

NY STATE AAUW CONVENTION APRIL 20-22, 2012

Peggy Kelland, V.P. Program

Join us at the Woodcliff Hotel and Spa in Fairport, located on a beautiful hill outside Rochester, for a weekend of learning, inspiration, and fun. This year's theme, "**The Women's History Trail-Walking In Their Footsteps**", celebrates the historic contributions of women in central and western New York to the Women's Rights Movement. If you arrive early Friday afternoon, you can start with a tour of the Susan B. Anthony House. Take a stroll on the various paths on the hotel grounds before the President's Reception, which precedes the Presidents Dinner and keynote address by Kathy Kelm, head of "The Big Teal Machine", AAUW's volunteer lobby corps in Washington, D.C. After dinner join members from around the state in Military Bridge, a social mixer so well-received last year that we are playing it again. No bridge knowledge necessary!

After a leisurely Saturday breakfast, you will participate in the annual business meeting of AAUW-NYS: hearing about the accomplishments of the past year, asking any questions you may have, and electing officers for the next two year terms. The meeting will be followed first by a presentation by Dot McLane, National Association Director at Large, and then by District Caucuses, thus touching on all levels of AAUW beyond the branches. At the Awards Luncheon branches will be recognized for their achievements during the year and we will hear an LAF speaker.

The Saturday workshops will feature historically significant individuals and groups in the progress of women in New York State. The four choices will include : "The Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Influence", "Harriet Tubman: Champion of Freedom", "Uncrowned Queens: African American Women of Buffalo", and "Elizabeth Cady Stanton Slept and Worked Here". After the workshops we will come together for "The Big Picture: Women and the U.N. Millenium Development" with Jane Roberts, and recognitions for My Sister's Keeper.

Be sure to check out the offerings in the LAF silent auction and the branch and state exhibits. Relax with yoga, or swim laps for this year's international fundraiser before the cocktail hour, entertainment, and installation dinner. The speaker will be Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, a longtime friend of AAUW. After dinner we will listen to a dialogue on The Future of the Women's History Trail, a project to better share New York's heritage with people from everywhere.

Sunday will begin with the Counterpart Breakfast, where you'll have the opportunity to meet with branch and state officers or to spend informal time with our speakers. This year we will have a second workshop session on Sunday morning, with a choice of "Chautauqua Women: Inspiration and Influence", "The Seneca Army Depot Peace Encampment", "The Temp Economy: From Kelly Girls to Permatemps", and "Clean Money,Clean Elections".

The Branch Showcase this year will be a special presentation by the Bath Branch of "Momoirs", a delightful entertainment and a successful fundraiser. The final luncheon will offer us goals for the future with "2020: Project Women", and calls to the Summer Leadership Conference and the 2013 State Convention.