

YOUR VOICE IN AAUW

by Eileen S. Hartmann, AAUW NYS President,
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Most of us have the pleasure of voicing our opinions and ideas on a daily basis and derive satisfaction from that opportunity. In recent national, state, and local public elections we debated the value of the voices we heard as candidates filled the airwaves with discussions of issues. In turn, we took our opinions to the polls where we could make it

clear whether we agreed or disagreed with those candidates and issues.

In AAUW, we voted as delegates at the 2009 national convention in St. Louis to allow all members to have a voice in decision making

and to do away with the delegate system for the business of the organization. Moving that along, we now have been provided with a framework that gives us the chance to participate in a new process of voting: every member of AAUW may vote on the issues of importance, the chance to change business as it stands or the voice to retain what we view as valuable.

Be informed about the details of the "One Member, One Vote" process which is now being rolled out via the www.aauw.org website and in the national publication *Outlook*. Options to learn about this newly formed initiative are available to you, and once you are provided with a PIN to use along with your membership number to voice your opinion, I urge you to do so. Your input is invited now and the deadlines for submissions for bylaws changes, resolutions, applications from candidates for national office and public policy issues are listed on page 22 of the fall 2010 issue of *Outlook*. Your votes for the final ballots may be cast through online options or on paper. The deadlines for voting fall between May 1 and June 17, 2011, depending upon the method you choose to cast your vote. The June 17 deadline for electronic voting falls within the timeline for the national convention, which will be held at the Renaissance Hotel, Washington, DC, from June 16-19.

For now, AAUW New York State will continue

to use the delegate system for voting and the business of the state conducted at our annual convention. Join us for this upcoming event at the Glen Cove Mansion on Long Island from April 15-17, 2011, and watch for details and registration materials through our own website (www.aauw-nys.org) and a variety of other sources.

Thank you for your membership in AAUW. Make it a richer experience as a member by voicing your opinion on critical matters that ensure the vitality of this time-honored association. Vote your vision of the future.

2011 STATE CONVENTION, APRIL 15-17

by Peggy Kelland, AAUW NYS Program Vice President, program@aauw-nys.org ~ 845.297.0507

This spring's convention will be held at the Glen Cove Mansion on Long Island's Gold Coast, the location of F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Great Gatsby." The classic Georgian-style manor house was once celebrated as among "the 12 best country houses in America". In 1968 it became one of the first conference centers in America. Set in expansive lawns, gardens, and woodlands, it has a number of walking paths as well as an indoor pool and fitness center.

Tentative convention plans incorporate some fun time — Zumba, a military bridge tournament, and a games night. There will be an optional excursion to nearby Sagamore Hill, home of Teddy Roosevelt. These lighter tidbits will accompany the main courses: provocative speakers, enriching workshops, inter-branch networking, and the opportunity to participate in setting the future direction of AAUW NYS.

The keynote will be given by National

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Plan to visit *Sagamore Hill, the home of Theodore Roosevelt, during the 2011 NYS Convention!*

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THE NEW YORK STATE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND VISION

by Lisa Clark, AAUW NYS Educational Foundation VP,
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As the end of the calendar year approaches, please join me as we reflect on the impact of the Educational Opportunities Fund.

Commencing in the Fall of 2010, AAUW invested in 178 recipients of American, International and Selected Professions Fellowships, as well as Career Development Grants, nationwide.

Seventeen of these fellowship and grant recipients are from New York State. They represent graduate students in pursuit of a broad range of professions including: radio/TV/film, health and medical sciences,

anthropology, education, sociology, psychological counseling, biological sciences, neurosciences, foreign literature, music history and musicology, nutrition, ecology, public policy, business administration, environmental health sciences, and women's history. Imagine how powerful these women will be once they have completed their educational goals!

New York State also received two out of 16 one-year Community Action Grants, awarded this fall.

The end of the calendar year for Educational Opportunities Fund contributions is upon us. Branches whose contributions were postmarked before the year-end deadline will be recognized for 2010 support.

By the end of the third quarter, a number of branches had qualified, with contributions of \$500 or more, to name honorees for recognition as part of the Educational Opportunities Fund Gala at the 2011 state convention. **Staten Island** and the **Greater Rochester Area** branches continue to lead the way in that category. Congratulations also to the **Nassau County** and **Adirondack** branches for their most recent contributions.

I'd like to applaud the generosity of the **Smithtown Area** and **Islip** branches for their support of the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, which awards grants to organizations engaged in educational, research, legal and legislative work on behalf of women and girls.

We appreciate the efforts of all branches in support of the AAUW mission. As I write this, the **Schenectady**, **New York City**, **Massapequa** and **Kingston** branches lead the way in total branch contributions. Thank you, everyone.



LAF CORNER (LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND)

by Mildred DeWitt, AAUW NYS LAF Vice President,
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The holiday season is upon us, filled with family gatherings and traditional celebrations. It also marks the deadline for LAF contributions for 2010. The Association requires that 2010 donations be postmarked by December 31. They will not credit any donations after that date for this year.

If you have any last-minute contributions, please forward the checks directly to AAUW at P.O. Box 98045, Washington, DC 20090-0845. If you do this, please also forward a copy of the CRF and the checks to me at: Planetarium Station, PO Box 390, New York, NY 10024.

LAF Case Support

As the original cases supported by AAUW LAF are dwindling to a few, the LAF staff seeks new opportunities to support cases that will reflect significant change and legal precedent.

To be eligible for LAF support, cases must:

- Address a workplace issue within AAUW's mission such as discrimination related to economic security, education, civil rights, or Title IX. The workplace can include college and university campuses.
- Have the potential for significance with respect to future cases and the likelihood to set or reinforce precedent that will discourage gender discrimination and benefit women.
- Be filed in state or federal court, preferably at the appellate level.
- Request support to advance the legal case. Financial support will not be provided to reimburse personal expenditures.
- Have litigants who are willing to engage in branch visits and make appropriate public appearances with AAUW.
- Allow AAUW to publicize support for the case internally and externally, including in the media, on the website, and in electronic and print communications.



The website <http://aauw.org/act/laf/> provides legal advice, questions to ask an attorney and can guide potential litigants with choices.

2011 STATE CONVENTION *(Continued from pg. 1)*

President **Carolyn Garfein**. Originally a New Yorker, she is an inspiring leader who will be spending the entire weekend with us.

The four concurrent workshop choices will be: "Achieving Pay Equity Through Gender Awareness," "Introducing Girls to Spatial Visualization," "Fair Trade," and "Long Island Women During the Revolutionary War." A roundtable discussion with Carolyn Garfein will follow.

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2011 STATE CONVENTION *(Continued from pg. 2)*

After Saturday's business meeting (open to all, not just delegates) there will be a Public Policy panel with public officials. The LAF luncheon will feature AAUW Program Manager **Holly Kearnl** while dinner will highlight EF recipient **Amrita Vahl**.

Sunday's schedule includes a counterpart breakfast, the branch showcase, and special presentations related to our state project, My Sister's Keeper. The weekend concludes with a luncheon.

Convention is important not just for branch officers, who get to meet and share with other branch counterparts and state leaders, but also for other members, both new and old, to get refreshing new perspectives on AAUW. We hope to see many of you there.

SHAPE UP THE FUTURE OF YOUR BRANCH. . .

by Bergie Lebovich, AAUW NYS Membership Vice President, Bergie.lebovitch@gmail.com ~ 845.298.4045

Winter is upon us, and time to think about bringing in new members to your branch. Plan a Shape the Future event for March 15, or soon thereafter. Have your members (think-Member-get-a-Member!!) interact with members of the community and tell the "potentials" of all of the exciting things you are doing. Please have the guests sign in on the [Shape the Future Guest List](#) and offer them the special national price of \$24.50, plus \$10 NYS dues, plus your branch's fee, for that day only. Remember, that those brought in after March 15 receive a year-and-a-quarter membership for the price of one year!

Once you report your new members to the Association, they will give you a free membership credit for every two new members you bring in (up to three free memberships per year) These "freebies" are redeemable until the end of the fiscal year on June 30.

When you come to the 2011 state convention at the Glen Cove Mansion on Long Island next April, we want you to share your thoughts on how to utilize your free memberships. For starters, **Islip Branch** has a participation points program, which they award in January to their most active members. **Poughkeepsie** has a raffle for those who have responded most quickly to renewing, thus allowing the branch to complete the Branch Dues Report before the June 30 deadline. What is your branch doing with your \$49 national credits? Let's talk!



SOLIDARITY BUILDS VISIBILITY

by Claire Regan, AAUW NYS Visibility Director, regan@siadvance.com ~ 917.612.5096

Staten Island may be the quietest borough of New York City — the "forgotten borough," as it's often called. But when it comes to women's organizations, the joint is jumpin'.

There are at least 13 groups that boast mostly-women members, including the Soroptimists, the World of Women, the New York State Women, the League of Women Voters, the Women's Political Caucus, the Women's Bar Association, and of course, AAUW — just to name half.

This baker's dozen has a history of competing for the same members in a borough that measures a restricted 13 miles long by 7 miles wide. Each group has its own mission, platform and priorities. For the most part, the competition has been friendly.

But a new movement has taken hold in the last year that brings the groups together under one common mission: **solidarity**. Instead of competing for members, the groups are working together to pool resources and advance women's causes on a united front.

The movement is called "The Sisterhood," and it's building momentum slowly but surely. There have been several meetings, and even a successful event — Candidate's Night on October 12, which drew more than 125 women representing every one of the 13 organizations.

The Staten Island branch of AAUW was well-represented with 37 members, and our Vice President for Programming, **Edwina Frances Martin**, was the evening's effective and eloquent moderator. (Bravo, Edwina!)

It was invigorating and empowering to watch women from different organizations network and socialize as one unit. There was a continuous buzz in the room as they talked about their groups and their projects. Barriers dropped, competition eased, visibility soared.

These days, when membership numbers are fluctuating, women's groups do well to come together. Maybe a sisterhood movement could work in your community.

2010 ANNUAL FALL DISTRICT CONFERENCES

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

I would like to congratulate our district coordinators, branch presidents, members and friends for participating in the district conferences conducted throughout New York State this fall. Special thanks to those state board members who traveled many miles to participate and contribute to the success of these conferences!

Conference summaries follow. For detailed reports visit the AAUW NYS website.

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KEEP THE ARTS ALIVE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

by Helen Martin, AAUW NYS Cultural Interests Director, Helenmartin74@yahoo.com ~ 518.762.7638

The November elections have come and gone. For those of us living in New York State, the effects of the new administration will undoubtedly be significant. Unfortunately, because of New York's dire economic condition, budgetary cuts are being made in many, many areas. One area that has been targeted already is that of the arts.

Cities are eliminating their annual arts grants, forcing area art galleries and museums to significantly reduce many of their programs or even eliminate them entirely. Funding for New York's Council on the Arts has been reduced by nearly \$14 million since 2008. Try to imagine a world without the beauty of art, the richness of history and museums - scary thought, isn't it?



So, what can we do about this situation? YOU CAN SUPPORT THE ARTS IN YOUR COMMUNITIES! You can do this by attending exhibits and local theatrical performances. Visit area museums and art galleries regularly. Spend some time in your local historical society. Share the experience with your children and/or grandchildren.

Take a trip as a branch to a museum or have a night at the theater in lieu of a meeting one month. Help with a little theater project or a book discussion at your local library. Whatever you choose to do will be welcomed and appreciated and will enrich your lives.

I encourage you to "think outside the box" when looking for projects for your branch (don't forget AAUW NYS's "Women Making a Difference" project — see page 6) — and keep the arts alive for future generations.

DISTRICT CONFERENCES *(Continued from pg. 3)*

District I: Hosted by the **Jamestown Branch** at the Chautauqua Institution, October 16. Theme: "Standing on the Shoulders of Giants." Outstanding women discussed included **Shirley Chisholm** and archaeologist **Marian White**.

District II: Hosted by the **Rochester Area Branch**, October 30, at The Perkins Mansion. Theme: "Leaders Leading Leaders." AAUW state and national leadership and development programs were discussed, as was as working together to lead the way.

District III: Hosted by the **Oswego Branch** leadership, October 2. The keynote speaker discussed human trafficking as participants considered "Policies, Politics and Prostitution." Outstanding conference with a beautiful waterside location!

District IV: Hosted by the **Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown Branch**, October 23, Johnstown Holiday Inn. Panelists included **Cindy Rivera**, community relations specialist, Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York; **Jean Kartis**, director, Trio/Bridge Program, Fulton-Montgomery Community College; and **Kaye Schrader**, speech and early intervention coordinator at the Lexington Center and Health Link, Community Education on Women's Issues.

District V: Hosted by the **New York City Branch** at their lovely brownstone, October 31. Speakers included **Amrita Bahl** on the work of Project Sehat and Global Help; **Dr. Lisa Clark** on AAUW NYS's "My Sister's Keeper" initiatives; and **Marilee Scheuneman** and **Roli Wendorf** on \$tart \$mart Pay Negotiations. I presented "Happiness, Loving Yourself and Finding Your Purpose," which was well-received.

District VI: Convened at Farmingdale State College, October 23. Speakers included **Debra Cooper**,

HONORING AND SEEKING DIVERSITY: IN OUR HOMES. OUR BRANCHES, OUR COUNTRY

by Lillis McLean, AAUW NYS Diversity Director, lmclean366@yahoo.com ~ 716.873.7467

So much of what we read and see in the media these days seems to center on diversity: the immigration issue, the mosque two blocks from Ground Zero, the rancor and bitterness of the political scene.

With cultural conflict all about us, AAUW must connect with those who share our mission to be inclusive and welcoming. We must seek out, for example, the Hispanic women who live in every community in America or the Muslim women who can enlighten us to the range of beliefs in that faith, as well as being open to the rich variety of race, occupation, ethnicity, and physical ability to be found in our branch communities.

Despite the gravity of our times, we can be the *antigravity* simply by the openness, courtesy and welcome we extend and by showing our communities, in public ways, that we honor diversity. If we are truly to break through barriers, we have to show participation in our membership by those whose sexual orientation may be different than ours, or who are physically challenged, or of another culture. These are, after all, the individuals most subject to harassment.

The Museum of disABILITY History recently opened in Amherst, NY. This is the only freestanding facility in the country dedicated to the history of people with disabilities.

Similarly, Miami Herald columnist **Leonard Pitts, Jr.** has written: "[The] only thing worse than living in a nation that seeks that balance (diversity), is living in one that does not."

A diverse membership is exciting and renews creativity. Will we choose to remain in our comfort zone or move outwardly and grow as individuals and friends?

DISTRICT CONFERENCES *(Continued from pg. 4)*

CARE; **Eileen Breslin**, National Association of Women Business Owners and **Barbara Roberts**, Women Presidents' Organization. **Nancy Mion discussed** Long Island's congressional voting record.

I was able to share my 2010 National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) experience and meet two students, **Philana Thorne** and **Rachel Cadet** from Dowling College, who attended NCCWSL and were sponsored by the **Islip Area Branch**. They spoke of NCCWSL's life-changing impact.

District VII: Sponsored by the Jefferson County and **St. Lawrence County** branches at Clarkson University, Potsdam, on October 21. Theme: "Do You Like What You See? How to Engage the Social Impact of Media on Girls and Women."

TRANSFORMATIONAL COMMUNICATION IS TRANSFORMING OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

by Donna Seymour, AAUW NYS Director of Communications, onthego@northnet.org ~ 315.265.6985

The future is here and it is getting here faster every day. We may be able to ignore what is happening around us, but we can't stop it with our "ignore"ance.



We have access to about 2,000 magazines (with a significant circulation) and less than 1,500 daily newspapers. But, there are over 1 billion web pages. In the last 25 years, newspaper circulation has fallen by 7 million, even as our population grew from 250 million to 310 million. The number of readers of online newspapers has grown by over 30 million in just the past five years. The shift in advertising dollars has been as dramatic as the shift in where our knowledge of the world comes from.

The growth of Social Networking sites is even more astonishing: Facebook passed the 500 million member mark last summer, the online equivalent population of Brazil and Indonesia combined. Facebook users share more than 30 billion pieces of information every month. The microblogging world of Twitter has some 130 million registered users (about the population of Japan) and is growing by over 300,000 per day.

What does your branch do in the face of this transformation? Have you transformed how you do your branch work? More importantly, is your membership growing? Does it reflect the ages, the diversity and the concerns of your community? Are you focused on the challenges of yesterday? Are you aware of the challenges of today and tomorrow?

Did you know that in 2008, the median earnings of young adults with a bachelor's degree was \$46,000, while the median was \$36,000 for those with an associate's degree, \$30,000 for those

with a high school diploma or its equivalent, and \$23,500 for those who did not earn a high school diploma or its equivalent? In 2008 dollars, the median earnings for a high school graduate was \$36,600 in 1980.

The unemployment rate for recent high school graduates not enrolled in school was 35.0%, compared with 23.7 % for graduates enrolled in college. College enrollment for low income high school graduates declined to 40% in 2004 from 52% in 1992.

These young people are being left behind in a world moving much faster than they are. Is that true of you and your branch? Is it time to transform?

BRANCH PROGRAMS

by Peggy Kelland, AAUW NYS Program Vice President, program@aauw-nys.org ~ 845.297.0507

This fall, several branches held programs introducing our state project, "My Sister's Keeper." **Joan Monk** spoke at **Islip** and **Poughkeepsie**. Book discussions on "Half the Sky" were held in **Cortland** and **Rockland County**. Specific international projects were presented: Doctors Without Borders / **Ithaca**; a school exchange in Nicaragua / **Kingston**; Beads for Education, Advancement, Development, and Success / **North Shore**; and The Pencil Promise / **Westchester**. Other international programs included a speaker on Kosovo / **Adirondack**, the annual international fellowship luncheon / **Ithaca**, "Cuba: A Country in Transition" / **Kingston**, "AAUW Without Borders" / **New York City**, Dr. Terry Davidson / **Oneonta**, and "Life in an Afghan Village" / **Schenectady**.

Acting locally, **Bath, Islip, Jamestown, St. Lawrence** and **Jefferson County, Mohawk Valley**, and **Staten Island** held candidates' forums. **Adirondack** heard "Understanding Our Environmental Legacy;" **Buffalo** toured the EcoTrail; **Cortland** explored "Local Sustainability"; and **Oswego** considered water-front development and the comprehensive plan. Problems and solutions were studied: **Alfred-Hornell** / Planned Parenthood; **Islip** / Alzheimer's; **Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown** / "Maintain Your Brain," and **Poughkeepsie** / suicide prevention.

Other topics included: **Adirondack** / electronic medical records; **Mid-Island** / the Health Reform Act; **Fairport Area** / "Getting Back Your Mojo After the Financial Crisis;" **Nassau County** / "Women in Crisis;" and **Buffalo** / "Women + Children Escaping Violence."

Groups and individuals working for solutions were heard: **Bath** / ProAction of Steuben and 211; **Greater Rochester** / the city's deputy mayor; **Schenectady** / "A Commitment to Education and Community Service;" **Southern New York** / "On Point for College"; and **Westchester** / the college program at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility. **Staten Island** explored "The Advance," their local newspaper.

Concern for women and education continues as strong as ever. Remember the past: **Albany**/Susan B. Anthony; **Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown**/Wally Funk, woman aviator; **Elmira-Corning**/"Women,

BRANCH PROGRAMS *(Continued from pg. 5)*

Body Image, and the Changing Mirror of Ideals"; **Greater Rochester**/"Women at the World Parliament of Religions in 1893"; **Ithaca**/"Iron-Jawed Angels"; and **Kingston**/"My Life as a Latin Showgirl." Address the present: **New York City**/Women's Health Forum and "Women in Politics;" **North Shore**/"Women Today", and **Poughkeepsie** celebrated their Woman of the Year, former NYS AAUW President **Betty Harrel**. Current AAUW NYS President **Eileen Hartmann** spoke to **Alfred-Hornell** and **North Shore**. **Oswego** welcomed NCCWSL participants. We look to the future: **Buffalo** launched their mentoring program; **Cortland** asked "Why So Few?"; and **Fairport Area** heard "Too Sexy Too Soon".

Cultural interests abounded: **Adirondack**/local archaeological finds; **Yates County**/local Native Americans; **Oneonta**/a local historian and antiquer; **Albany**/"The Perfect Fit: Shoes Tell Stories;" **Schenectady**/"Homes, History, and Honor;" **Nassau County**/two local historic shipwrecks; **Alfred-Hornell**/"Equality in Life for Every One of Us;" **Poughkeepsie**/"The Other Side of Slavery;" **New York City**/Black History lecture and art exhibit; **Elmira-Corning**/quilting; **Rockland County**/women and the arts; and **Westchester**/women painters. Trips included: **Oneonta**/Cherry Hill and **Southern New York**/the Bundy Museum Galleries. **Mohawk Valley** heard "Poetry in Blue" by a policeman who worked in the South Bronx and **Mid-Island** learned of Danny Kaye's life and songs.

There were many, many other wonderful programs, including EF and LAF fundraisers. Please make sure to share your newsletters with me!

LEGISLATION: YOU WIN SOME, YOU LOSE SOME. . . .

by Kathleen Gorr, AAUW NYS Public Policy Director, gorrilaw@yahoo.com ~ 315.685.6545

Dignity for All Students Act



On September 8, Governor Paterson signed the Dignity for All Students Act into law. This law was enacted to insure that every student has a legal right to a safe and civil educational environment. It is not surprising that Governor Paterson wholeheartedly supported the bill. He has described how, as a child, he was harassed by other students in the classroom due to his blindness.

The act protects students from harassment, discrimination and bullying on school grounds and at school functions, as well as cyber bullying. Prohibited conduct includes verbal or written threats through an internet service, either on or off school property.

The act also mandates that school districts create policies and guidelines, and requires training

at least one staff member at every school to handle human relations issues such as race, weight, religion and disability. The law also requires reporting of "material incidents" to the State Education Department and it protects the people who report incidents. The act does not apply to private schools and will take effect in July of next year. You can find the text of the law on the Governor's website, www.state.ny.us/governor/newsroom. AAUW was one of the many organizations endorsing this legislation.

Paycheck Fairness Act



This bill would have updated the landmark Equal Pay Act of 1963 by closing loopholes, strengthening incentives to prevent pay discrimination, and prohibiting retaliation against workers who inquire about employers' wage practices or disclose their own wages. Despite widespread backing from the American public, the strong leadership of AAUW, and the diligent efforts of our members and coalition partners – not to mention the support of 58 Senators – the act was defeated in a procedural vote in the Senate on November 17.

LAST CALL FOR BIOGRAPHIES PROJECT

by Helen Engel, rengel@oswego.edu ~ 315.343.9678 and Marilynn Smiley, smiley@oswego.edu ~ 315.343.4803, AAUW NYS Co-Historians

Help! We need your "Women Making a Difference" biographies now! So far AAUW-NYS members have written and submitted 152 biographies of prominent women in most areas of the state. Some geographical areas, however, are not represented, and it is certain that there are many outstanding women from these areas who deserve recognition. Every branch needs to participate in order for this to be a statewide project.

Check the History tab on the NYS AAUW website, or contact us, for the current list of biographies that have already been submitted. Note that some very important national figures are not yet on this list. There are also many distinguished women who are not known nationally, but who have made significant contributions. We need both! New York is the Empire State. Let's show the nation the kind of leadership and accomplishments that New York women have exemplified in government, education, the arts and all other fields. Keep those biographies coming for this exciting project! We look forward to hearing from you.

State Scrapbook Project

Capture the energy of your branch in scrapbook pages. Share this with everyone at the state

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BIOGRAPHIES PROJECT *(Continued from page 6)*

convention with copies of your pages on display. Later, these pages (two to three — both sides) will constitute a brief history of your branch accomplishments throughout the year. Preserving branch activities and memories is important.

Take pictures and save programs, pamphlets, and newspaper articles to include. Most important — have fun putting it all together. Scrapbook pages have not been sent to each branch, due to cost, but may be obtained from Helen, if needed.

Questions? Contact either of us.

CANDIDATES FOR THE AAUW NYS BOARD

by Mary Lou Davis, AAUW NYS Nominating Committee Chair, davehdavis@aol.com ~ 845.223.5544

The state nominating team is proud to present the following members as qualified to stand for election to office in AAUW NYS for 2011-2013.



Legal Advocacy Fund Vice President – Roli G. Wendorf

Roli Wendorf is currently the webmaster and Pay Equity Outreach action group leader for the **Westchester Branch** where she has been a member for three years. She was the branch's EF and LAF chair from 2007-10. Roli promotes STEM by helping to plan the Explore Your Opportunities STEM conference for 7th grade girls to promote science, math and computing. She maintains a website and recruits professional women with STEM careers to serve as role models for the participants. She has organized workshops at colleges to teach pay negotiation skills to women and minorities as a way of reducing the gender wage gap. Roli was Westchester's Emerging Leader in 2009.

Roli's education includes a BS and MS in electrical engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, a MS in computer science from Carnegie-Mellon University and a DPS in computing from Pace University.

Supporters have written: "Excellent leadership talents;" "Consistently was in the top ten statewide for total donations and per capita."



Membership Vice President – Maria Ellis

Maria Ellis has been a member of the **New York City Branch** for ten years. She has been president and treasurer of the branch. Maria is currently the district council director on the AAUW NYS board and is on the national AAUW major gifts committee.

Maria earned an MBA and BBA from the University of Massachusetts. She was owner-president

of a management program at Harvard Business School. She is a development committee member for the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund and does pro-bono work for non-profit organizations as a member of HBS Community Partners. Maria has skills in management, analysis, negotiation and marketing.

Supporters have written: "An avid supporter of all aspects of AAUW;" "Enthusiasm is evident in all she does."



Secretary/Bylaws – Edwina Frances Martin, Esq.

Edwina Martin has been a member of the **Staten Island Branch** for five years where she has been the program VP from 2007 to the present and has coordinated programs on women's initiatives. .

Edwina earned a BA from Williams College and a JD from the NYU School of Law. For the last 20 years, she has garnered significant experience working with Legal Services NYC, as well as working with other non-profit agencies, public interest groups and academic institutions on the development of innovative programs, fund-raising and handling legal and business issues. She has project management experience, outstanding communication skills, a commitment to public service and strong writing skills.

Supporters have written: "A woman of exceptional talent, vision, passion and professionalism;" "Very well-organized and is the definition of 'multi-tasker'."



Treasurer – Ruth Fierro-King

Ruth Fierro-King has been a member of the **Buffalo Branch** for five years. She has been the finance chair for the branch for the last four years. Buffalo chose her as their Emerging Leader in 2008. She was elected to a two-year term as NYS AAUW treasurer in 2008.

Ruth has a BA from Bernard Baruch College and an MBA in finance and business administration from the University of Buffalo. She has received certification from Moody's for commercial loan certification. She worked for Key Bank from 2008-10 as a vice president/senior relationship manager.

In the community, she is on the board of directors of the Community Preservation Corporation and was the 2009 board president of the Risk Management Association where she was the recipient of the Gold Circle Leadership Award.

Supporters have written: "Highly professional with the right skills for this position and she believes in the mission of our organization;" "Instrumental in assisting board members in understanding how a budget is organized and presented."



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MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, 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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CAMPUS CONNECTIONS

by Doris McLallen, AAUW NYS College/University Director
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If you are reading this, you are very likely a college or university graduate. If you are reading this, you most assuredly believe in AAUW's Mission and Vision statements and Value Promise. And I am going to assume that you will be very pleased to see that your college or university is on our AAUW College/University Partner List:

Adelphi University
Alfred University
Barnard College *
Broome Community College
City University of New York
CUNY Bronx Community College *
Dowling College *
Elmira College
Hartwick College
Hofstra University
Hunter College
SUNY Jefferson Community College
Keuka College

Lehman College
Long Island University - C.W. Post
Marist College *
Mount St. Mary's College *
Nassau Community College *
Nazareth College of Rochester
New York Institute of Technology *
St. Lawrence University
SUNY at Fredonia
SUNY College of Technology - Canton
SUNY College at Brockport *

SUNY College at Buffalo
SUNY College at Cortland
SUNY College at Oneonta
SUNY College at Oswego
SUNY Potsdam *
SUNY Rockland Community College
The College of Mount Saint Vincent
University At Buffalo *
University of Rochester *

* = lapsed



You're pleased, right? NO? Is it because yours is one of the more than 250 New York colleges and universities NOT in partnership with AAUW?

We are on a MISSION to share the enormous benefits of AAUW partnership with more and more colleges and universities. Our NYS website has a wealth of information and tools any one of us can use in approaching either our own or our local college or university leadership. Local branches are our best means of enhancing AAUW membership for colleges and universities. Both benefit greatly, as many projects and programs which directly promote our mission are best done with our local schools.

Even in tough economic times, partnership with AAUW is a bargain. Any college or university can affiliate with AAUW for \$130.00/year, between November 2010 and the end of November 2011. Let's get FOCUSED on adding at least five new college/university partners in 2011. To move this mission forward, call or write me ~ today!