

HAPPY TRAILS. . . .

by Eileen S. Hartmann, AAUW-NYS president,
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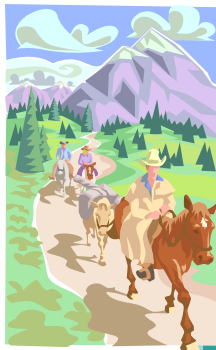
It's time! After four outstanding years serving as your president, it's time for me to recall that such service is truly about leading the organization and keeping it vibrant, but it's also a personal journey as well.

I can now reflect and rejoice not only about this priceless opportunity to lead and learn, but also the many pathways I have had the pleasure of traveling since I first joined the board — most notably since I became president of AAUW New York State. I want to share three areas of reflection with you:

- ♦ Finishing the oath of office in Cooperstown in 2008 at the state convention I was blinded by the lights from the cameras that captured the moment. It was both a flattering time and a chance to realize the responsibilities involved in leading this auspicious group of members. There was no thought of backing down and I was soon immersed in AAUW leadership and business, making it one of my goals to keep the spotlight on AAUW New York State as a pertinent connector between national AAUW and local branches, while continuing to strengthen our reputation as one of the best state organizations in the country.

I was blessed with a deep commitment to AAUW, long-time membership, and with the support of outstanding board women who consistently served the state by completing their own work. An additional bonus was found in the branch leaders who also stepped forward on a daily basis to project the mission of AAUW in their own communities by involving their members in our important tasks. This has been a **trail of discovery and growth**.

- ♦ Since gaining the office of president, the use of technology for communications has changed immensely. While continuous learning about the effective use of those tools has brought blessings in allowing for speedy methods of communicating information, it has also brought the challenge of keeping up with those constantly evolving methods. I've learned to choose the most effective tools and catch up with newer ones as best I can, while keeping an open mind about learning to know what others are



discussing and using! I have not only established new e-mail accounts, I've also: tried to check out Facebook, used the national database regularly, set up conference calls and participated in others, benefitted from webinars and Skype, and gained an iPhone. I use my laptop endlessly, and have been gifted with a Kindle Fire in the hope that I will have a chance to read more for leisure.

*Some trails are happy ones, others are blue,
It's the way you ride the trail that counts.*

. . . Happy trails to you, 'til we meet again.

"Happy Trails" — Lyrics by Dale Evans Rogers

I am amazed by all that I have learned about communication tools and still place extreme value on face-to-face communications. This **communications trail** has brought enrichment to my life and, hopefully, to that of our members.

- ♦ As I have traveled the many highways across New York State to visit districts, branches, and attend conventions, conferences, and programs, I have met hundreds of people involved in AAUW or connected to AAUW through our various common goals and interests. I am so lucky to have had such great support from home that enabled me to have the time to travel to be with you all. And I have been lucky to be asked so often to attend events, speak, and co-mingle. It has been my favorite part of leading AAUW NYS, as well as a critical way of learning about our branches.

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HAPPY TRAILS *(Continued from page 1)*

I have been to Long Island events five times, visited all but three branches in the state, and have savored the conversations with members. I am thankful for many gracious hostesses.

I love to attend the theatre and one of the awesome plays I have enjoyed (in addition to the Bath Branch's performance of "Momoirs" at the 2012 convention) is "Wicked." To quote a song from "Wicked," it is because I knew you that I have been changed for the better and have been changed for good. These **trails to the people of AAUW** have been most fulfilling.

Thank you for being AAUW New York State members and for keeping the pathways to success for women and girls in the forefront of your sharp and understanding minds.

Keep those trails smooth and happy ones, paved by your strong voices and intellect, until we meet again. And beyond that, let's keep working together towards advancing the causes that make our journeys so rewarding.

DISTRICT UPDATES

by Joan Monk, AAUW NYS district council director,
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The Emerging Leaders "Class of 2012" is posted on our website and I hope that you will read about the talent coming forward through our branches. There were 19 nominees, 10 of whom attended convention. It was a treat for me to finally meet them in person. Please be sure that your branch nominates an Emerging Leader because it is living proof of our organization's vitality and a sure way to "help grow AAUW."

Be sure to make note of these names, I know you will hear more from these dynamic women in the near future.

They are: **Adirondack** – Ann Mathewson; **Amsterdam/Gloversville/Johnstown** – Ella Ryder; **Bath** – Becka Kirck; **Buffalo** – Michelle Norris; **Cortland** – Sara Earl; **Elmira-Corning** – Janet Winfield; **Fairport Area** – Janice Meyer Volpe; **Greater Rochester Area** – Barbara E. LeSavoy; **Islip** – Lynn Perry; **Jamestown** – Shirley Sanfilippo; **Jefferson County** – Katherine Fitzgerald; **Kingston** – Ruth Bean; **North Shore** – Barbara Aitken; **Poughkeepsie** – Cecilia Dinio-Durkin; **St. Lawrence County** – Michele Pinard; **Schenectady** – Elise Russo; **Skaneateles** – Fran Rotunno Fish; **Westchester** – Adelaide DiGiorgi and **Yates County** – Judy Wiltberger.

As the saying goes, "Let's not do what we've always done and get what we've always got." Instead, let's try something new with our district conferences next year.

Let's talk at the AAUW NYS Summer Conference in July at Cazenovia College about the

(Continued on page 8.)



NUMBERS MATTER!

by Doris McLallen, AAUW-NYS Educational Opportunities Fund vice president,
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Excited about the 50% off sale on bathing suits? Happy to get 38 MPG on the new used car? NOT so happy that women still only make an average of \$.77 on the dollar that men do? Numbers give definition and significance to our lives and help us determine where we put our time, energy and resources.

In the past year, AAUW members and branches across New York State (NYS) put considerable time and much energy into a contribution of **\$88,519.** to the Educational Opportunities Fund (EOF). We do it because we know that these monies go to the advancement of the mission of AAUW. We do it to make a difference in the lives of women and girls in NYS, in the USA and around the globe.

NYS EOF by the Numbers

In 2011, EOF supported:

- ❖ 10 American fellows studying at NYS colleges and universities,
- ❖ 8 Career Development Grantees,
- ❖ 9 International Fellowships, and
- ❖ 2 Selected Professions Fellows.

Nota Bene

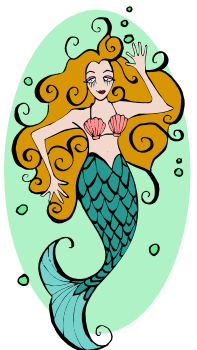
A reminder to branch presidents, treasurers, EOF chairs and all members:

To get your contribution where it is intended to go, it is **IMPERATIVE** that the name of the fund, and/or the **number of the intended fund, be designated on the memo line of the check, i.e., EOF is #4336.** You can find the **fund numbers** at <http://tinyurl.com/aauwfunds>.

When sending your checks and forms to national, send copies to me at the same time or give that information to your treasurer or EOF chair to send. For the next two years, while I am AAUW-NYS EOF VP, this will be my mantra.

Yes, numbers matter!

(And don't forget the bathing suit sale, especially if you have your sights set on the Golden Purse or the Golden Mermaid Awards at next year's state convention in Lake Placid!)



CONVENTION: LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND PURSES PROVE TO BE POPULAR!

by Roli G. Wendorf, AAUW-NYS Legal Advocacy Fund vice president, WendorfR@aol.com ~ 914.736.9115

One thing all attendees at the AAUW NYS Convention learned in Rochester is that Susan B. Anthony wanted every woman to have a purse of her own. To Anthony, a purse was a symbol of a woman's economic independence.

The branches helped publicize the message with their 82 creative, gorgeous purses for the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) drawing. The Purse Room was very popular with the attendees!



There was a lot of excitement about changing to purses instead of baskets for the LAF fundraiser. We collected a total of \$1,576 from the purses, including cash donations from branches in lieu of purses. The amount raised from the auction of baskets last year was similar (\$1,524).

Our branches and membership donated very generously in 2011. We gave out awards for the top 10 branches in total and per capita contributions. There were also 26 Star branches that contributed \$5 or more per capita. All in all, New York State raised \$24,791 in 2011, and was named the second highest contributing state in the country. Thank you all for all you did to make this happen again.

We had excellent LAF speakers at the Awards Luncheon on Saturday. Edith Arana, one of the speakers, was a named litigant in the well-known *Dukes v. Wal-Mart* case. She was accompanied by Noreen Farrell, an attorney and the executive director of Equal Rights Advocates, the non-profit law firm that handled the case. The talk and question/answer session were very inspiring.

We also collected donations for LAF at the luncheon. Our audience was very generous, donating \$1,619. In total, we generated \$3,195 for LAF at the convention. The money supports women like Edith Arana in their fight against sex discrimination.

At the business meeting on Saturday, we voted on NYS bylaws changes. The NYS board will be reorganized from July 2013 as a result of the creation of the umbrella AAUW Funds structure under which all other funds, such as LAF, Educational Opportunities Fund, Public Policy, Leadership, Eleanor Roosevelt, etc. reside. There will be a single development VP for the various funds, and the LAF Vice President will be replaced by an LAF Director starting July 1, 2013. The NYS board's strong focus on LAF will continue.

I will have completed my two-year term as LAF VP in 2013, and instead of electing an LAF VP at the next convention, an LAF Director will be appointed. We expect the changes to be fairly transparent from an LAF point of view.

PUBLIC POLICY: RESOLUTIONS, RECOGNITIONS, REAL ACTION!

by Susan Hoover, AAUW NYS public policy director — sushoover@aol.com ~ 860.625.4448

AAUW members have been actively working on many important public policy issues, including the Paycheck Fairness Act, Equal Pay Day, reproductive rights, My Sister's Keeper, the Violence Against Women Act, hydrofracking, voter education, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

At the 2012 state convention held in Rochester in April the following branches were presented the Taking Action Award for their work: Bath, Elmira-Corning, Islip Area, Jamestown, Poughkeepsie, Schenectady, Skaneateles, St. Lawrence County, and Westchester. Each of these branches has done something extraordinary in their communities and collaborated with other like-minded organizations. Congratulations to everyone in these branches whose energy and passion produced outstanding results.

Voter Education Campaign Awards were presented to the following branches: Adirondack, Bath, Buffalo, Cortland, Greater Rochester Area, Islip Area, Jamestown, Poughkeepsie, Schenectady, Skaneateles, St. Lawrence County, Staten Island, and Westchester. These branches take to heart their mission to educate not only their own branch members but also the community at large, and we greatly appreciate their dedication.

At the convention I presented a special Public Policy Director's Award to honor the ad hoc group that recognized the need for AAUW to have a presence at the state capitol on Equal Pay Day and took the initiative to organize the Public Policy Advocacy Day in Albany. These women included Melissa Guardaro, Donna Seymour, Edwina Martin, Doris McLallen, Ruth Wahtera, Susan Holland, Ann Mulligan, Elise Russo, Robin Eddy, and Mary Pritchard. In addition, they obtained a proclamation from the NYS Assembly that was displayed during the convention.

A Resolution to Support Fair and Adequate Funding for Public Education in NYS was presented at the AAUW NYS Convention by Diane Haney, president of the North Shore Branch and past state president, and was approved by the delegates. It is posted on the state website under Public Policy — Resolution History. My thanks to the members of the Resolutions Committee: Nancy Mion, Laurie Ginnitti and Donna Seymour.

Going forward, AAUW members in New York State will be focused on educating themselves and the public regarding the recent re-districting of congressional seats. You'll be amazed at how much has changed. You'll want to take a careful look at the map that Donna Seymour has prepared for the AAUW NYS website that clearly shows the new districts. Thank you for your good work.





SHOWN WITH A PORTRAIT of women's rights pioneers Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Matilda Joslyn Gage are, from left, Eileen Hartmann, Peggy Kelland, and Congresswoman Kathleen Hochul.



IN KEEPING WITH Susan B. Anthony's declaration that every woman should have "a purse of her own," convention attendees were encouraged to bid on enticing purses provided by branches in support of AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund.

IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS: NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION REVISITED

by Peggy Kelland, AAUW NYS program vice president, program@aauw-nys.org ~ 845.297.0507

One hundred seventy-nine members and guests registered for this year's convention 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, *In Their Footsteps*, celebrated the historic contributions of Western New York women to the women's rights movement.

Early arrivals on Friday afternoon, April 20, started with a tour of the Susan B. Anthony House. That evening's President's Reception and Dinner featured a keynote address by **Kathy Kelm**, head of "The Big Teal Machine," AAUW's volunteer lobby corps in Washington, DC. We learned how we could join the regular 60 or so volunteers on Capitol Hill when we visit the nation's capital. After dinner, members had a choice of participating in the resolutions caucus, meeting members from around the state at military bridge, or listening to the hotel-provided entertainment.

Saturday morning's annual AAUW NYS business meeting and district caucuses were followed by the Awards Luncheon, where branches were recognized for their achievements during the year. The luncheon speakers from LAF were attorney **Noreen Farrell** and plaintiff **Edith Arana** from the Walmart case (who inspired us with her story).

The four Saturday workshops featured historically significant individuals and groups in the progress of women in New York State: "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 came together for "The Big Picture: Women and the U.N. Millennium Development" with **Jane Roberts**, who told us of the work of the United Nations Population Fund. Convention

attendees swam laps in the hotel pool (or sponsored swimmers) to raise over \$3,700 for Jane's 34 Million Friends of the UN Population Fund.

After an update by Association National Director at Large **Dot McLane**, members could check out the offerings in the Legal Advocacy Fund silent auction and the branch and state exhibits, or relax with yoga before the cocktail hour, entertainment, and installation dinner. The speaker was freshman Congresswoman **Kathleen Hochul**, who filled in for her colleague **Louise Slaughter**, who had broken her leg. Hochul spoke of the need for more women representatives, as they tend to be less partisan and more focused on problem solving.

After dinner, we listened to a dialogue on "The Future of the Women's History Trail," a project to better share New York's heritage with people from all over. Representatives of several historical sites, including **Tammy Duchesne** (Women's Rights National Historical Park), **Deborah Hughes** (Susan B. Anthony House), **Sally Roesch Wagner** (Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation), **Karen Krieger** (Harriet Tubman House), and **Judy Wellman** (Farmington Quaker Meeting-house), as well as Elizabeth Cady Stanton descendant **Coline Jenkins**, offered their perspectives.

Sunday began with the Counterpart Breakfast, where members had the opportunity to meet with state officers or to spend informal time with our speakers. This year we had a second workshop session on Sunday morning, with a choice of "Chautauqua Women: Inspiration and Influence," "Seneca Women's Encampment for a Future of Peace and Justice, 1982-2006" "The Temp Economy: From Kelly Girls to Permatemps," and "Clean Money, Clean Elections."

The Branch Showcase this year featured a special presentation by the **Bath Branch** of "Momoirs," a delightful entertainment and successful branch fundraiser. At the final luncheon, **Susan Zimet** and **Steve Auerbach** presented their plans for commemorating "Votes for Women 2020: National Woman Suffrage Centennial." We ended with calls to the AAUW NYS Summer Conference in Cazenovia and the 2013 State Convention in Lake Placid.

**21st CENTURY AWARDS PRESENTED
AT NEW YORK STATE 2012 CONVENTION**
by Peggy Kelland, AAUW NYS program vice president,
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OVERALL BRANCH PROGRAMMING

- Platinum:
Jamestown
Jefferson County
Islip Area
Poughkeepsie
St. Lawrence County
Schenectady
Westchester
- Gold:
Adirondack
Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown
North Shore
- Silver:
Buffalo
- Bronze:
Bath
Massapequa Area



INDIVIDUAL PROJECT/PROGRAM/EVENT

- College Connection:
1st - Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown
- Community:
1st - Skaneateles: "Hydrofracking Presentation"
2nd - Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown:
"100th Birthday Celebration of Girl Scouts"
3rd - Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown:
"Women in Farming"
- Cultural:
1st - Jamestown: "Evening with Madame Curie"

- Education:
1st - Schenectady: "Literacy Event"
2nd - Rockland County: "Salute to Summer"
- Girls:
1st - Adirondack: "Childhood for Sale"
2nd - Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown:
"Sister to Sister"
- International:
1st - Greater Rochester Area: "International Women's Day"
2nd - Schenectady: "Empowering Women Around the World"
- Public Policy:
1st - Smithtown Area: "Elect Her: Campus Women Win"
2nd - Westchester: "Running and Winning"
3rd - Islip Area: "Get In"forum"ed Voting 2011"
- STEM:
1st - Buffalo: "Tech Savvy"
2nd - Rockland County: "She Can Reach the Top"
3rd - Islip Area: "Why So Few?"
- Women:
1st - Jefferson County: "Women at the Front"
2nd - Poughkeepsie: "Understanding Our Role in the Digital World"
3rd - Poughkeepsie: "Money as a Mirror"

BRANCH SHOWCASE

Bath Branch's presentation of "Momoirs"

Congratulations to all!



FORMER AAUW NYS PRESIDENT Nancy Mion led convention attendees in invoking the spirit of the state's early suffragettes.



CONVENTION DIRECTOR Marilyn Tedeschi of the Greater Rochester Branch happily greeted convention arrivals as a year's worth of preparations became a reality!



COLORFUL DISPLAYS provided information on branch programs as well as state and national AAUW initiatives.

MY SISTER'S KEEPER KEEPERS

by Melissa Guardaro, AAUW NYS international affairs director, mmg4@netzero.net ~ 845.268.0152

The two-year New York State AAUW effort to educate members about the plight of women worldwide and to encourage action, My Sister's Keeper, concluded at the 2012 New York State convention in Rochester. The response by branches to the My Sister's Keeper program has been astounding and most branches read and discussed the book, "Half the Sky." Related branch activities ranged from supporting educational opportunities for girls and providing microfinance opportunities to sponsoring presentations highlighting women's struggles from different corners of life.

Several branches stand out as champion "Keepers" and were awarded honors at the convention. The **Islip Branch** was an early enthusiast and developed their year's programming (16 activities) around the My Sister's Keeper theme. They showed "A Walk to Beautiful," a film about fistulas; provided support for the Suffolk County Coalition Against Domestic Violence; and held a discussion about the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the need for United States ratification. For these efforts, the **Islip Branch** was selected as the **My Sister's Keeper Role Model**.

The **My Sister's Keeper Innovator Award** went to the **St. Lawrence Branch** for, among other events, sponsoring the "Women, War and Peace" PBS series with other branches, partnering with local colleges to assist in the Run For Congo event, and sponsoring a professional clothing fair for local people seeking employment.

The **Amsterdam/Gloversville/Johnstown (AGJ)** and **Skaneateles** branches followed the program and implemented ideas with creativity and grace. They were awarded the **My Sister's Keeper Gem Awards**. **Skaneateles** read "Half the Sky" and voted to support an Afghan woman through the Women for Women educational program in the first year and a woman from the Democratic Republic of Congo in the second

year. The branch also holds an Issues Breakfast and recently hosted a speaker who migrated from South Sudan and shared her experiences. **AGJ** planned an Equal Exchange Fundraiser to raise money for the Fistula Foundation and Kiva. They purchased copies of the book "The Hospital by the River," about the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital, and contributed the books to local libraries. **AGJ** is committed to continuing their philanthropy and has added "international donations" as a budget line item.

A special award for My Sister's Keeper was presented to **Cecelia Dinio Durkin** who has embraced the philosophy of empowering women worldwide in her life and work. The **My Sister's Keeper — Keeper of the Year Award** was presented to her in recognition of her efforts. She helped produce an International Women's Day event at Walkway over the Hudson and developed an informational fair/marketplace that highlighted area groups and companies that support women's efforts in the local and international arenas. The fair had 2,000 participants and featured speakers on diverse topics such as maternal health, human trafficking and economic empowerment. Cecelia, the founder of Women's Work, an international women's craft cooperative, is also the recipient of the **CTAUN** (Committee on Teaching About the United Nations) **Best Practices Award** along with **Joan Monk**.

Honorable mentions went to the **Westchester** and **Schenectady** branches for their fine work. **Jane Roberts** of 34 Million Friends of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), who is profiled in the book "Half the Sky," delivered a heartfelt speech at conven-

tion. Her presence, and the successful 34 Million Laps fundraiser swim, raised approximately \$4,000 for 34 Million Friends – an amazing accomplishment for New York State AAUW!

However, we are not done yet! We encourage branches to continue their advocacy and outreach in next year's programming. We'll be unveiling ideas for My Sister's Keeper 3.0 at the AAUW NYS Summer Conference at Cazenovia College in July. As **Cora Weiss**, a speaker at the CTAUN conference said, "When you dream alone, it is just a dream. If you dream together, it becomes a reality."



*When you dream
alone, it is just a dream.
If you dream together, it
becomes a reality.*

Cora Weiss

AAUW NYS MEMBERSHIP GROWING; THREE BRANCHES ADDED

by Maria Ellis, AAUW NYS membership vice president, mellis@citihabitats.com ~ 973.216.4181

We are having so much fun moving our AAUW mission forward as we are growing our membership! AAUW NYS now has 2,755 branch members. Thank you to those who have actively participated in our monthly membership teleconference calls. Here's a summary of our growing branches, listed by district.

- **District I (3 branches)**
 - Buffalo Branch***, increased membership by 14.43%. Total members: 230
 - Jamestown Branch***, increased membership by 5.43%. Total members: 97
- **District II (6 branches)**
 - Bath Branch**, increased membership by 11.90%. Total members: 47
 - Elmira/Corning Branch**, increased membership by 8.54%. Total members: 89
 - Fairport Area Branch**, increased membership by 2.94%. Total members: 35
 - Rochester Branch**, increased membership by 2.51%. Total members: 204
- **District III (7 branches)**
 - Mohawk Valley Branch**, increased membership by 10.71%. Total members: 31
- **District IV (7 branches)**
 - Kingston Branch**, increased membership by 16.09%. Total members: 101
 - Poughkeepsie Branch**, increased membership by 1.82%. Total members: 388
- **District V (3 branches)**
 - Rockland County Branch***, increased membership by 9.43%. Total members: 116
 - Westchester Branch**, increased membership by 1.08%. Total members: 187
 - Staten Island Branch**, increased membership by 15.25%. Total members: 68
- **District VI (10 branches)**
 - Islip Area Branch***, increased membership by 9.08%. Total members: 84
 - Massapequa Branch**, increased membership by 31.58%. Total members: 50
 - Smithtown Branch**, increased membership by 32%. Total members: 33
- **District VII (2 branches)**
 - Jefferson County Branch**, increased membership by 8.75%. Total members: 83
 - St. Lawrence County Branch**, increased membership by 75.86%. Total members: 51

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the 2012 AAUW-NYS Summer Conference, July 20-22, at Cazenovia College!

The AAUW NYS board approved the creation of three new branches:

- **Genesee Community College Branch,**
- **Jefferson Community College AAUW Student Group,**
- **The Empire State Virtual Branch.**

* Received a \$25 award for being among those having the highest membership increase.

DIVERSITY AND THE WOMEN'S HISTORY TRAIL

by Lillis C. McLean, AAUW-NYS diversity director, lmclean366@yahoo.com ~ 716.873.7467

Diversity was woven into the NYS AAUW celebration of the Women's History Trail theme at the April 2012 state convention. Among many presentations which touched on diversity and history, **Dr. Sally Roesch Wagner's** presentation of the influence and inspiration of the stature and equity of the Haudenosaunee women (throughout the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy: Cayuga, Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca, and Tuscarora) on the early women's rights movement was eye-opening.



Church women of the AME Zion congregation have for many years privately raised funds and assumed the management of the Harriet Tubman home and grounds in Auburn, NY to guarantee the site's ongoing existence. The executive director of the Harriet Tubman Home, Inc., **Karen Hill**, spoke on Tubman and the success of the preservation. She also described current negotiations between AME Zion leadership and the National Park Service

geared toward having the site become a national park.

The Seneca Peace Encampment, which began in 1983, was created principally by lesbian women determined to prevent war material from being shipped to England. Having pitched their tents near the Seneca Army Weapons Depot in Romulus, NY, the women pooled their engineering and health skills to ensure a fresh water supply, sanitation and food for the hundreds of participants in their months'-long protest. The encampment was ultimately successful.

Two Buffalo women professors, authors of "Uncrowned Queens," a study of black women who were not as well-known as Tubman, presented their history in a workshop conducted by **Dr. Peggy Brooks-Bertram**. She described how these remarkable women worked for both racial equity and women's rights.

Diversity is equity and should be represented by the many cultural facets that branch members can bring to our meetings. We can weave diversity into our gatherings by inviting members of our community from differing occupations, (dis) abilities, racial and ethnic minorities to present and become members. This is the future we need.





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AAUW

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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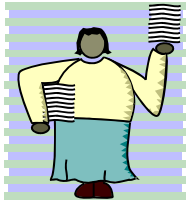
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ODDS AND ENDS

by Helen Engel, rengel@oswego.edu ~ 315.343.9678 and Marilynn Smiley, marilynn.smiley@oswego.edu ~ 315.343.4803, AAUW NYS co-historians

As the branch scrapbook project comes to an end, thanks to all branches that shared their pages at the state convention. We hope that each branch has gotten into the scrapbook habit. It's a great way to highlight your branch activities for the year and preserve what your branch has done for future generations.

Are you leaving a branch position? Now is the time to go through your records and decide what should be kept for your branch archives and what you should give to your successor. Be sure to update your branch history and keep your archives current. Questions? Go to the AAUW NYS's website's History tab, then click on Preserving Historical Records.



Check the year your branch was founded. If it's an important anniversary year, plan a special event and integrate this into your programming for the year. Be sure to publicize it for branch visibility.

DISTRICT UPDATES *(Continued from page 2.)*

unlimited possibilities AAUW offers us "to be the change we want to see in the world."

It has been my pleasure to serve you as District Council Director for the past year. I've learned so much and met so many great women that I am truly sorry to see my term end. It has been an honor and privilege serving on the AAUW NYS board. Thank you for this marvelous opportunity.

New leadership teams will lead the charge to change district conferences into exciting events you can't wait to attend! Dream big and be sure to contact them with ideas and suggestions to make your district the best yet. Their names can be found under the "Districts" tab on the AAUW-NYS website.