

# **FOCUS**

A publication of the New York State board

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#### **MAGICAL MEETINGS AND MEMBERS**

by Eileen S. Hartmann, AAUW NYS president, TELCali@aol.com or Eshartmann5@gmail.com ~ 585.924.4876

Recently a member told me she thought there was **magic** afoot in her branch, an observation inspired by so much branch activity, so many interest groups, so many dynamic individuals making the branch a vibrant, meaningful, forward-thinking group. AAUW has always been a little magical to me and that feeling was reinforced by that member's comment and by my recent interactions at various statewide gatherings. Some examples:

In New York City, we gathered under the stars at the branch reception for Linda Hallman, AAUW's executive director; Lisa Maatz, the Association's director of public policy and government relations; and Lily Ledbetter, who spoke about pay inequities and the Fair Pay Act. A **stellar** line-up of people and presentations!

In Long Island, we met at an interbranch meeting of leaders immersed in proactive conversation and strategic planning about membership growth. Attendees were asked to consider that all branch members are **sacred** no matter what their reason for joining AAUW. Juices were flowing as branch leaders considered charging ahead with renewed determination!

In Syracuse, I was part of a brainstorming and planning session between branch leadership and a Syracuse University professor who is interested in assisting high school girls with career planning and partnership with the branch. Connections from campus to community will result in a partnership meant to enrich lives in at least three directions! From an idea, sparks may leap!

In Rochester, I attended a presentation which taught me about a website provided by the New York State Attorney General's office that allows us to access information about state legislators, their contact information, the bills they have supported, the committees they direct and serve on, and the names of lobbyists who interacted with legislators to impact decision-making. Interested? Go to <a href="https://www.sunlightny.com">www.sunlightny.com</a> and review the information. You will find yourself **fascinated**!

In Rockland County, I participated with AAUW Director-at-Large Anthony Hill in a day of dialogue about Title IX that emphasized its continuing value. Also of note was the panelist who told us that, in her experience, Generation X people often tell each other about their salary levels with the goal of helping each other achieve — an eye-opening statement and a useful way to eliminate illusions.

In Mohawk Valley, all attendees enjoyed a presentation about the values and lifestyle of men and women in the Oneida Community. The intriguing and humorous historian who relayed details of the development of the area had us all under her **spell** as she revealed details, both naughty and nice. Fun was on the agenda!

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#### MAGICAL MEETINGS AND MEMBERS

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On beautiful Keuka Lake, the ladies of that lake in District Two engaged all in discussion about the future of AAUW while reflecting upon the history of the struggles of women who value equity. The host organizers **mesmerized** attendees with their organizational skills while providing a friendly atmosphere and a chance for all to voice concerns, ideas, and depth of feelings about AAUW and its mission.

It was an extraordinary autumn as I visited enthusiastic branch members and observed with utter amazement the beauty of this state as I drove from district to district. If you were not on my pathway this time then at our next appearance together please tell me about the magic in your AAUW world!

#### **DISTRICT NEWS: FALL CONFERENCES**

by Maria Ellis, AAUW NYS district director, mellis@fsacap.com ~ 973.216.4181

I would like to congratulate our various district coordinators, branch members and friends for participating in the annual series of AAUW Fall District Conferences throughout the state. Special thanks also to the state board members who traveled many miles to participate and contribute to the success of these conferences!

Our AAUW NYS President, Eileen Hartmann, was the speaker at several of the conferences, including "Women Patriots: Past, Present & Future", organized by District 2, and "Celebrating Title IX: What's Ahead?", offered by District 5. It was very special to have Eileen with us sharing her knowledge and passion for AAUW and its mission!

There was such a variety of themes and new learning experiences across the state. They included: District 3's "Women's Rights, Equal Rights, Equal Pay"; District 4's "What's Up with Health Care? "; District 1's "International Relations: Trafficking Women and Girls"; and District 6's "Overview of AAUW Research Projects, Going Forward With the Mission".

District 7 featured the pay equity film "Dreams to Reality", created by Alfred University students with support from AAUW, and also had Linda Dening, professor of accounting at Jefferson Community College, speak about "The Impact of the Current Fiscal Emergency/Bailout and Its Effect on Women".

In summary, these Fall Conferences were a great programming success and membership drive! Thank you again for making a difference and congratulations on moving our mission forward!

#### PUTTING A FACE TO EF...YOURS!

by Tamara Brown, AAUW NYS Educational Foundation vice president, <u>TBforAAUWNYS@cs.com</u> ~ 716.649.9871

Every year there is a friendly recognition of each branch's contribution to the Educational Foundation (EF). This coming year, all branches will work together towards a very important goal...

#### \$69 in '09!

New York State branches will be working together in 2009 to raise at least \$69,000 for the Educational Foundation. In order to achieve this goal, each branch has received a special appeal for a goal based roughly upon last year's donation.

We know that with today's economic concerns, even a small increase may be difficult. Therefore, this year there will also be a special incentive to help branches raise funds for EF. A special gift will be given away to one donor in New York State who contributes via our Work & Relax drawing. The package contains:

Work ~ A\$40 Lowe's gift card Relax ~ A one-night hotel stay plus a gift certificate for dinner

#### Put Your Face on EF...

**AAUW** 

Each branch has received 20 donation receipts. Every donor receives a receipt for each \$5 donated to EF. Be sure to see your EF chair before December 13, 2009, to donate and for your chance to win the Work & Relax package.

#### See the Other Faces of EF...

Over the rest of this year -- leading up to the state convention -- newsletter articles will focus on the faces that define EF. I look forward to sharing these "faces" with you. In the meantime, let's join together to help New York State put a very important face on EF — yours!

## AAUW NYS CONVENTION INFORMATION: CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions provide a way to have AAUW NYS support actions that you believe are important to furthering our mission.

If you submit your 2009 NYS Convention Resolutions to Public Policy Director Nancy Mion, **by March 28**, they can be adopted by a majority vote.

If you wait and bring your resolutions from the floor, it requires a 2/3 vote to be heard and a 3/4 vote to be adopted. Find further information at www.aauw-nys.org/pp\_resolution.htm



#### THE CARE AND FEEDING OF VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE SHORT ON TIME\*

(\*Everyone is short on time!)

by Donna Seymour, AAUW NYS director of communications, onthego@northnet.org ~ 315.265.6985

Twenty-first century branch leaders must be realistic about the degree of involvement people are able and willing to commit to and tailor requests for volunteers accordingly. You need to motivate people to become actively involved in branch activities.

**Ask people personally.** Few people respond to an anonymous call for volunteers in the branch newsletter or at a meeting. Be prepared to call people and/or approach them individually with a request to take on a task.

**Invite people to become involved in a specific way.** People need to know the specifics of the commitment. Present members with various options for involvement and the time commitment of each, and then ask if any of those options are doable.

**Identify what people in your branch can do**. When signing up new members, include a tear-off form on which people can answer questions about their skills and interests. This information allows you to personalize your requests for help.

**Provide recognition.** Appropriately recognize people who take on even the smallest jobs. There is no better fertilizer on a field of volunteers than a heartfelt "Thank you!".

When recruiting AAUW members from different generations, your efforts will yield better results if you are sensitive to the general characteristics of each group. This means developing an understanding of how generations differ in their styles of work, volunteering, and communication. This is particularly important if your branch leadership is not of diverse generations — you're going to have to break some paradigms in order to cross the boundaries! Research shows that:

- **Seniors** (born before 1946) prefer volunteer experiences that are more structured; understand boundaries; avoid challenging the system and have a good work ethic.
- **Boomers** (born 1946-1964) are team- and process-oriented; tend to be politically conservative and socially liberal. The "Boomers" are our largest generation and many of them have downsized work and family obligations, so they have time and incredible expertise to lend to organizations.
- **Generation X** (born 1965-1980) appreciate feedback and seek a balance between work and life; have little organizational loyalty; the web and e-mail is their preferred avenue for communication.
- **Generation Y** (born 1981-1994) have a strong ability to multitask, grew up in media-conscious world and have had PC power available to them their whole lives; live in the moment, want everything quickly; demonstrate respect only after they are treated with respect.

Knowing the preferences of people from different generations invariably will allow your branch to recruit and involve more people successfully



## HIT A "HIGH FIVE" FOR CULTURAL INTERESTS

by Joan Monk, AAUW NYS cultural interests director, <a href="mailto:ftmaven@bestweb.net">ftmaven@bestweb.net</a> ~ 914.245.7704

Branches all across New York State have achieved major success in five areas:

- The Big Read
- The Arts
- Women's History
- Mentoring
- Philanthropy.

Between our book clubs, art shows, "herstory" initiatives, mentoring and philanthropy outreach, AAUW is making a difference in our communities everywhere. So let's keep up the good work and promote this five-fold focus.

Book clubs are one of the most popular branch activities. They thrive in our branches and

are a vital membership draw. Participating in local, state and national initiatives like "The Big Read" gives us the opportunity to partner with local libraries and other like-minded groups.

The arts have always been a way of showcasing the talents of our members and enriching the communities in which we live.

**Women's history** provides for us the long view of current issues and trends in our culture.

**Mentoring**, in a more formal sense, allows us to support our new members as well as the young women who attend our Sister-to-Sister Summits and other programs.

**Philanthropy** gives us a sense of pride through the outstanding legacies of the Education Foundation and Legal Advocacy Fund.

Moving the mission forward in these five ways gives your branch a "high five"! Be sure to check the Cultural Interests page on the NYS AAUW website for more information.

#### **NOTABLE PROGRAMS STATEWIDE**

by Peggy Kelland, NYS program vice president, <a href="mailto:program@aauw-nys.org">program@aauw-nys.org</a> ~ 845.297.0507

Many branches conducted programs on **public policy**. Buffalo welcomed AAUW's Lisa Maatz for "Advocacy, Policy, and Women's Democracy"; Albany heard about "The National Popular Vote"; and Fairport heard Louise Slaughter on pay equity.

Elmira-Corning held an Election Tea; New York City hosted both Lisa Maatz and AAUW President Linda Hallman; Oswego had a non-partisan analysis of the election; Rochester confronted the implications of the Bush years for the future; Southern New York heard from Nancy Mion and Judy McGinn; and Westchester had both election commissioners speaking on voting practices.

Bath, Huntington, Jefferson County, Rockland County, Schenectady, Staten Island, and Westchester all sponsored candidates' forums, often in coalition with other women's groups. Seven branches also did voter registration.

Women's issues were featured as Buffalo co-sponsored the Seneca Falls Dialogue and Dunkirk-Fredonia addressed "Women and Health". Manhattan heard from "Women Climbing the Ladder" and co-sponsored the NYWA Star breakfast.

North Fork saw "Iron-Jawed Ladies"; North Shore heard "Beyond the Pay Gap" as well as Diane Haney with "Moving the Mission Forward". Oswego heard from college women who had attended the AAUW Leadership Conference last summer. Rochester featured women entrepreneurs; Rockland had "You've Come a Long Way, Baby".

Westchester combined women's success stories with culture and an international background. Yates had an update on family planning.

Branches continued to be **involved in their communities**. Amsterdam/Gloversville/Johnstown held a shower for the domestic violence shelter, and Buffalo heard about "Resources for Domestic Violence Victims." Elmira-Corning listened to "The State of the Child in Chemung County"; Jamestown considered "The Sandwich Generation"; Mohawk Valley learned "How to Eliminate Crime in Our Area"; and North Fork learned about the issues and needs of immigrants.

Ithaca asked "Is This Climate Change Story True?" while Albany, Alfred-Hornell, and Bath learned how to go green. Poughkeepsie held a diversity conference and continued its Leading to Reading program for preschoolers. Jefferson County collected basic needs for the Impossible Dream; Mohawk Valley rang bells for the Salvation Army; and Schenectady filled bags with school supplies.

We continued our commitment to **education** and our interest in **culture**. Adirondack heard about "Women on Campus" at ACC. Huntington and St. Lawrence both presented science awards. Albany,



Bath, Poughkeepsie, and Staten Island had musical presentations, while Oneonta heard about the Glimmerglass Opera.

Oswego learned about the music of the WWII refugees at Fort Ontario and Rockland found out about the Beatles and the politics of the 1960's and 1970's. Schenectady sponsored the children's play, "Nate the Great". Buffalo, New York City, and Oneonta had tours of art galleries, while Poughkeepsie had a walking tour of its historic city. Mohawk Valley heard about the Lewis and Clark expedition.

International issues remain important. Alfred-Hornell heard about "International Services for Peace and Security"; Ithaca held its annual International Fellowship Luncheon; Manhattan heard from the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund; and New York City had "I Dream of Africa".

Schenectady learned about "Mayan Women and Their Struggle to Break Out of Poverty" while Westchester learned "How Access to Clean Water is a Women's Education Issue in Kenya".

Branches also had speakers on EF and LAF, and conducted a variety of fundraisers. Note: If you do not see your branch's stellar program, perhaps I did not receive your newsletter or other notice.

## LOOKING FORWARD TO THE 2009 AAUW NYS CONVENTION:

#### **Keynote Speaker**

Jill Birdwhistell, the chief of strategic advancement for AAUW, will be the evening's keynote speaker on Friday, April 24. Dr. Birdwhistell holds a BA from the University of Pennsylvania, a MEd from the University of Virginia, and a PhD in higher education administration and policy/law from the University of Kansas. Before coming to AAUW, she taught high school and served on the faculties of KU, UVA, and Tulane.

#### **Twenty-First Century Award**

Please check the state website for the revised and simplified 21st Century Award. There are many opportunities to win awards, so every branch should apply. Please note: You can apply for one program, for your over-all year's programming, or both!

#### INITIATIVES FOR MOVING THE MISSION FORWARD

by Bergie Lebovich, AAUW NYS membership vice president, Bergie3rd@optonline.net ~ 845.298.4045

I want to ask you to think about some very positive ways in which we can educate and entice younger women into the marvelous AAUW that we know and love — now and in the future.

- Let's get out there and get those institutions of higher learning joining us, as AAUW College/University Partners. When the institution joins, all the full-time undergraduates will become e-student affiliate members. They also can send students to the annual National Conference for College Women for leadership training. (Please don't forget to recruit the faculty and "bring on" some of those bright young faces with fresh ideas and dreams, as student affiliates)
- When the students become juniors and seniors, let's help them negotiate their first salary. The **\$tart \$mart Campus Initiative** is a 3-hour program designed to inform, direct and assist young women in realizing their REAL financial worth. Annie Houle <u>ahoule@wageproject.org</u> national director of WAGE Campus and Community Initiatives (<u>www.wageproject.org</u>), traveled the country last year and stopped at Alfred and Poughkeepsie in New York to spread her tried-and-true methods for bridging the salary gender gap. This gap could lead upwards to a loss of \$1.2 million over a lifetime of work! We're all about pay equity these days, so please take a look at the website.
- On to graduation day. . . we have all of the contact information for our young ladies who are about to go "someplace" after having negotiated a spectacular salary. (Hopefully, it will be within our state.) They know about us, they've done many things with us and now we're going to give them a gift that costs us NOTHING. Give A Grad A Gift is a simple matter of putting your information into an online form on the Association's website, <a href="www.aauw.org">www.aauw.org</a>, and include the student's contact data, as well. The graduate can take that free year's membership any place in the US. EACH current member can sponsor one member. (Again, if every member sponsored one member, then our membership would double.)

The only thing left to do is sit back and enjoy the exuberance . . . before you start it again the next year. *Go get them!* 



### **Come to Convention!**

2009 AAUW-NYS Convention

"Moving the Mission Forward"

April 24 - 26 The Sagamore Bolton Landing, New York

Convention information, hotel and convention registration forms will be available online at <a href="https://www.aauw-nys.org">www.aauw-nys.org</a> in January, 2009

Questions? Contact Mary Lou Davis 845.223.5544 or <a href="mailed-copies-style

The hotel package includes two nights' lodging, six meals, a reception and breaks.

The cost per person is: \$ 434.65 double in Lodge Room or \$449.64 double in Hotel Room \$600.04 single in Lodge Room or \$630.02 single in Hotel Room

#### FAIR PAY — THOSE PENNIES COUNT!

by Nancy Mion, AAUW NYS public policy director, <a href="myown220@aol.com">myown220@aol.com</a> ~ 631.472.9377

## WHAT DO WE WANT? FAIR PAY! WHEN DO WE WANT IT? NOW!

This is the chant of AAUW NYS women.
We want the NYS Legislature to pass the NYS
Fair Pay Act. Women need laws that provide equal pay for work of equal value and freedom of speech regarding salaries. Wage information must be known to enforce the laws.

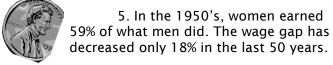
#### WHY DO WE NEED THIS ACT?

1. In New York State, 15.2% of women live in poverty, versus 12.7% nationally. This makes NYS 40th in the nation, down from 30th in 1989.

- 2. The median annual earnings of New York State women are \$33,300 versus \$31,900 nationally. Again, bringing us down from 5th in 1989 to 13th in 2005
- 3. Thirty-one percent of women in New York State have four-year degrees. They earn 18% less than equally educated men.



4. Over the past 45 years, the pay gap has been closing at the rate of less than half a penny a year.



6. AAUW's 2007 Behind the Pay Gap report shows that one year out of college, women earn 80% of what their male colleagues do. Women earn 69% ten years later.

7. The pay gap narrowed from 76.9% in 2006 to 77.8 % in 2007.

#### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

A. Support the Association's new 2009 pay equity campaign called **Keep the Change**, reflecting the penny increase in women's wages.

B. Contact those you elected about passing fair pay legislation.





#### DISABILITY SENSITIVITY IS MORE THAN POLITCAL CORRECTNESS

by Linda Fitzpatrick, AAUW NYS diversity director, <u>Linda.fitzpatrick@disabilityetiquettetraining.com</u> ~ 845.353.4470

"Jared can be hot-tempered but I'm sure you'll get along with him." "Maria is an Ivy League graduate." "JoAnna is disabled." These labels create expectations about what it's like to be around these individuals. We may avoid any hint of controversy with the hot-tempered man to avoid his alleged explosive tendencies without even knowing who he really is. We may feel unaccountably respectful of the Ivy League woman before she's earned our respect. And the person who is said to be disabled? This description carries a wide array of

assumptions about the woman's capabilities but one thing is for sure: that label overrides who the person is and what her capabilities actually are.

JoAnna may be the most skillful accountant in the department, or an accomplished scientist, but when we describe her as "disabled" it colors every expectation. And if we say "wheelchair-bound" we've characterized her as a prisoner of her wheelchair -- a victim -- rather than a person who has made an informed choice about her tool: motorized or not, collapsible or not, cantilevered wheels or not.

"Wheelchair user" implies choice whereas "wheelchair-bound" implies victim. "Disabled" or "crippled" focuses on the disability whereas the alternative "person with a disability" or "person with rheumatoid arthritis", used in an appropriate context, is both more respectful and more useful.

The widely used word "handicapped" comes from the days when the supplicant with a disability held his cap for donations and yet, in spite of that unpleasant baggage, our set-aside parking places are marked with this word. It's not ideal, but it's the common usage today with well-meaning intent.

Even though we may not always know the best words, we must acknowledge that the words we use bear thoughtful consideration. Disability sensitivity is more than a trivial offshoot of the political correctness movement. It's an important commitment that we must demand as an evolving, civilized people.

Visit www.disabilityetiquettetraining.com for more tools and techniques.





#### LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

by Mildred DeWitt, AAUW-NYS LAF vice president, <a href="mailto:laf@aauw-nys.org">laf@aauw-nys.org</a> ~ 516.318.1313

The Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) has been an important feature of AAUW's national Strategic Process. In February of 2008, the joint meeting of AAUW and AAUW's Educational Foundation voted to transition LAF to a strategy that is more aligned with our mission: equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

In fact, we've now expanded from the academic sphere to include discrimination in the wider workplace. We will support cases that have the potential to set a precedent for the future.

All other LAF programs will continue to grow and expand to include wider workplace issues: campus outreach, online resources, legal referral and plaintiff travel.

Since the start of the 2008-09 year, I have traveled to several New York State branches — Rockland, Southern New York, and Oneida — and was able to meet many AAUW LAF Liaisons as well as other branch officers and members. Upcoming visits are Yates County and Albany. It is my pleasure to travel to these branches and speak on behalf of LAF.

The end of the LAF year is rapidly approaching and all donations should be mailed to me by **December 15**. In this way, I can insure proper credit for branches as well as individual recognition. I hope you are all planning to attend the NYS Convention in April 2009 in order to give me the opportunity to thank you in person.

Remember, the 2008 LAF pin is available for a contribution of \$100. Mail your check, payable to "AAUW LAF", to: AAUW Manhattan, Planetarium Station, PO Box 390, New York, NY 10024-0390.

#### **BIOGRAPHIES STILL NEEDED!**

by Helen Engel, <a href="mailto:rengel@oswego.edu">rengel@oswego.edu</a> ~ 315.343.9678 and Marilynn Smiley, <a href="mailto:smiley@oswego.edu">smiley@oswego.edu</a> ~ 315.343.4803, AAUW NYS co-historians

Keep those biographies coming! Additional one- to three-page biographies of prominent women from your geographical area are still needed to ensure that the "Women Making a Difference" state project is a success.

The plan is to compile the biographies into a book written by AAUW members from throughout New York State. In order to equal the accomplishments of Pennsylvania, we need at least five or more biographies from each branch.

Send us your biographies as soon as they are written. They can be mailed or emailed to us. The deadline for this project is **March 2009**. Information and examples have been sent to your branch president and branch historian and may also be seen online by going to <a href="https://www.aauw-nys.org">www.aauw-nys.org</a> and looking under the History tab. The support and participation of every member is needed to make this project truly representative of the entire state.

#### Scrapbook Project 2008-2009

The branch scrapbook project is continuing for 2008-09. So "scrapbookers", get busy! Pages and information have been sent to all branch presidents. Information is also available on the state website (History tab). Make sure your branch is represented with pages at the state convention. The pages will eventually be put in the AAUW NYS archives at the University of Rochester.

#### AAUW WANTS YOUR COLLEGE!

by Diane Haney, AAUW NYS college/university director, haneydhd@gmail.com ~ 516.248.0476

Please welcome our two newest college members.

- The New York Institute of Technology (NYIT) has several locations, and the New York City and Long Island campuses are now members. North Shore Branch has worked with Associate Dean Marcia Singer on projects for several years and will do a forum on financial literacy for women in March 2009. In addition to working together to create several forums and other programs, North Shore has a loan fund for students which has helped students meet a variety of urgent financial needs. NYIT offers programs in architecture, liberal arts, education, engineering and technology and osteopathic medicine.
- Thanks to Marilynn Smiley and Juanita Tschudy for facilitating returning college member, SUNY Oswego, where, Marilynn tells me, many buildings are named after prominent former faculty who were also AAUW members, including the library, named after the branch's first president. Beautifully set by Lake Ontario, SUNY Oswego has 8,500 students in its College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; School of Business; School of Communication, Media, and the Arts; School of Education; and Graduate Studies, which together offer more than a hundred different academic programs

When you meet with <u>your</u> local college, please remind them of the new advantages of joining AAUW described in the previous issue of *FOCUS*. Need a brochure? I am willing to share!



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#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

#### **AAUW VALUE PROMISE**

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

#### **VISION STATEMENT**

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting The lives of women and girls.

#### **DIVERSITY STATEMENT**

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.

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Questions and articles should be addressed to the *FOCUS* Director, Jean Havens, 40 Kisco Park Drive, Mount Kisco, NY 10549. Telephone: 914.241.4518. Email: <u>FOCUS@aauwnys.org</u>. Submissions are accepted at the discretion of the editor.

## Attention postmaster: Dated Material. Please do not delay.

POSTMASTER: Send all address changes to AAUW Records Office, 1111 16th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036.



#### INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS

AAUW-NYS members attended/will attend two conferences at United Nations headquarters: the League of Women Voters' "Briefing on the Impact of Global Warming on Women Around the World" on December 2, 2008, and the CTAUN conference "Protecting Human Rights" on January 30, 2009. Our membership has been involved in planning and attending these highly informative conferences for many years.

As a special consultative organization at the Economic and Social Council of the UN, AAUW participates in international conferences, signs on to non-governmental organization statements, and shares AAUW's expertise.

With a new administration and a new Congress in Washington, this is an opportune time for AAUW members to contact their representatives about CEDAW (the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women). CEDAW has been ratified by 185 countries — all except the following eight: Sudan, Somalia, Iran, Qatar, Nauru, Palau, Tonga, and the United States of America.

#### TERMINOLOGY CLARIFICATION

by Norma Plett, AAUW NYS treasurer, <a href="mailto:normaplett@yahoo.com">normaplett@yahoo.com</a> ~ 516.627.5590

For all AAUW members, but especially for branch treasurers:

A transfer is a member who has paid dues (state and national) in one branch and then, for whatever reason, joins another branch in the same year. They do not pay state and national dues in their new branch for the same year.

