This group welcomes experienced players, but if you'd like to learn, we can connect you with a teacher. It usually takes 4-6 lessons to be a confident player. You're welcome to visit if you'd like to learn.

**Contact:** Beth Kaderabeck (716-689-0883)

## **METROPOLITAN OPERA LIVE-STREAMED MOVIES**

Members gather on 8 specific Saturdays during the year at the Amherst Theater at 1:00 pm, to view live performances of the New York Metropolitan Opera. After the movie, impromptu groups may meet for coffee or more.

**Contact:** Merry Wyssling (716-713-7379) or Marion Brush (716-481-8398)

## **SMALL GROUP DINING OUT**

Groups of about eight diners meet monthly; members are assigned to one of the groups for the year. Each group decides its own monthly dinner dates and restaurants.

**Contact:** Vicki Pappas (812-361-9500)

## **POTENTIAL ACTIVITY GROUPS**

We're aware there's interest in the following groups. UBWC would like to offer them, but we need a member or a team of members to help organize and get them started. Please let us know if you'd be willing to help!

Email Vicki Pappas ([pappas@iu.edu](mailto:pappas@iu.edu)) or Ann Rudin ([anrudin@roadrunner.com](mailto:anrudin@roadrunner.com)).

**UBWC WALKERS:** This group could meet together for regular walks at mutually-decided venues.

**ART GALLERY TOURS:** This group could meet a couple of times a semester to visit area art galleries, with possibilities of talks by the artists or docents.

**MONTHLY MOVIES:** Members could meet monthly on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays (senior rates) at a selected theater. Afterwards, impromptu groups might want to meet to discuss the film

**THE LUNCH BUNCH:** This group could meet periodically for no-host lunches, with possibilities of meeting with the chef or staff.

## UBWC BOOK GROUP, 2025-2026

COORDINATORS: Carolyn Giambra, 716-863-8945, Lois Kelly, 716-649-8015

Meetings are on the second Monday of the month at Canterbury Woods Chelsea Clubhouse, 671 Downing Lane off Ayer Road, Williamsville. Refreshments at 1:00, discussion at 1:30 pm.

Zoom meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm.  
Coordinator: Paula Salamone, 716-479-1088.

- September 8, 9 James by Percival Everett  
Discussion Leader: Lois Kelly      Hostesses: Gerriann Ronsen, Marcia Bugyi, Marianne Hubbard
- October 13, 14 The Secret Life of Sunflowers by Marta Molnar  
Discussion Leader: Beth Kaderabeck      Hostesses: Kathy Kubalal, Bonnie Botsford
- November 10, 11 Becoming Madame Secretary by Stephanie Dray  
Discussion Leader: Dawn Halvorsen      Hostesses: Sue Busch, Laura Neubecker
- December 8, 9 The Stolen Queen by Fiona Davis  
Discussion Leader: Dawn Halvorsen      Hostesses: TBD
- January 12, 13 By Any Other Name by Jodi Picoult  
Discussion Leader: Beth Kaderabeck      Hostesses: Pat Scholz, Jane Olson, Linda Snyder
- February 9, 10 The Known World by Edward P. Jones  
Discussion Leader: Linda Swart      Hostesses: TBD
- March 9, 10 A Fall of Marigolds by Susan Meissner  
Discussion Leader: Linda Anscombe      Hostesses: TBD
- April 13, 14 Remember by Lisa Genova  
Discussion Leader: Ginger Mitchell      Hostesses: TBD
- May 11, 12 Planning Meeting      Leaders: Carolyn Giambra, Lois Kelly      Hostesses: TBD



### Corresponding Secretary



Sheila Marie Long, would like to remind everyone... If you know of a member who should receive a get well, sympathy, congratulations or thank you card... please let Sheila know at: [cotasml579@gmail.com](mailto:cotasml579@gmail.com). Thank you.

### Tribute Fund

Please consider making a donation to our Grace Capen Fund. You can donate the funds in memory of a loved one or a special gift for someone who attended the University. The gift could be for someone who just needs to be remembered in a special and unique way. Thank you to those members who have so generously given in the past. I, Jane Meka, can be contacted at (716) 836 - 6414 or at [mathmeka@aol.com](mailto:mathmeka@aol.com).





# **Move & Groove**

## **DANCE PARTY**

An hour of dance/exercise moving to music, followed by socializing and snacks. Mix and mingle as we get in the mood for our upcoming performance of UB's Zodiacque Dance Company. No experience necessary!

**Catch the  
Joy!**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19**

**3:00 - 5:00 PM**

**\$30 per person**



**Kiptom Dance Center  
2956 Union Rd. Cheektowaga, NY  
14227**

Space is limited to 30. The building is not handicap accessible but the half-flight of stairs has railings and is easy to use. Plenty of parking is available and the entrance to the dance center is in the back of the building

Our dance instructor, Dawn Tarbox Szerbiak, is a former member of UB's Zodiacque Dancers and an enthusiastic, fun-loving dancer! Dress comfortably and bring a friend!

**Reservations due no later than October 1, 2025!!**

**Cost is \$30 per person. Please make checks payable to  
UB Women's Club and mail to:  
Beth Kaderabek, 108 Collins Lane, Getzville, NY 14068**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_**

**Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$30    Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_**

UB Women's Club members are also members of the Buffalo Federation of Women's Clubs and are welcome to attend all events. The deadline for reservations for the BFWC September meeting is September 15<sup>th</sup>, so send your reservation immediately if interested.



BUFFALO FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS  
SEPTEMBER MEETING & LUNCHEON  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

CLASSIC'S BANQUET & CONFERENCE CENTER  
2425 NIAGARA FALLS BLVD.  
AMHERST, NY 14228

10:00 AM DOORS OPEN  
10:30 AM MEETING  
11:00 AM SPEAKER - CATHARINE GRAINGE, DIRECTOR OF ADVOCACY AT  
JERICHO ROAD COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER & VIVE  
12:00 PM LUNCHEON

SIT DOWN LUNCHEON: CHEF SALAD  
ROLLS & BUTTER  
OVEN ROASTED HERB POTATOES  
MIXED VEGETABLE BLEND  
ICE CREAM WITH CHOCOLATE SAUCE  
CHOICE OF ENTREE: CHICKEN FRANCAISE  
SIRLOIN STEAK  
GARLIC CRUSTED TILAPIA

COST: \$35 INCLUDES GRATUITY. PLEASE RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 15, 2025 TO  
KAREN FRITSCH, 15 SPINDRIFT COURT, APT. 1, BUFFALO, NY 14221. CHECKS  
CAN BE MADE PAYABLE TO BFWC.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ ENTREE: \_\_\_\_\_  
GUEST: \_\_\_\_\_ ENTREE: \_\_\_\_\_  
GUEST: \_\_\_\_\_ ENTREE: \_\_\_\_\_

Buffalo Federation of Women's Clubs  
September Meeting and Luncheon  
Thursday, September 25, 2025

Classic's Banquet & Conference Center  
2425 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst NY 14228

Doors Open: 10:00 AM, Meeting at 10:30 AM

Speaker at 11:00 AM

Speaker: Catharine Grainge, Director of Advocacy at Jericho Road  
Community Health Center & Vive

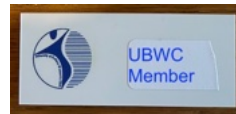
Sit Down Luncheon at 12:00 PM.

Menu: Chef Salad  
Rolls & Butter  
Oven Roasted Herb Potatoes  
Mixed Vegetable Blend  
Ice Cream with Chocolate Sauce  
Choice of Entrée: Chicken Francaise  
Sirloin Steak  
Garlic Crusted Tilapia

Cost: \$35 (Includes Gratuity)

Please RSVP by September 15, 2025 to Karen Fritsch, 15 Spindrift  
Court, Apt. 1, Buffalo, NY 14221. Checks payable to BFWC.

Include your name, address, telephone number and choice of entrée.



## Replacement of Lost Name Tags

The cost of our name tags has gone up! All members are issued a name tag free of charge as a new member. Please wear it at events so everyone knows your name. If you lose or damage your tag, you may request a replacement. Cost is \$10.00. Because we order in bulk, replacements may take a few weeks. Contact Mary Anne Grady at 716-341-9365 for a tag.

## Wine and Dinner pairing committee

The Wine and Dinner pairing committee will be accepting donations for the March 28th event at each luncheon before the event. This includes bottles of wine, gift cards, cash, large baskets, etc. Thank you.

Basket Committee Chair, Gloria O'Neill

## Photo Repository and Archive

We have a repository for photos of our club's events and activity groups. If you have photos from luncheons, dinners and activity group meetings, send them to Julie Cohan at [mgtcohan@buffalo.edu](mailto:mgtcohan@buffalo.edu). We will use the photos in emails, newsletters, social media and on our website.



## 80<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

**MILESTONE:** An important event, a turning point; an event or accomplishment marking a significant advance in an endeavor; a notable achievement.

The UB Women's Club marks a milestone on May 1, 2026; the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the organization. In the months leading up to this momentous achievement, the UB Women's Club will have a series of special events. But how did the Women's Club get to this point?

The origins stem from the Newcomers' Club begun in 1939. Suggested by Jessie Puffer (wife of Claude Puffer who became acting Chancellor of the University of Buffalo 1955-57), some current faculty wives gave a party and invited faculty wives who were new to the university. As this new group grew in membership it was decided to create a new all-university Women's Club in 1945. That group was called the "University of Buffalo Faculty Women's Club." On May 1, 1946 the group adopted its constitution and bylaws and elected a slate of officers. It officially became "The Women's Club of the University of Buffalo." The first elected president was Elizabeth Ten Eyck Perry and Grace Capen the first honorary president. Grace was the wife of Samuel Capen, the first full time Chancellor of the University of Buffalo serving from 1922-1950. The University of Buffalo began as a private medical college in 1846 until it merged with the State University of New York system in 1962 becoming a public research university and changing its name to the University at Buffalo.

In the first four decades the Women's Club grew in numbers and scope. What began as a way for women new to the university community and/or Buffalo to make friends now was a service organization providing scholarships, financial aid awards, service to the university community, and assisting international students by providing social gatherings and English language "conversation groups." The Club began as a newcomers' group but quickly added interest or activity groups which numbered 22 at one point; everything from art appreciation to UB walkers. Our Grace Capen Academic Award was established in 1975 to recognize academic achievement. This is a non-competitive scholarship; awarded to students meeting the eligibility and academic criteria. To honor Grace Capen, the Club began a "Grace W. Capen Loan Fund" in 1950 which eventually became the basis for the Grace Capen Financial Aid Awards.

The UB Women's Club means something different to each of us, whether it be a second family to those of us from other parts of the country or a place to expand our horizons and experiences with like-minded women. The first 80 years have been exceptional holding the promise that the next 80 years will be just as remarkable. Please join with the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee as we Celebrate 80!

*Dawn Halvorsen,  
80<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee member*



### Grace Capen Award Recipients Spring 2025

Meet our most recent group of Grace Capen Academic Award recipients from May 2025.

## Newsletter Deadlines

Submit articles by October 10<sup>th</sup> for the November Newsletter  
by January 15<sup>th</sup> for the February Newsletter  
by March 15<sup>th</sup> for the April Newsletter

All articles and announcements that miss the newsletter will be sent out in separate emails.

## Save this newsletter!

The Activities pages and Book Group list will not be repeated in future newsletters this year. Please save this file so that you can refer to it all year!

## Send in your dues if you have not already done so!

## WOMEN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER

*September, 2025 Edition*



4955 Glenwood Dr.  
Williamsville, NY 14221-4129  
Eileen Kuczmariski,  
Treasurer