



Volume 108

# Women's Club



February, 2026

## UBWC Board

### 2025 - 2026 Executive Board

President - Eras Bechakas  
 Vice-President - Susan D'Angelo  
 Treasurer - Eileen Kuczmariski  
 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,*

During a quiet moment this past holiday, I found myself reflecting on all of the selfless giving this organization has done in 2025 and years past.

Last year ended with the Grace Capen Awards. An amazing \$22,000 was divided amongst 44 very bright and worthy UB students. This was all made possible through your donations and hard work planning those beautiful events.

Next came the scholarships announced at the lovely Scholarship Tea hosted by Buffalo State and sponsored by the Buffalo Federation of Women's Clubs of which we are members. A total of 9 UB candidates were the recipients of various scholarships, 3 of those from a onetime UB Scholarship Fund, 2 from the BFWC Scholarship Fund, and 4 from individual Endowment Funds.

With a clear desire to guarantee ongoing financial student support, an endowment fund was established by UBWC and is administered by the University at Buffalo Foundation. Its interest has, in recent years, become the source of revenue for the Experiential Awards. This year there were 10 applicants fulfilling the requirements for the available \$11,740.28. Each entry was carefully reviewed by a joint committee of UB staff and UBWC. We were represented by co-chairs of the Gifts and Awards Committee, Ethel Enserro and Laura Neubecker, Sue D'Angelo, Pamela Lojacono and me. It was such a gratifying experience to witness the creativity and ambition our students possess and to be able to support their endeavors. They will be our guests at the September luncheon.

Another venue you have so generously given to, is the two Child Care Centers. You advocated for their on-campus sites. And through the years you have given thousands of dollars to assure their existence and availability to the entire University population.

Be proud of these UBWC achievements this past year and throughout our 80 years. This record is proof of your ceaseless dedication to the students and the University Community. Thank you for believing and giving.

*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.



# ZODIAQUE DANCE PERFORMANCE



## ZODIAQUE DANCE COMPANY 51ST SEASON SPRING CONCERT

Department of Theatre and Dance

**March 1, 2026 at 2:00 PM**

Mainstage Theatre

We are in for a real treat in March! Marilyn Ciancio has arranged for UB Women's Club members to enjoy discounted tickets for a special performance of UB's Zodiaque Dance Company. On March 1st at 2:00 pm, we will gather in the Mainstage Theatre for a program of diverse dance styles. This is celebrating the 51st season of the dance company, AND the 80th year of the UB Women's Club.

Zodiaque Dance Company joyfully dedicates its 51st Season Spring Concert to the University at Buffalo Women's Club, in celebration of 80 remarkable years of service, leadership, and unwavering commitment to the University and its vibrant community.

Founded in 1974, Zodiaque Dance Company (ZDC) has been UB's eminent pre-professional dance company for more than five decades of innovative, creative performances. In keeping with ZDC's mission, the spring program will be a diverse array of dance styles, including modern, contemporary, jazz, African, tap and other percussive forms. Works will be created by a varied and accomplished group of choreographers. The concert is under the co-direction of faculty members Kerry Ring and Michael Deeb Weaver, who will also set works. It showcases collaborations with students in our Theatre Design/Technology program.

**To purchase tickets:** Use the discount code **UBWC80** whether purchasing in person or on-line. This code will give you a \$2.00 discount per ticket.

- Purchase at the Box Office in the Center for the Arts on the UB North Campus.

UBWC members can use code **UBWC80** in person at the CFA Box Office during normal business hours.

OR

- Purchase on line through this link:

Below is a direct website link to the UBWC discount ticket offer. This link will only show the section of seats which are held for UBWC. Once a member clicks on a seat(s), they can put in the passcode **UBWC80** in the pop-up window and then choose which type of ticket(s) they want to buy (adult, senior citizen, etc):

<https://www.ticketmaster.com/event/000062E7E1CE8E7F?did=ubwc80>

**We will attend Sunday, March 1st 2:00 PM.**

We hope you will join us and enjoy a couple of surprises for our members!

## Save The Date

### UB Women's Club Annual Dinner and Wine Pairing Event

Taste the best wines from Portugal and develop your taste buds. Enjoy an evening of wine and cuisine from Portugal.

**Saturday, March 28, 2026  
at 6 pm**

The Foundry  
1738 Elmwood Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14207



## Save The Date

**Saturday, June 6, 2026 at 11:30 am**

### UB Women's Club Summer Soiree Luncheon

Russell's Steaks, Chops & More  
6675 Transit Road  
Williamsville, NY 14221

Details will be coming soon

## Wine & Dinner Baskets



### Donations Needed

If you are still interested in making a donation for the March 28th Dinner and Wine Pairing, here is all you have to do. If you are interested in donating a gift card or a check (please make it out to Gloria O'Neill), you can mail it to Gloria O'Neill, 5143 Eastbrooke Place, Williamsville, NY 14221.

If you want to donate wine, gift basket, or items for a gift basket, please call me at 716 445-3797 to arrange a drop off. Thank you.

Gloria O'Neill

## Lost Name Tag Replacement

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.



## 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.

## Split Club & Share the Wealth



In our fundraising events there are generally two ways we can make a profit; using Split Club or using Share the Wealth.

Split Club is when you divide the proceeds in half, half to us and half to 1 winner. For example, Take in \$300: \$150 for us and \$150 to 1 winner.

Share the Wealth is when you divide the proceeds in half, half to us and half to be given to 2, 3, or 4 winners. For example, Take in \$300: \$150 for us and \$50 for each of 3 winners.

It is believed that more people would purchase tickets if they had a better chance of winning. This is dependent on the number of people attending an event. For any event with high attendance, we would recommend using Share the Wealth. The chairpersons for an event can discuss what would be best when they call for tickets.

Deb Berger, Hospitality Chair

## Tribute Fund

Please consider making a donation to our Grace Capen Fund. You can donate the funds in memory of a loved one or as a special gift for someone who attended the University. The gift could be for someone who needs to be remembered in a special and unique way. Thank you to those people who have so generously given in the past.

Donations in memory of Nancy Millar are from the following people: Roger and Rosemary Mayne, Vicky and Aurelia Caburian, Barbara Holub, Edwin and Barbara Roseberry, Dr. Lawrence and Judith Schweitzer, Pat Curley and the Curley family, Carl and Linda Teets, Kathy Metz, Frank Ernst, and the whole Millar family.

I, Jane Meka, can be contacted at (716) 836 - 6414 or at [mathmeka@aol.com](mailto:mathmeka@aol.com).





January 3, 2026

Greetings,

The University at Buffalo Women's Club is a service organization to the University at Buffalo and its community. We are in our 80th year of participating in educational and charitable activities which directly sponsor the Grace Capen Academic Awards. The money raised from these activities fund academically gifted students from the University.

Please consider supporting our outstanding Dinner and Wine Pairing Event on Saturday, March 28, 2026. The event will be held at The Foundry.

Your donation of merchandise or a gift certificate will help students achieve their educational goals. Please support us in making this another successful event. Your contribution is tax deductible (acknowledged by a receipt) and your participation is acknowledged the night of the event.

On behalf of the UB Women's Club we would personally like to thank you for your contribution in advance. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,  
Basket Raffle Committee Chair

Gloria O'Neill  
5143 Eastbrooke Place  
Williamsville, NY 14221  
(716) 445-3797

## Activities Announcements

**Mah Jongg:** If you have not yet ordered your 2026 Mah Jongg card, you will need a new card by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Please order directly from the National Mah Jongg League on-line order page:

<https://www.nationalmahjonggleague.org/store.aspx#>

OR order by printing and mailing form: <https://www.nationalmahjonggleague.org/PaperForm.aspx>

**Mexican Train Dominoes:** We are now using an on-line signup to let the chairs know who is playing. Each month an email will be sent out, directing you to sign up. Currently, we are considering changing the way we are doing this because the Signup Schedule server is down. Group participants will receive instructions with the next Sign up email.

## Membership Updates to Yearbook

Please include in your yearbooks

(\*\* Denotes New Member)

\*\* Marilyn C Diina 716-857-0659  
172 Getzville Rd, Amherst, NY 14226-3517  
mimidiina@gmail.com

\*\* Catherine Goodrich-Bloniarz 716-832-7562  
145 Floradale Ave, Tonawanda, NY 14150-9019 716-339-5608  
kt145buf@yahoo.com

Kathleen Ballard 716-276-9168  
35 Groton Drive Unit E, Amherst, NY 14228-2538 716-908-6945  
[Kb94@buffalo.edu](mailto:Kb94@buffalo.edu) Grad Sch Education

Patricia Barrows 716-504-7024  
4411 Purdy Road, Lockport, NY 14094-1020  
Pbarrows7@yahoo.com

Bonnie Butcheri 716-866-1509  
705 Sandra Lane Apt 143, North Tonawanda, NY 14120-6493  
bonbutch@yahoo.com

Lorey Repicci 716-688-2039  
120 Deer Run Road, Williamsville, NY 14221-1822  
Lhr37@roadrunner.com

## Celebrating Marion Brush's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday!



At the Holiday Luncheon, Marion Brush was surprised with a cupcake with "100 candles" and a poster showing her dream come true, to have her picture on a Smucker's jam jar! Thanks to Barbara Miner and Sue Busch for the surprises!



## From the Nominating Committee

It is that time of the year we are actively working on the slate of officers for the 2026-2027 Board. We are pleased that our membership has continued to grow and that attendance at all functions this year has been fantastic.

However, it has come to our attention that it is increasingly difficult to find members who are willing to serve as officers. In order for the group to remain viable, we need women who are willing to make a commitment to the group.

When you are called upon to take a position to serve as an officer, please take time to consider it seriously.

This year we have been celebrating 80 successful years because so many have been so very generous with their time.

Self-nominations are welcome! Contact Elaine Kellick at 716-866-8491 or [ekellick@aol.com](mailto:ekellick@aol.com).



Save the Date!

*Election*  
and  
*Installation*  
*Luncheon*

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026 AT 11 AM

Transit Valley Country Club  
8920 Transit Road, East  
Amherst, NY 14051

Carmella Hanley and Mary Lou Mancuso

## Newsletter Deadlines

Submit articles 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!

Please save this file so that you can refer to it all year!

★ CELEBRATING 80 YEARS ★

WOMEN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER

*February, 2026 Edition*



**UB** **University at Buffalo** *The State University of New York*

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